

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

PANKAJ BHANOT  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

**LATE**  
**Testimony**

February 3, 2011

TO: The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Interim Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1477 - RELATING TO FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS**

Hearing: Thursday, February 3, 2011; 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of H.B. 1477 is to authorize the Department of Human Services to establish one or more Family Justice Centers to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, or human trafficking, as well as to provide family-based social services

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department supports the intent of this bill.

DHS believes that the concept of a single point of access for multiple services has merit and deserves discussion. But due to the scarcity of resources and the State's fiscal crisis, the Department is not in a position to explore or pursue the establishment of Family Justice Centers at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

ALII PLACE  
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-7400 • FAX: (808) 768-6552

**LATE**  
**Testimony**

KEITH M. KANESHIRO  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



ARMINA A. CHING  
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

THE HONORABLE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR  
HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
Twenty-sixth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2011  
State of Hawai'i

February 3, 2011

RE: H.B. 1477; RELATING TO FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS.

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Jordan, and members of the House Committee on Human Services, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu submits the following testimony in opposition to H.B. 1477.

While we certainly support the intent of this measure, we feel that it may be premature and that the concept of Family Justice Centers needs more time for development before this type of legislation is put forward. Our Department is currently facilitating (with the assistance of several federal grants) a collaborative effort of a multitude of agencies involved in domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, human trafficking, and child abuse to examine the adaptation of the Family Justice Center concept to Honolulu. This joint effort includes County and State law enforcement, judicial, and social services agencies as well as numerous representatives from community victim services and civil legal assistance agencies and also includes domestic violence survivors. As our current effort is an exploration of this model for responding to a variety of crimes with diverse characteristics, it is currently akin to a pilot project that is searching for a means to utilize our collective resources more effectively. As this effort, as noble as its cause may be, is still clearly a work in progress, it is too soon in the process to predict the final direction that this project may take. Although we certainly applaud this measure, which is clearly intended to support our efforts we ask your patience in allowing us to more fully develop this concept for Honolulu before we venture into the additional steps contemplated in this measure to extend this concept across the state.

Again, thank you for your support, but for the reasons cited above, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu respectfully requests that you hold HB 1477. Thank you for your time and consideration.

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 02, 2011 4:38 PM  
**To:** HUS testimony  
**Cc:** [diane@ashmaui.com](mailto:diane@ashmaui.com)  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1477 on 2/3/2011 9:00:00 AM

# **LATE Testimony**

Testimony for HUS 2/3/2011 9:00:00 AM HB1477

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Diane Guerriero  
Organization:  
Address: 1930a Vineyard Street Wailuku Hawaii 96793  
Phone: 808 242 2012  
E-mail: [diane@ashmaui.com](mailto:diane@ashmaui.com)  
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments: