

HCR 44

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 HCR44

Please support HCR44 that asks to acknowledge the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, that is also **nationally recognized** as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Many of our societal ills would not and could not have taken place had the people involved in creating them come from safe, abuse-free, violence-free and loving homes. It's against human nature to be "bad to the bone"; monsters are more often created, not born and we DO have the opportunity to rectify this. In therapy, there are 2 pre-requisites to attaining behavioral change: awareness and education - acknowledging April as Child Abuse Prevention Month is a proactive step towards corrective action.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.

Independent Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR44

Senate Human Services Committee

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

2:00 p.m.

My name is *Kristy Kotrys* and I am testifying in SUPPORT of HCR44. As a mother, I think it is important to keep our keiki safe from harm.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.