

LATE
Testimony

hscadv
HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

To: The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair
The Honorable Jo Jordan, Vice-Chair
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

From: Veronika Geronimo, Executive Director
Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

RE: HB2051 – Comments Only

Hearing Date and Time: Monday, January 30, 2012, 8:30AM

Good morning Chair Mizuno, Vice-Chair Jordan, and members of House Committee on Human Services, the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence respectfully submits the following testimony for HB2051. As a statewide coalition of domestic violence service providers, our mission is to engage communities and organizations to end domestic violence through education, advocacy, and action for social justice.

The HSCADV takes no position on this bill but offers the following comments:

- In rural and small communities, keeping the confidentiality of victims of abuse have been a concern. If someone knows the offender, then one can figure out the victim. Putting this information on the internet makes the possibility of this information going viral and places victim privacy at risk.
- At a time of limited state resources, it adds another burden on family court and already over-burdened court staff, The proposed law would either add costs to hire additional staff or would force the existing staff to delay other work (like issuing arrest warrants, setting dockets, issuing subpoenas, etc.) in order to enter names on a registry.
- Last but not least, the database has the potential of being extremely dangerous for victims who have been wrongly convicted of domestic violence.

Thank you for your consideration.