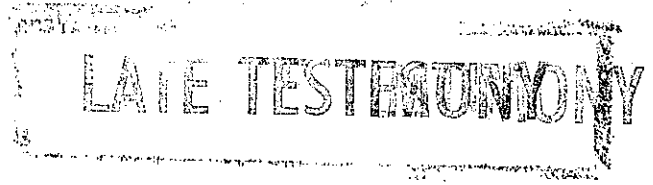
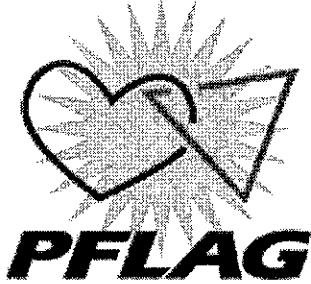


**PFLAG-OAHU (Parents, Families and Friends of
Lesbians, Gays, Transgendered, Bisexuals,
Transgendered & Questioning)**



92-954 Makakilo Dr. #71, Kapolei, HI 96707 (808) 672-6050
golojuchc@hawaii.rr.com www.pflagoahu.org

TO: House Judiciary Committee

HEARING DATE: February 8, 2011

HEARING TIME: 2:15 p.m.

PLACE: Auditorium

IN OPPOSITION TO HB1453 - RELATING TO LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS

Dear Chair Keith Agaran and members of the Judiciary Committee:

PFLAG-Oahu opposes the passage of HB1453.

HB1453, a 402-page bill, that tries to catch all the references to family, immediate family, spouse, husband, wife, widow, widower, children, marriage found in the Hawaii Revised Statutes is a farce. PFLAG-Oahu has been testifying for our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender children since 1996 and in all these years, not one bill has wasted so much space. It is my opinion that this is a sham and a waste of your time and ours.

For this bill to be honestly working for social justice, please kill the bill and let's get serious with Civil Unions as written in SB232, SD1. The SB232, SD1 that while not a bill of true social justice is at least the best our state can offer until the US Federal laws recognize that all citizens deserve social justice.

There are no redeeming factors in this bill. Let's get on with justice for all and discuss SB232, SD1.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW
President

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

OlaNui!

760 halekauwila street
honolulu, hawai'i 96813-3544

Ola_Nui@yahoo.com
808.782.5329
www.OlaNui.com

8 February, 2011

The Honorable Blake K. Oshiro
Hawai'i State House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Representative Oshiro;

Congratulations on your reelection to the legislature. Please know that you are in our best wishes and prayers as you seek to serve.

I very much regret not being able to participate in the hearing scheduled today for SB 232, SD1 (SSCR2) and HB 1453. Hence, please accept my correspondence in lieu of my testimony at the hearing.

For me and everyone who I know who opposes civil unions and efforts to codify same-sex marriage in Hawai'i, my reasons have nothing whatsoever to do with hating homosexuals or attempting to deny equal rights to anyone in these Islands. I have good friends who struggle with sexual identity issues. And not long ago, I lost a dear cousin who threw himself in front of an oncoming train rather than deal with the ravages of end-stage AIDS and some of the cruel and concomitant ridicule he had to endure from his neighbors. Please understand that.

I have my personal, reasonable and time-honored passions about supporting the true definition of marriage to stand intact as it has for thousands of years. You've doubtless heard them all. My own faith, valid social science and positive tradition support marriage as a relationship between one man and one woman. That in itself would be sufficient reason for me to oppose SB 232.

But beyond those obvious reasons, there are any number of issues surrounding this legislation and the accompanying "noise and fury" that ought to be disturbing to conscientious lawmakers. Here are four.

I note that while SB 232 warily skirts outright mention of any intent to grant all rights of marriage to civil unions partners, the bill nevertheless accomplishes just that. Those that would contend that this is simply "same-sex marriage by another name" have a valid argument.

First of all, while §9 is worded to grant all relevant provisions to those who are solemnized "pursuant to chapter 572," you and I both know that "marriage" is intended here. That is how HB 444 read and that is also the wording used in the actual, routine "summary description" offered at the end of this bill (although the rather disingenuous caveat is also mentioned there that the summary is "not...evidence of legislative intent.") Come now. What then is the summary for? Certainly more than mere "information."

Another concern I have is the "protections" offered in §4(b) and §4 (c). First of all, in view of (c), what is the point in the entire last sentence of (b)? The "marriages" in (b) are a subset of the "solemnizations" in "chapter 572" in (c) are they not?

Further, these two sub-sections may offer protection from State action against reluctant officiants who do not wish to perform civil unions. I wish the same could be said for protection to officiants from outside civil litigation by pairs demanding a civil union who maintain that their civil rights have been abrogated or they have been discriminated against by said officiants simply because they will not, in good conscience, perform a civil union.

I realized that HB 1244 is an attempt to afford greater protections but there is no possible way this legislation can successfully mitigate malicious lawsuits.

I am told that such litigation has already been seen in Mainland jurisdictions, often for no other reason than to spitefully force "defendants" to retain costly legal representation and sap what little assets a clergyperson may already have available to care for such eventualities. SB232 does not in fact offer any protection against such actions. And this "hauling to court" of opponents is a well-documented tactic of activists demanding "rights" to same sex marriage.

-- --

Governor Abercrombie has stated publicly on several occasions that the passage of same-sex civil unions will do nothing to alter the definition of marriage by the Legislature as one man to one woman. A number of pro-civil-union Hawai'i Representatives and Senators have echoed his contention and continue to state that there is no intent whatsoever here to head toward same-sex marriage.

If only the activists who have worked so hard these past years genuinely believed likewise. But they do not. Of course I cannot speak to your own motives in pushing so hard for this legislation. Only you know your own heart and I admire you for your convictions. But there is no doubt at all that many other voices in Hawai'i right now are not sincere.

If the experience of several other jurisdictions teaches us anything at all, it is this: many of the *VERY SAME* local and Mainland voices who most ardently argue for same-sex civil unions in the galleries and auditorium of our State Capitol today will be back some time after passage to argue next that civil unions discriminately relegate gays to second-class status and must be replaced with real "marriage." In actual matter of fact, they can be counted on to do so in court even more than at the State Capitol. Then will the state be called upon to spend resources defending the Governor's position and the intent of the real marriage provisions in our statutes?

In fact, it may very well be that the time will come that the state will be compelled by such activists to prove a compelling government interest in *any* restrictions to marriage at all. As an example, what compelling interest does the state have in restricting from civil unions any "persons who stand in relation to each other of ancestor or descendant of *any degree whatsoever*," as in §3? It is only a matter of time before those legitimate restrictions are challenged.

The State is certainly within its bounds to insist upon requirements for marriage. It is not a "civil right" per se. And to restrict certain parties from entering into Section 572 relationships does not in any way constitute support for "inequality" in a just and decent society.

Otherwise, what *legitimate* right will the State have in the future to prohibit polygamy? polyandry? Age restrictions?

-- --

Finally, I am at least a little amazed at the blindness of some of our lawmakers to the very obvious fact that Hawai'i is being "used" to the hilt by outside interests. I have heard our tolerance of each other's differences of opinion described by Mainland gay activists as "naïve stupidity."

I have heard that our willingness to cut one another some slack on contentious issues was described in one Arlington, Virginia strateev session as "wimpy" and that we are "easily led."

And one acquaintance who once worked hard for these issues and has since left the gay lifestyle told me of a meeting he was involved in with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) in D.C. where Hawai'i was described as the "pushover" state.

For every \$1,000 some religious groups might spend on this issue here in the Islands, at least as much comes from one known, vociferous, billionaire gay activist spending the family beer fortune on manipulating hearts and minds across the U.S. - including Hawai'i...not to mention other groups such as the HRC, et al.

Why do some members of our Senate and House insist upon turning a blind eye to the real motives behind the support for bills such as SR 232?

Please defeat SB 232 and HB 1453 and open the gateway toward further erosion of genuine marriage.

Rather, please advocate for a review of our current reciprocal beneficiaries statutes to insure that necessary rights and responsibilities be added to the law to care for some of the legitimate equal rights concerns that may have been brought to your attention in the past few years since passage of that R.B. legislation.s

Thanks sincerely for your consideration, Representative Oshiro.

Rick Lazor, M.S.W.
OlaNui!

To: House Judiciary Committee
Hearing: Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 2:15 p.m.
Room: Auditorium

LATE TESTIMONY

To: Representative Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair - Judiciary Committee
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair- Judiciary Committee
Members of the Judiciary Committee

From: Tambry R. Young and Suzanne King, Native Hawaiians
Board Members, Citizens for Equal Rights

RE: Senate Bill No. 232, SD1 - Testimony in SUPPORT
House Bill No. 1453 - Testimony in OPPOSITION

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony from our family regarding the civil unions legislation before the Judiciary Committee today.

In less than 30 days, we will be celebrating 30 years together, a huge milestone for any couple these days. We are also the proud parents of a bright, well-adjusted 11-year-old daughter. We have the same hopes and aspirations that all parents do about what the future holds for their children. Civil unions would allow our family to be treated with the dignity and fairness that all families are entitled to and which most families take for granted.

Once again, we'd like to thank you for addressing this critical issue that is important not only to our family but many other families likes ours in this state. It was a bold step many of you took last year passing HB444. At that point many families in Hawaii felt encouraged that equality for all families in Hawaii would be achieved. Unfortunately, we know that former Governor Lingle did not have the courage to support equality as many of you did last session.

While we were supportive of HB 444 last year, we would like you to consider adding some clarifying language to SB 232, SD1. We feel that adding language that would assist with implementation would help to remove any uncertainties that could arise if SB232 SD1 is passed in its present form.

In regards to adoption, Suzanne and I were fortunate to be able to be granted co-parent adoption giving us equal rights to Shylar without Tambry having to give up her rights. However, it was a stressful and expensive process and for other couples like us it is not always a guarantee that they will have the same successful results we did. SB 232 in its present form should be clarified to ensure that the individuals in a civil union have equal protections and responsibilities in regards to the children of that relationship in whatever circumstance may arise.

When it comes to filing our state taxes, we want to be sure that we can file jointly to make it easier to file one joint return and also to reduce our filing fees and taxes owed.

Additionally, we would like to ensure that there is not a gap in protections for couples who are required to terminate their RB before receiving their civil union license, and then have to complete their formal civil union process. 232 could be made clearer to prevent such a gap from happening.

The inclusion of clarifying language similar to that found in both HB1623 and SB231 would help to make interpretations in these areas more clear and concise.

Amending SB232 SD1 with language that addresses these areas of uncertainties would NOT add any more benefits, rights, protections and or responsibilities. It is only to assist in the ease of implementation and interpretation.

In reference to HB1453, while submitted with very good intentions, we would not be in support of this particular bill because it lacks simplicity and completeness, which is necessary to make a system workable. While it provides for a registration system like RBs, it lacks a formalized process that celebrates the new family relationship that is being created under law. That ceremony is important both because it reinforces to the couple that they have important legal duties to each other and any kids they have or will have, and it reinforces to others that the couple should be seen as responsible for each other – they can speak for each other, they should be supported in caring for each other, and they should be held to their commitments to each other. There needs to be a complete package of legal tools that everyone can understand. Anything less than that denies fair treatment.

We urge you to support SB 232, SD1 with changes mentioned above in order to end our daily struggles and so that families like ours can be strengthened with the protections we are entitled to as citizens of this state.

Mahalo.

Tambry R. Young and Suzanne King
tambry.young@gmail.com
skking81@gmail.com



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Testimony for HB1453 on 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 12:20 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: lisay001@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM HB1453

LATE TESTIMONY

Conference room: Auditorium
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lisa Yoshimura
Organization: Individual
Address: Honolulu, HI
Phone:
E-mail: lisay001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:



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strongly opposed to SB 232 SD1 and HB 1453

Patrick Rorie [prorie@k12.hi.us]

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 12:01 PM

To: JUDtestimony

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear House Judiciary Committee,

A vote for civil unions is a vote for same-sex marriage in Hawaii. Every time a civil union bill has been imposed on a state, demands for same-sex "marriage" have followed. The activists lobbying for civil unions really want same-sex "marriage" in Hawaii. We know it, they know it, and the people of Hawaii have a right to know it. You can't talk about civil unions without talking about same-sex marriage because there really isn't any difference. The goal is the same.

The people of Hawaii deserve an honest debate and deserve to have this issue put on the ballot. Hawaii's civil union bill is nearly identical to bills passed in California and Connecticut. Those led to courts ultimately imposing same-sex "marriage" on those states. The people of Hawaii and the majority of our elected officials still support marriage as the union of one man and one woman. If this isn't about undermining and redefining marriage, why would the language of the marriage law be used to create civil unions?

As a long time Hawaii resident, I ask you for wisdom and courage to say no to Civil Unions in Hawaii. We affirm the overwhelming mandate of the vote in 1998, and the SMS survey in November of 2009. We now know that a Civil Union is a deceptive way of achieving Same Sex Marriage. Please stand up for our families and acknowledge that marriage between one man and one woman is the foundation of our society. Please focus on the more pressing issues facing the state, such as improving public education for our children by ending furloughs, the economy and maintaining the health and well being of our elderly. These are issues that affect many more people in Hawaii than Civil Unions! Please put their rights FIRST!

With Aloha and Much Respect,

Patrick Rorie

Msg sent via Atmail - <http://atmail.com/>

Connected to Microsoft Exchange

**STATEMENT ON SENATE BILL 232, SENATE DRAFT 1,
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL UNIONS, AND
HOUSE BILL 1453, A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS**

**By
Lynn D. Wardle**

to the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

I am honored to submit this written statement about S.B. 232 (S.D.1), and H.B. 1453 which this committee is considering today. These bills would create a new legal status called "civil unions" in Hawaii and confer upon persons who register for civil unions "all the same rights, benefits, protections, and responsibility under law . . . as are granted to those who contract . . . [a licensed marriage] pursuant to chapter 572." In addition, I will comment on H.B. 1244 which purports to protect some degree of religious liberty for churches to decline to perform civil union ceremonies or provide services for them, but which fails to protect religious liberty of individuals.

By way of introduction and for purposes of identification only (for I do not speak for any other person or institution except myself), I am the Bruce C. Hafen Professor of Law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University. I have taught Family law for over three decades. I am the former President of the International Society of Family Law, and still serve on the Executive Council of that global learned society. I am a founding Co-Chair of the International Academy for the Study of the Jurisprudence of the Family. I am a member of the American Law Institute. I have published over 100 articles, and several books, dealing with family law and related topics. I have lectured or taught about family law and related subjects in more than twenty nations. I have testified before both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, and before several state legislative bodies concerning family law issues, including specifically marriage and same-sex unions.

It was my privilege to testify before this committee in 1997 about the constitutional amendment and connected legislation which created "Reciprocal Beneficiaries" and I was honored that the legislature's decision then (to support both) coincided with the advice I offered and the support I provided for the compromise that joined the constitutional marriage amendment (structural) with the Reciprocal Beneficiaries legislation.

The good points of the bills that are before the committee today is that they do not extend the legal status and label of "marriage" to same-sex couples. The label and formal legal status of "marriage" is properly reserved for the unique relationship of man and woman.

The bad points of these bills, however, outweigh the good point, and the fact that they do not do all the harm that could be done to marriage. I mention four problems.

First, these bills create same-sex marriage with another label. Marriage is not just a label. There also is a substance of marriage. The substance of marriage is the bundle of rights and duties

which the laws and which society confers upon the unique (and uniquely valuable) relationship. Relationships that are given that bundle of rights are in substance and reality “marriages.” (As Shakespeare suggested, “A rose by any other name” is still a rose.)

These bills give all of the substance of marriage -- the entire bundle of legal rights, duties and privileges of marriage – to same-sex couples. Thus, they create same-sex marriage in substance. But they preserve the mere name, the label of “marriage” for male-female unions. Obviously, the substance of marriage is usually much more important than the mere label. To confer the substance of marriage but not the label of marriage creates a “truth-in-labeling” problem.

These bills do create same-sex marriage in substance. That is inconsistent with good policy, and undermines the value of marriage.

Second, these bills also will do a bad dis-service to same-sex couples. Marriage and its substance (rights, duties, privileges) has been customized over the centuries, over millennia, for the particular qualities of male-female unions and gender-integrating relationships. To simply “cut-and-paste” the legal benefits, rights and duties that were specifically crafted for male-female couples and extend them to same-sex couples is like taking a square peg and forcing it into a round hole. It will create friction; it will be a poor fit; it will distort marriage and will create problems for same-sex couples.

Third, a civil union bill that was tailored specifically to the qualities and characteristics of same-sex unions would be appealing and would be worth considering. Neither of the civil union bills is carefully tailored or customized. A cut-and-paste bill like the bills before this committee are very inadequate and show inappropriate drafting reflecting concerns other than good drafting.

Fourth, these bills create major religious liberty issues. Individuals may have strong moral, religious and conscience objections to facilitating same-sex marriage-equivalent civil unions. Such problems have led to threats of firing, resignations, lawsuits and major issues in other states that have legalize same-sex civil unions and also states with same-sex marriage.

There is not protection for individual rights of conscience or religious liberty in any of the bills before this committee. H.B. 1244 is not a real religious liberty bill. It gives minimal protection for religious organizations and their agencies and operations, but unfortunately it contains absolutely no protection of or exemption for individual religious liberty or for the exercise of rights of religion or conscience by private persons. It provides no protection at all for individuals who for reasons of sincere, deeply-held religious conviction would not want to assist, support or facilitate or provide goods or services to same-sex unions or ceremonies. That lack of consideration of, lack of respect and protection for, and lack of exemption for individual religious conscience or individual religious liberty is a serious flaw. Religious liberty is not just to protect corporations, but it is intended primarily to protect individual liberties. The Hawaii legislature ought to be more careful, sensitive and respectful of individual religious liberty interests. The false protection offered by H.B. 1244 is no protection at all for religious liberty of individuals, and is unworthy of Hawaii’s great tradition of respect for religious liberty.

Thank you for considering my statement.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF HB 1453 AND SB 232 SD1

To: Rep. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Rep. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

From: Anya Anthony
Tel. 808-263-3561

LATE TESTIMONY

Date: Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Committee Members. My name is Anya Anthony and I am a wife and mother of two. My family and I strongly oppose Senate Bill 232 SD1 and House Bill 1453 which support civil unions, and acceptance of which, as history has shown, will eventually lead to the introduction of further bills allowing for "same sex marriage". We ask that you please consider our following testimony on this issue:

We have the God-given freedom to do or be what we want. It's our choice. But all the scriptures and saintly persons since time immemorial advise that certain behaviors, including homosexuality, adultery, and incest, are wrong and go against the laws of nature and God.

Many people say that a person is homosexual because he was "born that way". The scientific community disagrees, however. The most respected researchers conclude that homosexuality is not inherited, but is a psychological condition due to a combination of social, psychological, and possibly biological factors. Simply put, it's an identity crisis.

Oxford University reported that the life expectancy for 20-year-old gay and bisexual men is 8-20 years less than for all men. In comparison, this makes homosexuality three times more deadlier than smoking.

The Center for Disease Control reported that homosexual men are 860% more likely to contract sexually transmitted diseases, which in turn increased their risk of contracting HIV/AIDS up to 500%.

And here in our very own state, the HI Dept. of Health previously reported that 83% of Hawaii's 2,400+ cases of AIDS were directly or indirectly caused by "men having sex with men."

The scientific evidence of the psychological nature of these lifestyles and the harm they do is abundant, but will continue to be concealed by the pandering media as long as we let it.

This has nothing to do with hate, homophobia, or bigotry, which homosexual activists like to label us so as to appear to be the victims. We should not fall into the trap of pseudo-compassion. Our duty, your duty, is to protect all the people of Hawaii, including those who identify themselves as homosexual. However, true compassion means not being afraid to speak the truth to protect the interests of everyone, not just the homosexuals. As parents, families, congregations, communities, and state and community leaders, we must speak up and fight for what we know to be in the best interests of our people. Please be fearless in standing up for what is truth and moral as ordained by God, not anybody else.

Lastly, may I humbly remind you that the natural family is and always has been the bedrock of civilization, since time immemorial. One should never underestimate the strength of families. When families stand together and speak out, they cannot be ignored. The real power of this state and this nation is not the State Legislature or the United States Congress - it is, in fact, the intelligent voices of the masses of the people. But if the peoples' voice is not strong or loud enough, it will not be listened to. Fortunately, 70% of Hawaii spoke out against civil same sex marriage/civil unions. We pray that you have not forgotten what we said and that you still care enough to listen, and with our support behind you, will selflessly stand up for what is right.

Mahalo for allowing us the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully with aloha,

Anya Anthony
Kailua, Hawaii

LATE TESTIMONY

**TO: The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran , (Chair)
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, (Vice Chair)
and the Members of the Judiciary Committee**

**DATE: Tuesday, February 8, 2011
2:15 Legislature Conference Room Auditorium**

RE: HB 1453, Relating To Civil Unions

POSITION : STRONGLY OPPOSE

My name is Fetu Kolio, and a Community Resident of the State Of Hawaii, I am Strongly oppose to this measure because we already have Laws that are written into our State of Hawaii constitution on Civil Rights Laws .

The facts are that ongoing issues of continues violations of discrimination on disability, race, color, and all other protected class of citizens under our existing civil rights laws are never brought in front of civil Courts .

Yet, we are trying to say that by amending Civil Union in to the State of Hawaii Constitution under Civil Rights Laws, will put Civil Union before all other existing Civil Rights Laws In the State Of Hawaii .

Thank You for opportunity to testify.

Fetu Kolio, (Community Residents)





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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 11:15 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: matt.prellberg@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM HB1453

Conference room: Auditorium
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Matt Prellberg
Organization: Individual
Address: 598 Pepeekeo Place Honolulu, HI
Phone:
E-mail: matt.prellberg@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 11:22 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: rmiller@aya.yale.edu

Testimony for JUD 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM HB1453

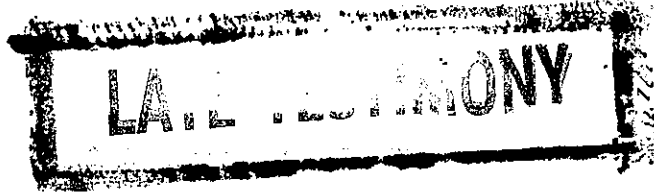
Conference room: Auditorium
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard Miller, Prof. of Law. Emeritus
Organization: Individual
Address: 315 Iliaina Street Kailua
Phone: 254-1796
E-mail: rmiller@aya.yale.edu
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

Comments:

I am strongly opposed to limiting Civil Unions to same sex couples as set forth in Section A-2(3).

¶167;A-2 Requisites of a valid civil union. To enter into a valid civil union, it shall be necessary that:

- (1) Each of the parties be at least eighteen years old;
- (2) Neither of the parties be a spouse in a marriage, a party to a reciprocal beneficiary relationship, or a partner in another civil union;
- (3) The parties be of the same sex; provided that the respective parties do not stand in relation to each other of ancestor and descendant of any degree whatsoever, brothers and sisters of the half as well as to the whole blood, uncle and nephew, aunt and niece, whether the relationship is the result of the issue of parents married or not married to each other;



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Medicine Buddhas and Bodhisattvas
 Natural Cancer Wellness Foundation
 Dr. Myron Berney, ND LAc
 808-392-3366



House Bill 1453 and Senate Bill 232, SD1 Support

Tuesday, 02-08-11 2:15PM in House conference room Auditorium.

About 25 years ago, at the UH after a lecture on Death and Dying, the Bardo Experiences, someone asked Kalu Rinpoche, his opinion on Gay relationships. Kalu Rinpoche gave a great answer. He said that gay relationships were not any better, you have all the same problems as heterosexual relationships. Well, for a Monk, Liberation doesn't depend upon having a civil union or getting married.

The Scope of Sexuality is certainly vast and beyond my mere comprehension. That having been said we all know a person's sexuality is influenced by many factors especially hormones!

OMG, PMS no only joking but we all know what those abbreviations stand for.

My point is that we must understand that everybody needs space to live. That is an inalienable right. It not very nice to go around squashing people to squeeze them out.

Number 2, medically we know that a weak liver results in abnormal steroid sex hormones, excess estrogen and feminization in men and excess testosterone and masculinization in women.

Dr. Eric R Braverman, MD professor of intergrative medicine in neurological surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College writes on how medical science has found the link between various Rx drugs and environmental chemicals and sexual dysfunction in men and women.

Dr. Braverman also writes on life style and dietary changes for a younger sexier you in his book by the same name.

Number 3—Who really are “they”, the defense of marriage people, defending against? Who are they defending their marriage against? Is somebody really attacking their relationship? If so, it probably isn't coming from the “outside”. The gay couple down the street isn't threatening your marriage, well unless your spouse is, you know, either G, L or Bi.

Anyway no big fear from my side?

We don't need any domestic violence directed against some other lifestyle somewhere down the road.

LATE TESTIMONY

98-458 Hoomailani Street
Pearl City, HI 96782

February 8, 2011

Judiciary Committee
Hawaii State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Please oppose SB 1453 regarding civil unions. This bill is yet another attempt to force same-sex marriage on the people of Hawaii. This bill is clearly redefining marriage to include couples of the same sex. Hawaii voters have amended the State Constitution to define marriage as between one man and one woman. If the definition of marriage is to be changed, it should be up to the people of Hawaii as a whole to change it.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sharon Toyomura

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony in Strong Support of HB 1453

House Judiciary Committee
February 8, 2011, 2:15 p.m.
Hawai'i State Legislature
Hawai'i State Capitol Auditorium

Measure Title: RELATING TO LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS

Description: Establishes civil unions and provides to civil union partners the benefits and obligations conferred upon a couple by marriage. Provides for termination of civil unions through the judicial system.

To: Rep. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Rep. Karl Rhoades, Vice-Chair
House Judiciary Committee Members:

Rep. Blake Oshiro, Rep. Tom Brower, Rep. Rida T.R. Cabanilla, Rep. Mele Carroll, Rep. Robert N. Herkes, Rep. Ken Ito, Rep. Sylvia Luke, Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Rep. Cliff Tsuji, Rep. George Fontaine, Rep. Barbara Marumoto, Rep. Cynthia Thielen

From: Deanna Espinas, Private Citizen
2103 Palolo Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816

My name is Deanna Espinas and I strongly support this bill. It is time to address the issue that family members, friends, and others in our Aloha State are being denied their civil rights, legal rights, and privileges that are unjustly conferred only to those who are married, heterosexual couples.

This bill would go a long way to strengthen Hawai'i's disenfranchised families.

Congratulations to our lawmakers who introduced this bill: Rep. Scott Saiki, Rep. Chris Lee and former Rep. Hermina Morita. Thank you, Rep. Gilbert Keith-Agaran, for hearing this bill. It took courage and we know that you will continue to face criticism. However, we encourage you and your Judiciary Committee to please use your legislative powers to protect all people, not just a few.

Very Sincerely,

Deanna Espinas,
Private Citizen

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Support for H.B. 1453 and S.B. 232

Kathy Malasky [kmalasky@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 9:48 AM

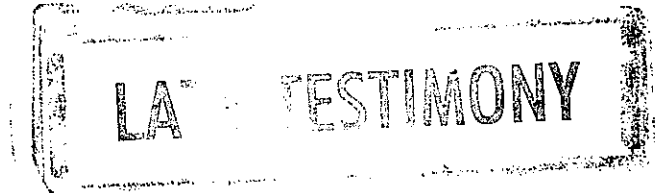
To: JUDtestimony

In my absence, I respectfully request that you to support the bills H.B. 1453 and S.B. 232 at the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 2:15 p.m. in the Auditorium. I believe it is long overdue to allow civil unions and same sex marriage. I think all citizens are entitled to family and the pursuit of happiness. The government should support ALL citizens in their pursuit of happiness, not just the ones who have the exact same beliefs and lifestyle as I do. Freedom to pursue the right to happiness in a basic right given by our Constitution.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Malasky
76-6329 Leone St.
Kailua-Kona HI 96740
808-329-8357





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FW: OPPOSE SB 232 & HB 1453, SUPPORT HB 1244: RESEARCH DOES NOT SUPPORT Legislative Time/Funding for "Civil Unions" Minority, but NO Time/Funding for Hawaiians HIGH HIV, JOBLESSNESS, LOOMBING DEFICITS, etc. ~ STOP Spending Monies on This Issue

Amoreena Rabago

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 10:20 AM

To: JUDtestimony

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Baruch Hashem [mailto:mashiach_is_coming@yahoo.com]

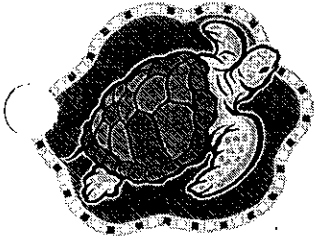
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 9:47 AM

To: All Senators; All Reps

Cc: tberg@honolulu.gov; emartin@honolulu.gov; ianderson@honolulu.gov; schang1@honolulu.govs; akobayashi@honolulu.gov; tgabbard@honolulu.gov; rcachola@honolulu.gov; bharimoto@honolulu.gov; ngarcia@honolulu.gov

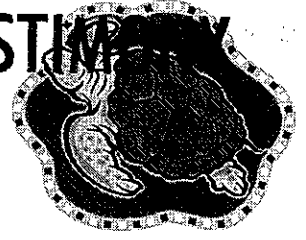
Subject: OPPOSE SB 232 & HB 1453, SUPPORT HB 1244: RESEARCH DOES NOT SUPPORT Legislative Time/Funding for "Civil Unions" Minority, but NO Time/Funding for Hawaiians HIGH HIV, JOBLESSNESS, LOOMBING DEFICITS, etc. ~ STOP Spending Monies on This Issue

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FRANCINE MAE AONA KENYON **LATE TESTIMONY**

*dba Kuli Ike Kokua
2520 Jasmine Street
Honolulu, HI 96816
archerygal001@gmail.com*



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair

Tuesday, February 8, 2011
At 2:15 pm
Conference Room Auditorium

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1453
RELATING TO LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS**

Aloha, my name is Francine Mae Aona Kenyon. I myself am an ordained deacon of the United Methodist Church in 1985 on discontinuance and was the second deaf pastor of Christ United Methodist Church of the Deaf in its 116 years of deaf ministry in Baltimore, Maryland.

I am testifying in opposition of House Bill No. 1453 that establishes civil unions and provides to civil union partners the benefits and obligations conferred upon a couple by marriage and that provides for termination of civil unions through the judicial system because a traditional marriage with the family should be kept as it is without any changes or amendments to the law pertaining to the traditional marriage.

Again, I am in strong opposition of House Bill No. 1453 in respect to the traditional marriage and family life.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Francine Mae Aona Kenyon
Deaf Advocate

Testimony for JUD 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM HB1453

Conference room: Auditorium
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: JEAN LEONG
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: alahoku@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

Thank you for representing Hawaii's people which includes my husband and me. Please oppose HB 1453. A vote for civil unions in Hawaii will be followed with their demand for same-sex "marriage" as witnessed in the other states. Respect the voice of Hawaii's people, the people who elected you, the people who put their trust in you with their vote, the people who already made it clear that marriage is between one man and one woman. Man and woman were created different. We all know this. If this isn't about undermining marriage, why would the language of the marriage law be used to create civil unions? Please not be persuaded by the foremost activists pursuing civil unions nationwide. Please listen to the spoken voice, the cast vote, of your State of Hawaii constituents. Do our vote not mean anything? Can you not stand up for our voices? We trusted you with our vote but you let this issue be introduced over and over. Please oppose HB 1453. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

Testimony for JUD 2/8/2011 2:15:00 PM HB1453

Conference room: Auditorium
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sharon Nagasako
Organization: Individual
Address: Honolulu, HI
Phone:
E-mail: res0i9ts@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/8/2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

Please do not equate "civil unions" with traditional civil rights. Those desiring to be involved in civil unions are not being denied the right to vote, or access to public drinking fountains or restrooms. They are not being segregated by law from the rest of the community, nor are they being banned from access by law to restaurants and other businesses.

These proponents of "civil unions" want government-enforced special privileges, not traditional civil rights. Do not be fooled.

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Committee: **HOUSE JUDICIARY**
Room: **Auditorium**
Hearing Date: **2/8/2011 2:15PM**
RE: **STRONG OPPOSITION TO HB 1453**

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the subject of HB 1453, relating to "legal relationships," which actually refers directly to establishing civil unions in Hawaii, which in essence is "marriage" by another name. I **STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 1453**, and I humbly request that the Hawaii State Legislature not pass this measure. HB 1453 is an attempt to circumvent the will of Hawaii's people and the law, which asserts that: "... the people of Hawaii choose to preserve the tradition of marriage as a unique social institution based upon the committed union of one man and one woman" [Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 572 Section C-2]. It is not in the best interest of our state to allow for civil unions, as there is nothing fruitful about "same-sex" civil unions; nor is there anything fruitful from the youth they inspire. Civil unions prey on the fruitfulness of others. Civil unions would attract more of the same types of unions to our state, and this is not conducive to a fruitful "ohana" or a hopeful future for the state of Hawaii.

HB 1453 states that it intends to recognize civil unions in Hawaii, by creating a new chapter in the Hawaii Revised Statutes to accommodate same-sex couples to engage in marriage, by calling it a civil union. Marriage, by any other name, is still a marriage. HB 1453 is deceptive and devious in its attempt to circumvent the law and the will of Hawaii's people by attempting to adopt into Hawaii's law, a special section for civil unions, which upon examination of the language is almost identical to the language contained in Hawaii's marriage law, therefore, it is simply an attempt to allow for same-sex marriages by calling it civil unions. Again, marriage is a union between one man and one woman. A "civil union" cannot exist... the final outcome is still a marriage, and marriage will always be marriage, a union between one man and one woman.

In addition, Hawaii law already extends certain rights and benefits which are presently available only to married couples to couples composed of two individuals who are legally prohibited from marrying under state law. [L 1997, c 383, pt of §1] (Hawaii Revised Statutes 572 Section C-1).

Please OPPOSE HB 1453, and DO NOT PASS this measure. It will be a blessing to our state and the future generations of Hawaii to keep marriage as it is today, as it always has been, and as it always shall be a union between a man and a woman. It is also wrong to make marriage something it is not, by calling it a civil union and changing the direction in which society acknowledges the way children enter the world and are reared... this endeavor is immoral. Marriage is not a man-made institution. Marriage is something that was instituted by God, whereby children would naturally enter the world through the union of one man and one woman. Anything other than this is not a marriage, and is not conducive to a healthy, thriving civilization. **PLEASE DO NOT PASS HB 1453.**

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. L. Shorba, M.A.
(e-mail: lisaals@hotmail.com)