

HONOLULU PRIDE
CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF PRIDE IN PARADISE
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January 26, 2012

LATE TESTIMONY

Friday, January 27, 2012 - 9:30 a.m.
Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol RM 016
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Senate Bill 2217 Uniform Probate Code; Civil Unions - Comments

Aloha Chair Hee and fellow committee members,

On behalf of the Honolulu Pride committee we have comments and concerns regarding Senate Bill 2217.

While we support the intent of SB 2217 we cannot fully support the bill this is due to the fact that we feel that it is unnecessary given that Act 1 the Civil Unions law already covers this inclusion as seen here:

-9 Benefits, protections, and responsibilities. Partners to a civil union lawfully entered into pursuant to this chapter shall have all the same rights, benefits, protections, and responsibilities under law, whether derived from statutes, administrative rules, court decisions, the common law, or any other source of civil law, as are granted to those who contract, obtain a license, and are solemnized pursuant to chapter 572.

-11 References and inclusions. A party to a civil union shall be included in any definition or use of the terms "spouse", "family", "immediate family", "dependent", "next of kin", and other terms that denote the spousal relationship, as those terms are used throughout the laws of the State."

The old adage "Less is more" surely applies here. We here at Honolulu Pride think that if you amend this section of the Hawaii Revised Statute to include references to the civil unions chapter, and not others it could narrow the protections, rights and responsibilities that Act 1 sought to provide those entering into a Civil Union.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Rob Hatch
Legislative Representative