

SB 957

Testimony

(SB957)
RELATING TO THE FAMILY COURT.

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator LES IHARA, JR, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Paige E. Calahan "DV Survivor"
POB 1380
Puunene, HI 96784

DATE: 02/14/11

Support of SB957 with Suggestions

Good Morning Senators,

Thank you for considering options that would bring Sunlight to the Hawaii Family Courts.

I am in support of a Family Law Advisory Committee with a few amendments. Essentially it's about getting public sunshine in the family court system. I would like to suggest that rather than the CJ appointing everyone (as is written) that there be a nomination process for the public sector and that a member of the public be placed on the committee. I would like to further state that I am defining a member of the public to be someone other than a family law attorney or a party involved in the family court in any other capacity.

Respectfully Submitted.

Paige Calahan
Mother of an abused child.

RELATING TO FAMILY COURT.

Family Court; Citizen's Family Law Advisory Committee

Creates a citizen's family law advisory committee to be placed, for administrative purposes, in the judiciary

SUPPORT BILL 957

I, Angela Kaaihue support this bill. I have found that despite fighting for custody for the past 9 years for my twins, I have been denied my parenting rights. I voluntarily placed them in a Legal Guardianship thinking that it was a temporary situation, and that I was promised that I would get them back and have unlimited visitations. However, the guardians whom collect financial assistance granted to them from the DHS Permanency Unit of approximately \$2000+ a month for the past 9 years for caring for my twins don't want to give them back. Also, I am denied visitation, and my twins are raised in separate households, they are denied visitation with their biological parents and grandparents, and their other siblings as well. Is this in the best interest of my twins?

The Big Questions is "WHY does the State of Hawaii Support the Guardians with a FREE WELFARE BENEFITS of \$2000+ a month and provide FREE MedQuest for my twins when we, the parents are fully capable to care for them financially, physically, and medically?"

It's because of the money. The guardians don't want to lose custody of my twins because they would lose their big fat monthly WELFARE paycheck!! So if anyone would ask if this is in the best interest of my twins to be raised in separate households, away from their biological parents, family and siblings, and on State Welfare Assistance? Most people would say NO! Give them back to their parents whom have NOT been found unfit, and who are financially capable of caring for

their own? Why has this gone on so long you may wonder? Well because the Guardians are on welfare and collecting \$2000+ a month, they are doing whatever is necessary to save their WELFARE check! This includes making up lies, and claiming everything possible, the mother needs a psychological exam again and again, the mother's crazy, she's outraged and crazy, the parents are unstable, her own twins want to stay with us, her own kids are afraid of their own parents, her twins are afraid of their own grandparents. Attorneys work pro-bono for poor welfare Guardians, while parents and grandparents have to pay for their own attorneys costing thousands of dollars. In the courtroom, you will have the mother standing by herself!! While she is up against 3 Guardians + 2 Probono Attorneys. That's 5 people against 1 mother.

CUSTODY BATTLE

5 (3 Guardians +2 Probono Attorneys) –vs- 1 (Mother)

It's obvious who the winners of the custody battle is, right? Even though this isn't right, this isn't fair, the mother, Angela Kaaihue, continues to lose her battle. Time is lost, the interpersonal connection is lost, and this is causing the STATE of HAWAII thousands of dollars each year, \$25,000 a year at least. For the past 10 years, this amount is \$250,000, this doesn't include the cost of my twins FREE medical from MedQuest. This is just 1 example of misuse and abusing the Welfare System.

Give them back to their mother, so her twins can live in the same household. So they can live off of WELFARE, and so they can be reunited with their biological family! Stop using my twins to collect WELFARE you blood sucking parasitic GUARDIANS.

This is the written testimony of Angela Kaaihue, mother of Jadelyn and Jolene Stenger Kaaihue. Guardians Pearlinda Aea, Sheila and Adam Geiger.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: robin@angelgroup.org
Subject: Testimony for SB957 on 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM
Date: Monday, February 14, 2011 3:37:25 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM SB957

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robin
Organization: AngelGroup
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: robin@angelgroup.org
Submitted on: 2/14/2011

Comments:
Support for SB957

Input and discussion definitely desired. Discrepancies abound and detailed public comment has not been adequately addressed. Reasonable and lawful corrections are needed. Clarification on the CJ's appointment process and criteria for appointment would be welcomed.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: cheem@umich.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB957 on 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 13, 2011 4:42:39 PM

Testimony for JDL 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM SB957

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melinda Chee Franklin
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cheem@umich.edu
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

In the Hawai'i Family Court, custody disputes have become a cottage industry, propelled by opportunities for financial gain. Hawai'i Family Court authorities have a daisy-chain of interconnected relationships, inflated by a sense of power, control, and money.

The Hawaii Legislature has an opportunity to defend children, families and the United States Constitution by promoting a positive and optimistic approach to parenting situations where the child does not live with both parents. Only through a Citizens Family Law Advisory Committee can objectivity and neutrality happen!

With Responsible Aloha,
Melinda Franklin (formerly Chee)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: gfarstrup@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB957 on 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 13, 2011 9:43:29 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM SB957

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Greg Farstrup
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gfarstrup@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: bbergerhonolulu@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB957 on 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 13, 2011 9:38:10 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM SB957

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bruce Berger
Organization: Berger & Associates
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: bbergerhonolulu@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

I think that this is a very much needed and relevant resource for the Family Court which will empower family members and provide a check and balance to the Family Court System.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: dr.la@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB957 on 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 13, 2011 8:32:55 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/14/2011 9:15:00 AM SB957

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dr. Laurette DeMandel-Schaller, MFT, Ph.D.
Organization: Private Practice
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Phone:
E-mail: dr.la@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/13/2011

Comments:

A citizen's family law advisory committee, in my humble opinion, needs to be placed, for administrative purposes, in the judiciary. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.
Respectfully, Dr. Schaller.