

HCR 38

HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

TO: Chair Senator Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Senator Ihara and members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Ana Maring, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence amaring@hscadv.org

Date: March 17, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.

RE: HCR 38 HD1 RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2009 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Aloha, my name is Carol Lee and I represent the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV). HSCADV is a private non-profit agency which serves as a touchstone agency for the majority of domestic violence programs throughout the state. For many years HSCADV has worked with the Hawaii Legislature by serving as an educational resource and representing the many voices of domestic violence programs and survivors of domestic violence.

HSCADV supports HCR 38 HD1.

Each October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). Communities across the United States hold events to bring awareness to the seriousness and broad scope of domestic violence and attention to the dedicated efforts of professions and volunteers who take up this cause every day, offering protection, guidance, encouragement and compassion to those victimized by domestic violence.

Here in Hawaii domestic violence service providers and community members put together events throughout the state to bring attention to the issue and share information on safety and resources. Many events are organized by DVAM committees throughout the state which are comprised of individuals from domestic violence agencies and/or concerned citizens.

Domestic violence has long been considered a "women's issue," but all people are affected by violence against women. We encourage everyone to participate in and/or attend the events.

Peace can only occur when all are committed to bringing it to an end.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TO: Senator Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator Ihara, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
881 Akiu Place
Kailua, HI 96734
(808) 218-3457

DATE: March 17, 2009

RE: Support for HCR38 HD1

Please support HCR38 HD1 that asks to acknowledge the month of October 2009 as Domestic Violence (DV) Awareness Month in the state of Hawaii that is also **nationally recognized** as DV Awareness Month. (*Starting in the year 2010, DV Awareness Month will be moved to the month of May.)

Currently, the month of October is also the month that recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness and it's impossible to miss the pink ribbon anywhere you go or look during that month. Not to minimize breast cancer by any means but breast cancer effects 1 out of every 8 women in their lifetimes whereas domestic violence will effect 1 out of every 4 women AND the deaths directly attributed to domestic violence outweigh the deaths attributed to breast cancer annually.

We are FAR from a cure for domestic violence and that is why it's so important to have Domestic Violence Awareness Month formally acknowledged; without calling attention to the problem, it cannot be stopped.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.

Independent Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR38 HD1

Senate Human Services Committee

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

2:00 p.m.

My name is *Kristy Kotrys* and I am testifying in SUPPORT of HCR38 HD1. Domestic violence is a serious issue that needs to be talked about and setting aside the month of October for raising awareness about domestic violence is a step forward in the right direction.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.