

The logo for the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) is displayed in a dark, textured banner. The text "hscadv" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font, and "HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE" is written in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font below it.

HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

To: The Honorable Keith-Agaran
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

From: Veronika Geronimo
Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

RE: HB1003

Hearing Date: Thursday, March 3, 2:30PM, room 329

The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) is a statewide coalition of domestic violence programs and shelters. HSCADV and its member agencies advocate for policies and services to end domestic violence in Hawai'i. Our primary focus is on the empowerment, safety, and protection of domestic violence survivors and their children, and the accountability of batterers. On behalf of our member agencies, we thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1003.

Protective Orders (PO) are a valuable tool which victims of domestic violence can use to help protect them from abuse, but seeking this protection could also be very dangerous for domestic violence survivors. Batterers often see the survivor as being directly responsible for excluding them from their home or prohibit contact with their children. Unfortunately, current laws are inadequate in providing the legal protection and deterrence to keep batterers from seeking retaliation or continuing to threaten, assault and intimidate victims.

HB1003 would provide greater protections to victims of domestic violence who the court is already attempting to keep safe through protective orders. This measure is greatly needed to address the vulnerabilities in the system and help ensure the safety of domestic violence survivors.

Thank you for your consideration.

LATE TESTIMONY