
From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 12:58 PM
To: HUSTestimony
Subject: HB772 HD1 to be heard 02/10/11 at 9:00am in Room 329

TO: Representative John Mizuno, Chair
Representative Jo Jordan, Vice Chair
Human Service Committee Members

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate
881 Akiu Place
Kailua, HI 96734

DATE: 02/10/11

RE: **Strong Support** for HB772 HD1

Good Morning Representatives and thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of a Domestic Violence Court.

The Hawaii Judiciary has already embraced "specialty courts" designed to address specific populations that come before the court (the Drug Court, Girls Court, 0 - 3 Court) and I have heard nothing but praise and success for these efforts from ALL sides..

A Domestic Violence Court would be of particular use and service for all involved concerning **a problem that will effect 1 out of every 4 women** sometime during their lives. The case management style of the specialty courts will work beautifully with the issue of domestic violence because without oversight to keep abusers accountable, they simply perpetuate their tactics of abuse, domination, power and control over the survivor through the re-litigation of custody and visitation issues for YEARS to come which the Judiciary will tell you jams their dockets with what they call "high conflict" or contested cases.

One of the biggest misperceptions and misconceptions about Domestic Violence is "Once she leaves it's over". Physical separation and time have absolutely NO BEARING WHATSOEVER on the primary form of Domestic Violence: psychological abuse/emotional power and control. This foundation of Domestic Violence is invisible so it's extremely hard to prove in a court of law and in the court's eyes, it loses its credibility, validity and applicability over the passage of time. Combined with the court's misapplication of "equity and fairness" (two standards that are non-existent in the scope of DV) this critical error is part of how we've arrived to DV survivors losing custody of their children despite the state statute that says it won't happen.

Approximately 85% of domestic violence perpetrators take up the hobby of stalking once their primary target victim has been removed from their reach and the overlap of domestic violence and subsequent child abuse has been well-researched and documented throughout clinical literature. The only way to end the cycle of violence is to support the survivors and their children while holding the abuser swiftly accountable and responsible for his actions and behaviors; this is not an issue of punishment - it is a matter of SAFETY.

Domestic Violence cases have been misplaced in the one-size-fits-all treatment response to separation, divorce, custody and visitation issues - creating a DV Court will help in correcting this fundamental error and moreover, in such financially tight times, a DV Court will save the state the money, time and expenses that are all in such critical need.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.

From: thepoags [thepoags@usa.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 9:47 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Strong Support for HB772

TO: Representative Mizuno, Chair
Representative Jordan, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Derek Poag

Father/growing DV advocate
Real Estate consulting
4999 Kahala Ave #470
Honolulu, HI 96816
DATE: 02/10/11

RE: Strong Support for HB772

This must be passed, its our civic duty and social obligation.

Establishing a Domestic Violence Court with exclusive original jurisdiction over cases involving domestic violence may be one of the most important pieces of legislation you could enact not only this year but perhaps in your lifetime.

Currently we have a huge hole in our system that invites abuse hidden behind confidentiality...Best interest of... You've herd the stories so I won't repeat it.

A Domestic Violence Court would provide equal protection to the most vulnerable, victims young and old, those individuals and families that now experience the vicious cycle of being re-victimized by the very system that was designed by our fore fathers to protect the innocent, what happened to us?

In our wealthy fast paced thriving society were all too busy, the system too broke and too broken to fix. Show you care!

Pass HB772 you will find a revitalized concerned system on the cutting edge of good jurisprudence. There are so many good people out here who will help. Do the right thing! Don't look for why it won't work, look for why it will work.
The next generation will thank you.

From: Valerie Poag [vpoag@baywest.tv]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 6:59 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: HB772 to be heard on 02/10/11 at 9:00am in Room 329

TO: Representative Mizuno, Chair
Representative Jordan, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Valerie Poag
Controller, Bay West
vpoag@baywest.tv

DATE: 02/10/11

RE: Extremely Strong Support for HB772

From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 11:45 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: HB772 HD1 for Thursday, February 10th at 9:00am

TO: Representative John Mizuno, Chair

Representative Jo Jordan, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Jonea Schillachi-Lavernge

6737 Puu Pilo Place

Kapaa, HI 96746

DATE: February 10, 2011

I stand in strong support of establishing a Domestic Violence Court in Hawaii. This won't resolve everything but it's a step in the right direction and after **14 YEARS** in family court, I'd say it's a step worth taking. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jonea Schillachi-Lavernge from Kauai

From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 11:05 AM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: Support for HB772 to be heard 02/10/11 at 9:00am in Room 329

TO: REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HUMANS SERVICES COMMITTEE

FROM: TIFFINIE WALTERS
881 AKIU PLACE
KAILUA, HI 96734

DATE: 02/10/11

I STAND IN STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB772

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME,

TIFFINIE WALTERS

Scott K. Wong
3913 Kaimuki Ave
Hon, HI 96816
808-469-1789

Subject: HB 772; Relating to Domestic Violence

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting this testimony in OPPOSITION of this Bill.

In a time when the State of Hawaii is announcing cutbacks in State funded services and facing a State Debt crisis, this bill wants to implement more services for a new type of court with more personnel to manage this court which is already handled by the existing system we have.

Although Domestic Violence against women is a highlighted story in the media, the Statistics of legitimate Domestic Violence does not warrant a whole new court system. In accordance with the State Attorney Generals Uniform Crime Reports, murders and forcible rape does not exceed more then 300 cases combined in 2009. Domestic Violence assaults and Murders are not specifically listed in the Statistics provided by the Attorney General's Office or the Honolulu Police Department's Annual Crime Report.

On a personal note, I do not support any type of violence done in anger or extreme emotional distress on any victim. I also do support a strong fiscal responsibility of our Tax Dollars and resources. I also do not want to see another court system that is used against men and fathers because a women wants to win a custody battle and gain financially in a divorce.

To pass this bill is to pre-emptive in this budget burdened State at this time. I suggest that we postpone this bill till after the Domestic Violence Task force has had some time to investigate and give a report to the Governor and legislature on Domestic Violence in its specificity...

I oppose: SB 288, HB 968, SB 1054,
I Support: HB 1110, SB 1364

Scott Wong
Hawaii Fathers-4-Justice
State Coordinator