



## Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus

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A State Chapter of the  
National Women's  
Political Caucus

February 9, 2009

# LATE

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi Chair  
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

FROM: Faye Kennedy, President, Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus

RE: SB1103 Relating to Effective Legislation.  
(Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 9:30am in Room 016)

POSITION: SUPPORT

Good morning, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Takamine and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations. I am Faye Kennedy representing the Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus and submitting testimony in support of SB1103 which establishes a Commission on Effective Legislation, to be administratively placed under the Ombudsman. It requires the Commission to be composed of representatives from the Executive departments, University of Hawaii, Judiciary and other appropriate State entities to identify existing laws that are obsolete, redundant, conflicting, or ineffective. The measure requires the Ombudsman to report to the Legislature.

The Legislature passes hundreds of bills each session. How does anyone know if those bills are being enforced and effective? And to what extent is law effective? Who is accountable? This bill would help to provide this information through a review of the laws in a systemic method and keep departments and officials accountable that the letter of the law is being enforced.

The Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus was established in 1981 and is a multi-partisan organization committed to increasing women's participation in the political process and increasing their representation in elected and appointed office. HWPC also supports male candidates committed to its goals. HWPC is dedicated to equality in employment, stopping all violence against women, and improving the health and well-being of women and families.

On behalf of the Hawaii Women's Political Caucus, I urge your Committee to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of SB1103.