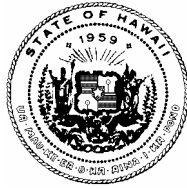


# **HB 1187**

Measure Title: RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING.  
Report Title: Human Trafficking Awareness Month  
Description: Designates January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.  
Companion:  
Package: None  
Current Referral: HMS/TEC  
Introducer(s): MIZUNO, AWANA, LUKE, SAIKI, SOUKI

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN  
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

April 2, 2013

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 1187 - RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

Hearing: Tuesday, April 2, 2013; 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room 016; State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Act is to designate January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) offers the following **comments** on this bill.

Public awareness of human trafficking as a significant societal and public health crisis will help in promoting an environment that cares for victims of human trafficking and promote support for the provision of the necessary and appropriate services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
**OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.hawaii.gov/labor](http://www.hawaii.gov/labor)  
Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685  
Email: [dliir.ocs@hawaii.gov](mailto:dliir.ocs@hawaii.gov)

March 28, 2013

To: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013  
Time: 1:15 pm  
Place: Conference Room 016, State Capitol

From: Mila Kaahanui, MSW  
Executive Director  
Office of Community Services (OCS)

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

**Testimony for H.B. 1187, Relating to Human Trafficking**

**I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

The measure proposes to amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) to add a new section designating the month of January as "Human Trafficking Awareness Month."

The Office of Community Services supports this bill.

**II. CURRENT LAW**

There is no current provision in the HRS regarding Human Trafficking Awareness Month. January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

**III. COMMENTS ON SENATE BILL**

The Office of Community Services (OCS) is an advocate for the disadvantaged in Hawaii, including immigrants, refugees and victims of human trafficking. We support efforts to raise awareness of this issue and ask for your support of this proposal.



**HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

6301 Pali Highway  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-5224

ONLINE SUBMITTAL

Hearing on: Tuesday, April 2, 2012 @ 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room #016

**DATE:** April 1, 2013

**TO:** Senate Committee on Human Services  
Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Sen. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Technology & Arts  
Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

**From:** Walter Yoshimitsu, Executive Director

**Re:** **Support** for HB 1187 Relating to Human Trafficking

Honorable Chairs and members of the joint committee on Human Services and Technology, I am Walter Yoshimitsu, **representing the Hawaii Catholic Conference**. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents Roman Catholics in Hawaii.

The Catholic Church has placed the elimination of trafficking as an important priority in the areas of public advocacy, public education, and services with respect to the victims. We are working to raise awareness within the Catholic community about the problem, including education, to help people in the community identify and understand the problem of human trafficking.

Trafficking victims need, first and foremost, safety and security. According to recent news stories, many are terrified of the traffickers who brought them to Hawaii. Providing them with a secure, safe, and nurturing environment is crucial to ensuring their return to society as contributing members. The Church and its service organizations, does all that it can to provide support services to both adult and child victims of trafficking, including health and mental health services, employment assistance, English-language training, counseling, housing and other material assistance needs; however, there is so much more to be done.

The themes of Catholic social teaching—the protection of human dignity and human rights; the option for the poor; the call to family and community; the rights of workers; solidarity and care for creation—all address evils inherent in human trafficking. These principles of justice are not unique to Catholicism but are manifest in most religions. Commitment to these principles gives the issue of human trafficking a sense of urgency to many faiths and religious communities. For this reason we strongly support passage of this measure although we respectfully leave the legal aspects to the experts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



ONLINE SUBMITTAL

Hearing on: Tuesday, April 2, 2013 @ 1:15 p.m.  
Conference Room #016

**DATE:** April 1, 2013

**TO:** Senate Committee on Human Services                      Senate Committee on Technology & Arts  
Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair                              Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Sen. Josh Green, Chair    Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Eva Andrade, Executive Director

**RE:** **Support** for HB 1187 Relating to Human Trafficking

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure. I am Eva Andrade, **representing the Hawaii Family Forum**. Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of various Christian Churches and denominations. Although we support designating January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, we strongly support amending the bill to include language from HB 874 HD1.

The U.S. State Department estimates that thousands of human beings, many of them children, are trafficked each year into the United States to work in the sex trade or as slave labor. Women and children have been forced to work in prostitution and child pornography rings, and even coerced into different types of manual labor, without pay or protection. As an organization that cares deeply about the family, especially the children, we find this both reprehensible and unacceptable.

In Hawaii, many child victims of human trafficking commonly seek to escape their personal struggles with the hope of finding opportunity and a brighter future. It is in these types of environments that human traffickers flourish, promising these precious keiki an opportunity to travel, at no immediate expense, for employment and housing. What they find instead, is coercion, abuse, entrapment, and sexual exploitation in a brothel, a massage parlor, or an agricultural outpost. By the time they are rescued, if ever, they are shattered by physical, mental, and psychological abuse. Many become ill and some have even lost their lives.

As a faith-based organization who fought to protect children from sexual exploitation (our organization was instrumental in the raising of the age of consent in Hawaii from 14 to 16), we support this measure. We cannot, however, stop there. Protection of our keiki from sexual exploitation must be a top priority for Hawaii!



March 24, 2013

**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice-Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi  
Senator Sam Slom

**COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS**

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda  
Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senator Sam Slom

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013

**TIME:** 1:15pm

**PLACE:** Conference Room 016, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**RE: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB1187  
RELATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Designates January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

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Dear Committees on Human Services and Technology and the Arts:

The Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery (PASS) is in strong support of HB1187 to help raise awareness of the growing problem of human trafficking in Hawaii. PASS serves victims of Human Trafficking for sex or labor in the state of Hawaii and has a support base of over 7000 persons.

PASS is one of Hawaii's few services that helps heal survivors of human trafficking. We testify that there are no specific services tailored to the survivors of this crime due to the decades-long lack of awareness about the problem, which allows it to worsen. As a result, survivors fall through the cracks or are often re-victimized and criminalized as either "prostitutes" if they are sex trafficked victims or "illegal immigrants" if they are labor trafficked victims. Hawaii must accurately and effectively address the handling of human trafficking survivors. Raising public awareness is a requirement for combating trafficking.

Earlier this year, Shared Hope International rated Hawaii second worst in the nation in protecting child victims of sex trafficking by law. Since there is no sex trafficking statute in Hawaii, statistics from law enforcement are unavailable as they are combined with general prostitution statistics but other sources

of information are very helpful in assessing the great need for services specific to child victims of sex trafficking. Such information states:

- Hawaii's incarceration rate of juvenile girls exceeds national average<sup>1</sup>.
- Of the girls incarcerated, 35% are runaways, a high-risk criteria for trafficking<sup>2</sup>.
- Hawaii has the third highest attempted teen suicide rate<sup>3</sup>.
- Hawaii has one of the highest rates of intrafamilial sexual abuse (incest)<sup>4</sup>.

All of these statistics significantly contribute to the proliferation of sex trafficking. Since 2009, PASS alone has assisted 97 victims of human trafficking. The need to expand anti trafficking awareness and services is very severe.

Thank you for hearing this much needed legislation.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Xian  
Executive Director  
Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery

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<sup>1</sup> Hawaii Department of the Attorney General, Research and Statistics Branch Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division. (May 2006). *The Female Juvenile Offender in Hawaii: Understanding Gender Differences in Arrests, Adjudications, and Social Characteristics of Juvenile Offenders*

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Hawaii State Department of Health (2010)

<sup>4</sup> Dunn, A. Girl Fest Hawaii Conference on Youth. (2012). Deputy Prosecutor, Honolulu City Prosecutor's Office



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

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## TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 1187, RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Senate Committee on Human Services**  
**Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair**  
**Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair**

**Senate Committee on Technology and the Arts**  
**Hon. Glenn Wakai, Chair**  
**Hon. Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 1:15 PM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

Honorable Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Wakai, and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony **in support** of HB 1187, relating to human trafficking.

In 2011, lawmakers passed HB 141 and HB 240, the former of which outlawed labor trafficking in the islands and the latter of which strengthened existing anti-prostitution laws by expanding witness protection for victims and targeting repeat offenders, particularly pimps and johns. Both bills were important steps in rectifying Hawaii's poor image and record with regard to anti-trafficking statutes. Then, in 2012, policymakers passed a "vacating convictions" bill, allowing persons wrongfully convicted of prostitution who can demonstrate that their offenses were coerced to petition to have these convictions vacated from their record, so that they can matriculate into healthy, sustainable, fruitful lifestyles.

The IMUAlliance lauds the State Legislature's efforts, during the last two sessions. At the same time, we call upon lawmakers to continue the fight against human trafficking by hearing and advancing bills that increase awareness of trafficking activities occurring within our state's communities. Though human trafficking awareness month may be written off by some as a "feel good" gesture, we feel that this effort, if coupled with a coordinated statewide "end demand" campaign, could enhance public vigilance and, in turn, result in greater prosecutions of traffickers and protections for victims.



That said, we encourage your committees to **use this measure as a vehicle** for increasing services for victims by adding to it the contents of HB 874, slightly amended, which would ensure that child victims of sex and labor trafficking receive the support services they need from the Department of Human Services by revising the definition of “harm” contained in HRS 350-1 and HRS 587A-4 to include evidence of sexual exploitation pursuant to promoting prostitution in the first degree under HRS 712-1202 (Hawaii's *de facto* sex trafficking statute) and labor trafficking under HRS 707-780. Taken together, these two definitional changes subject suspected human trafficking of children to “mandatory reporting” requirements, mandating that persons who, in their professional judgement, believe a child to be at risk of trafficking—including medical professionals and school employees—report their suspicions to DHS and/or law enforcement. We note that the revised definitions of “child abuse and neglect” and “harm” called for by HB 874 refer to “sexual exploitation” pursuant to the provisions in section HRS 712-1202. No definition of “sexual exploitation” exists in conjunction with HRS 712-1202, however, and a similar term, “sexually exploited persons,” is defined in HRS 712-1210 (and subsequent case law) in terms of obscenity crimes, in a manner that covers both adults and children who offer erotic services at massage therapy establishments or strip clubs. Moreover, HRS 712-1202 does not, in its entirety, cover children, but also criminalizes coerced prostitution of adults. Only the second subsection of HRS 712-1202 refers specifically to children. Therefore, we urge you to replace HB 874's references to “sexual exploitation pursuant to the provisions in section 712-1202” with the following language: “...including, but not limited to, child sex trafficking.” This would require that the following definition be added to the bill: “Child Sex trafficking” means: (1) Any violation of promoting prostitution in the first degree under 712-1202(1)(b); or (2) Any violation of sex trafficking of children under title 18 United States Code 1591. An ancillary virtue of the proposed “child sex trafficking” definition is that it would move Hawaii toward enacting a definition of “sex trafficking,” something our state law currently lacks and for which we are regularly criticized by national anti-trafficking groups, like Shared Hope International. Language to enact this amendment would read as follows:

SECTION . Section 350-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of “child abuse or neglect” to read as follows:

“Child abuse or neglect” means the acts or omissions of any person who, or legal entity which, is in any manner or degree related to the child, is residing with the child, or is otherwise responsible for the child's care, that have resulted in the physical or psychological health or welfare of the child, who is under the age of eighteen, to be harmed, or to be subject to any reasonably foreseeable, substantial risk of being harmed. The acts or omissions are indicated for the purposes of reports by circumstances that include but are not limited to:

(1) When the child exhibits evidence of:

(A) Substantial or multiple skin bruising or any other internal bleeding;

(B) Any injury to skin causing substantial bleeding;

(C) Malnutrition;

(D) Failure to thrive;

(E) Burn or burns;

(F) Poisoning;

(G) Fracture of any bone;

(H) Subdural hematoma;

(I) Soft tissue swelling;

(J) Extreme pain;

(K) Extreme mental distress;

(L) Gross degradation; or

(M) Death; and

such injury is not justifiably explained, or when the history given concerning such condition or death is at variance with the degree or type of such condition or death, or circumstances indicate that such condition or death may not be the product of an accidental occurrence; or

(2) When the child has been the victim of sexual contact or conduct, including, but not limited to, sexual assault as defined in the Penal Code, molestation, sexual fondling, incest, or prostitution; obscene or pornographic photographing, filming, or depiction; or other similar forms of sexual exploitation [;ø] including, but not limited to, child sex trafficking; or

(3) When there exists injury to the psychological capacity of a child as is evidenced by an observable and substantial impairment in the child's ability to function; or

(4) When the child is not provided in a timely manner with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological care, physical care, medical care, or supervision; or

(5) When the child is provided with dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drugs as defined by section 712-1240; provided that this paragraph shall not apply when such drugs are provided to the child pursuant to the direction or prescription of a practitioner, as defined in section 712-1240 [;]; or

(6) The child has been the victim of labor trafficking as provided for under chapter 707."

"Child Sex trafficking" means: (1) Any violation of promoting prostitution in the first degree under 712-1202(1)(b); or (2) Any violation of sex trafficking of children under title 18 United States Code 1591."

SECTION . Section 587A-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "harm" to read as follows:

""Harm" means damage or injury to a child's physical or psychological health or welfare, where:

(1) The child exhibits evidence of injury, including, but not limited to:

(A) Substantial or multiple skin bruising;

(B) Substantial external or internal bleeding;

(C) Burn or burns;

(D) Malnutrition;

(E) Failure to thrive;

(F) Soft tissue swelling;

(G) Extreme pain;

(H) Extreme mental distress;

(I) Gross degradation;

(J) Poisoning;

(K) Fracture of any bone;

(L) Subdural hematoma; or

(M) Death;

and the injury is not justifiably explained, or the history given concerning the condition or death is not consistent with the degree or type of the condition or death, or there is evidence that the condition or death may not be the result of an accident;

(2) The child has been the victim of sexual contact or conduct, including sexual assault; sodomy; molestation; sexual fondling; incest; prostitution; obscene or pornographic

photographing, filming, or depiction; or other similar forms of sexual exploitation [;] including, but not limited to, child sex trafficking;

(3) The child's psychological well-being has been injured as evidenced by a substantial impairment in the child's ability to function;

(4) The child is not provided in a timely manner with adequate food; clothing; shelter; supervision; or psychological, physical, or medical care; [or]

(5) The child is provided with dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drugs as defined in section 712-1240, except when a child's family administers drugs to the child as directed or prescribed by a practitioner as defined in section 712-1240[.]; or

(6) The child has been the victim of labor trafficking as provided for under chapter 707."

"Child Sex trafficking" means: (1) Any violation of promoting prostitution in the first degree under 712-1202(1)(b); or (2) Any violation of sex trafficking of children under title 18 United States Code 1591."

A less ambitious way of rectifying the problem with the bill's legal references would be to amend the proposed changes to HRS 350-1(2) and HRS 587A-4(2) to read: **"...including, but not limited to, promoting prostitution pursuant to the provisions in section 712-1202(b),** which would ensure that victims are properly identified by DHS. Language comporting with this amendment would read as follows:

SECTION . Section 350-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "child abuse or neglect" to read as follows:

"Child abuse or neglect" means the acts or omissions of any person who, or legal entity which, is in any manner or degree related to the child, is residing with the child, or is otherwise responsible for the child's care, that have resulted in the physical or psychological health or welfare of the child, who is under the age of eighteen, to be harmed, or to be subject to any reasonably foreseeable, substantial risk of being harmed. The acts or omissions are indicated for the purposes of reports by circumstances that include but are not limited to:

(1) When the child exhibits evidence of:

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(G) Fracture of any bone;

(H) Subdural hematoma;

(I) Soft tissue swelling;

(J) Extreme pain;

(K) Extreme mental distress;

(L) Gross degradation; or

(M) Death; and

such injury is not justifiably explained, or when the history given concerning such condition or death is at variance with the degree or type of such condition or death, or circumstances indicate that such condition or death may not be the product of an accidental occurrence; or

(2) When the child has been the victim of sexual contact or conduct, including, but not limited to, sexual assault as defined in the Penal Code, molestation, sexual fondling, incest, or prostitution; obscene or pornographic photographing, filming, or depiction; or other similar forms of sexual exploitation [~~;-or~~] including, but not limited to, promoting prostitution pursuant to the provisions in section 712-1202(b); or

(3) When there exists injury to the psychological capacity of a child as is evidenced by an observable and substantial impairment in the child's ability to function; or

(4) When the child is not provided in a timely manner with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological care, physical care, medical care, or supervision; or

(5) When the child is provided with dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drugs as defined by section 712-1240; provided that this paragraph shall not apply when such drugs are provided to the child pursuant to the direction or prescription of a practitioner, as defined in section 712-1240 [~~;-~~]; or

(6) The child has been the victim of labor trafficking as provided for under chapter 707."

SECTION . Section 587A-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "harm" to read as follows:

""Harm" means damage or injury to a child's physical or psychological health or welfare, where:

(1) The child exhibits evidence of injury, including, but not limited to:

(A) Substantial or multiple skin bruising;

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(J) Poisoning;

(K) Fracture of any bone;

(L) Subdural hematoma; or

(M) Death;

and the injury is not justifiably explained, or the history given concerning the condition or death is not consistent with the degree or type of the condition or death, or there is evidence that the condition or death may not be the result of an accident;

(2) The child has been the victim of sexual contact or conduct, including sexual assault; sodomy; molestation; sexual fondling; incest; prostitution; obscene or pornographic photographing, filming, or depiction; or other similar forms of sexual exploitation [;] including, but not limited to, promoting prostitution pursuant to the provisions in section 712-1202(b);

(3) The child's psychological well-being has been injured as evidenced by a substantial impairment in the child's ability to function;

(4) The child is not provided in a timely manner with adequate food; clothing; shelter; supervision; or psychological, physical, or medical care; [or]

(5) The child is provided with dangerous, harmful, or detrimental drugs as defined in section 712-1240, except when a child's family administers drugs to the child as directed or prescribed by a practitioner as defined in section 712-1240[-]; or

(6) The child has been the victim of labor trafficking as provided for under chapter 707."

Again, the IMUAlliance thanks you for your hard work to stem human trafficking on our shores. Room for improvement remains, however, and we feel that the measure in question will help to consecrate the last biennium's momentum into a concerted movement. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Legislative Director*  
IMUAlliance

# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: [info@hysn.org](mailto:info@hysn.org)

Daryl Selman, President  
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director  
Aloha House  
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii  
Bay Clinic, Inc.  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu  
Big Island Substance Abuse Council  
Blueprint for Change  
Bobby Benson Center  
Catholic Charities Hawaii  
Child and Family Service  
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii  
Domestic Violence Action Center  
EPIC, Inc.  
Family Support Hawaii  
Hale Kipa, Inc.  
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.  
Hawaii Behavioral Health  
Hawaii Student Television  
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition  
Hina Mauka Teen Care  
Hui Malama Learning Center  
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health  
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)  
Project  
Kids Hurt Too  
Kokua Kalihi Valley  
Life Foundation  
Marimed Foundation  
Maui Youth and Family Services  
Palama Settlement  
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.  
Parents and Children Together (PACT)  
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii  
REAL  
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.  
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.  
Sex Abuse Treatment Center  
Susannah Wesley Community Center  
The Catalyst Group  
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii  
Waikiki Health Center  
Women Helping Women  
YWCA of Kauai

April 1, 2013

To: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair  
And members of the Committee on Human Services

## Testimony **Opposing** HB 1187 Relating to Human Trafficking

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, opposes the proposed amendments to HB 1187 Relating to Human Trafficking.

The amendments would replace the entire content of the bill with the text of HB 874.

Hawaii's existing child abuse and neglect reporting statutes are adequate and allow the State of Hawaii to appropriately intervene to protect the safety and promote the well-being of minors who are victims of child abuse and neglect,

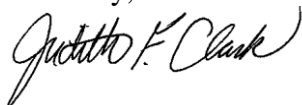
Our understanding is that this bill intends for Child Protective Services to intervene only if family or household members are involved in the sexual or labor trafficking of a minor in their care. Department of Human Services would not be responsible for trafficking of minors by persons who are not household or family members.

HYSN recommends that the language of the bill be carefully reviewed to ensure that it does not inadvertently affect the ability of medical and social service providers to meet the needs of victims of rape and sexual assault; runaway and homeless youth; and youth people at risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

Persons providing services to victims of rape or sexual abuse, conducting outreach to youth at risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and working with runaway/homeless youth must be able to provide confidential services. Without confidentiality, many rape/sexual assault survivors will not seek medical care or counseling, and it is difficult to develop the kind of trusting relationships that lead to youth accepting help and leaving the streets for safe and appropriate living arrangements. In addition, the bill may violate the federal HIPAA law regarding confidentiality of patient medical records.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH  
Executive Director



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kananisouza@yahoo.com](mailto:kananisouza@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1187 on Apr 2, 2013 13:15PM  
**Date:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 10:45:35 PM

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HB1187

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for HMS/TEC on Apr 2, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanani Souza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1187 to improve policy on human trafficking. Hawaii was ranked in the bottom 10 states for laws relating to Human Trafficking. However, over the last two sessions, the Hawaii legislature has passed major bills to add "labor trafficking" as well as a vacating order for persons forced into sex trafficking. According to the Polaris Project, a foundation and program which ranks states on their policy on human trafficking, Hawaii is now ranked in the upper third of states, because of their progressive measures to better address human trafficking.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)