
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 2:31 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: paigeemail@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR132 on 3/28/2011 9:00:00 AM
Attachments: HR112 with amendments.doc

**LATE
Testimony**

Testimony for HUS 3/28/2011 9:00:00 AM HCR132

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paige Calahan
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: paigeemail@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2011

Comments:
Support for HCR132/HR112 with amendments. I stand on my testimony as submitted.

To: hustestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: HCR132/HR112 to be heard Monday, 03/28/11, at 9:00am in Room 329
Date: Thu, 24 Mar 2011 21:28:08 -1000

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

FROM: Paige Calahan
DV Survivor and Advocate
PO Box 1380
Puunene, Maui, HI 96784
808-281-8505

DATE: 03/28/11

RE: Support for HCR132/HR112 with amendments

The purpose of this proposal will definitely assist youth and families who have multiple service providers who would need to communicate with each other to be on the same page. Having said this I would like to recount my experience of why this needs to occur and how it is used to prevent information going to the client. Please consider amending this bill so that "confidentiality" can not used as the excuse to keep information from the client themselves.

I recently did an OIP request for all records pertaining to myself and my Son at Child Welfare Services on Maui. Throughout my case the Maui CPS office refused me information on my case because it was "Confidential." With their own special brand of negligence, lack of empathy, falsification and misrepresentation of case facts, they failed to perform under my OIP request while my case on their fraudulent allegations against me remained in appeal, ultimately causing abuse to my Son. My Appeal against CWS was dismissed because the ICA found that I had not done what CPS fraudulently alleged. The OIP office had to enforce my request for documents. CPS responded to my OIP request AFTER the time frame to appeal the CWS Appeal had passed. The documents received, which I was forced to pay for, are so heavily redacted that they were nearly un readable defeating the purpose of obtaining the records in the first place. As a parent in the case, even my own Son's name was redacted. The names of the workers were redacted and that had nothing to do with confidentiality.

Confidentiality of my records is a right, not a privilege. It is abused to interpret this to be a privilege and not a right.

Confidentiality was created to protect and keep the client safe from harm, not to protect those who work for or with the client, so while I'm in support of the intent of this measure I'd like to suggest a safety mechanism for those whom confidentiality serves:

Please amend by adding a line which reads.” confidentiality is always the right of the client to preserve or waive as they choose.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony and this amendment to HCR132/HR112.

Thank you,

Paige Calahan
Domestic Violence Survivor and Advocate