From: <u>Marsha Bolson</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Cc: nancik@stoptheviolence.org

Subject: HB 1800, HD2, SD1 Relating to the Judiciary

Date: Sunday, April 01, 2012 9:41:34 PM

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

HB 1800, HD2, SD 1 Relating to the Judiciary

Decision Making

DATE: Monday, April 2, 2012

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Ige and Vice Chair Kidani:

I would like to offer my support of HB 1800 and its appropriations to the Judiciary. These funds are critical to the ability of private non-profits like the Domestic Violence Action Center (DVAC) to continue to help our families achieve peace and harmony.

The funds are desperately needed to provide advocates and legal support to victims of abuse, to develop paths to safety for those who need to escape violent situations, and to ensure that our teens learn to recognize and avoid potentially dangerous relationships.

DVAC's work is valuable and essential to a healthy and safe community, and the board of directors is committed to seeking supplemental funding from private sources to help continue these efforts. We are also deeply appreciative of the continued support of the Legislature.

Mahalo nui loa for your support of HB 1800 and its companion bill, SB 2054.

Sincerely,

Marsha Bolson Member, DVAC Board of Directors