

# LATE TESTIMONY



## HAWAI'I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

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April 13, 2011  
Rm. 016, 9:00 a.m.

TO: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Coral Wong Pietsch, Chair,  
and Commissioners of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

RE: Governor's Message 589

### Nomination of Linda Hamilton Krieger to the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

The Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai'i's laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to State and State-funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawai'i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sect. 5.

The HCRC supports the confirmation of the nomination of Professor Linda Krieger to the Commission. Professor Krieger has extensive knowledge and experience in civil rights matters. For 13 years she worked as a civil rights lawyer in San Francisco, California. From 1980-1986 she was a staff attorney and director of clinical programs at the Employment Law Center of the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco, and from 1986-1991 she was a senior staff attorney for the EEOC, San Francisco Regional Office. During that period, she litigated a number of significant state and federal sex and race discrimination cases. Many of these cases established important legal and practical precedents in the areas of pregnancy discrimination (*Cal Fed v. Guerra*) and sexual harassment (*Priest v. Rotary*). She also played a significant role in drafting state and federal legislation in these subject matter areas.

In 1991, Professor Krieger began teaching at the Stanford Law School, where, in 1995, she published an article on implicit bias and antidiscrimination law [The Content of Our Categories: A Cognitive Bias Approach to Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity, 47 STAN. L. REV. 1161 (1995)]. In 1996, she joined the law faculty at U.C. Berkeley, where she taught employment discrimination law, civil procedure, legal problem solving and decision making, antidiscrimination law and policy, and an undergraduate course on American social movements and their relationship to the development of civil rights law and policy in the U.S.. Presently, she is a professor of law at the William S. Richardson School of Law and director of the Ulu Lehua Scholars Program, a program for law students from legally underserved and underrepresented communities in Hawai'i.

Professor Krieger has published extensively in the areas of disability discrimination, affirmative action, law and social cognition theory, international comparative equality law and policy, judgment in legal decision making, and theories of law and social change. Upon confirmation, Professor Krieger will be a valuable contributing member of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission.