



THE SEX ABUSE
TREATMENT CENTER

A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

Executive Director
Adriana Ramelli

DATE: February 14, 2012

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TO: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center

RE: H.B. 1995, H.D.1
Relating to Labor

Good afternoon Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of the Committee on Judiciary. My name is Adriana Ramelli and I am the Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC), a program of the Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children (KMCWC), an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health.

The SATC supports the intent of HB1995 H.D.1 to alert victims of human trafficking, through posters and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations website, that what they are experiencing is a crime and to inform them how to access help and resources. Our Center has a long history of serving those who are sexually exploited and we strongly support community outreach efforts to encourage this vulnerable population to seek protection and counseling.

While we support the intent of this bill, we oppose the section in HB1995 H.D.1 which establishes penalties for violations of the posting requirements. We question the feasibility and effectiveness of attaching punitive measures to ensure compliance. Perhaps incentives, rather than penalties, should be explored as a strategy to further motivate establishments to ensure information on human trafficking is posted.

We firmly concur with this bill's critically important goal to create awareness about the horrific crime of human trafficking and to reach out to help those in need. We believe victim notification strategies, such as those proposed in this bill, are an important step in reaching that goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.