

LATE

February 5, 2009

Re: Testimonial Opposition of SB No 131

As a parent, a resident of the State of Hawaii, and a member of Parents for Righteousness, Inc., I strongly oppose the proposed bill SB-131 for the following reasons:

- 1) In conjunction of just removing the words "as an expert" will not be beneficial or efficient to prevent improper handling of cases where social workers within the agency classified as "experts" without the full knowledge of their case at hand.
- 2) Denying a social worker's "expertise" is a candid disregard of their education and commitment to their work. I do not deny their expertise nor deny that they are the expertise within their field in collaboration of their additional post-schooling degrees.

However, I do propose the following to be most beneficial and efficient for the agency, the courts, and the families to help unification where is feasible:

- 1) Removing the factor of being an expert in the area of their services to reallocate towards the evidence being presented within cases and hearing under this chapter.
- 2) Including a definition of what is an "Expert" in accordance to the Black's Law Dictionary.
- 3) Including a definition of what is an "Expert Testimony" in accordance to the Black's Law Dictionary.

Please refer to the Proposed Amendment file

Thank you

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cc: PFR record filing