



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310  
P.O. Box 541  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
Phone Number: 586-2850  
Fax Number: 586-2856  
[www.hawaii.gov/dcca](http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca)

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS PROGRAM**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

Wednesday, February 12, 2014  
2:10 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2031, RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION  
FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lynn Bhanot, and I am the Executive Officer of the Marriage and Family Therapists Program ("Program"). Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill No. 2031.

By way of background, the Department and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Hawaii Division ("AAMFT Hawaii") were requested pursuant to Senate Resolution No. 88, S.D. 1, which was adopted by the Senate of the Twenty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, to submit a proposed draft for a bill to establish, implement, and monitor continuing education requirements for all licensed marriage and family therapists ("MFT") in the State of

Hawaii. As such, after a series of discussion between the parties, a proposed bill was submitted to the State of Hawaii Legislature.

As written, the Program supports this bill as it will ensure that licensed marriage and family therapists maintain their professional competency and keep abreast of the latest developments in their profession. Currently in Hawaii, there are 324 licensed MFT who will be required to obtain continuing education credits as proposed by this bill. However, similar to other professions that require continuing education, the Program in consultation with the AAMFT Hawaii, agreed to perform post-renewal random audits of 5% - 10% of its licensees who renew their MFT licenses. By choosing to perform random audits, there will be minimal impact on the workload of the administrative staff.

Presently, Hawaii is one of two remaining states that do not require continuing education credits as part of its licensing laws.

For the Committee's information, the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection heard the companion measure, Senate Bill No. 2466, on January 24, 2014. It passed out unamended and was referred to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means on February 4, 2014.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 2031.

**Hawaii Counseling Center, LLC**  
**PO Box 628**  
**Kaneohe, HI 96744**  
**www.hawaiicounselingcenter.com**

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is (Your name here). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (or other licensure/profession if not a MFT) and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jeffrie L Wagner, MFT, CSAC, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist



February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au  
Belatti

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Romy M.  
Cachola

Rep. Richard  
Creagan

Rep. Cindy Evans

Rep. Sharon E. Har

Rep. Ken Ito

Rep. Chris Lee

Rep. Mark M.  
Nakashima

Rep. Marcus R.  
Oshiro

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane

Rep. Bob McDermott

Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Rhesa R. Kaulia, MFT of Grace Works, LLC. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I unequivocally support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.



**GraceWorks** LLC  
Counseling with Aloha

94-1221 Ka Uka Blvd., Suite B202  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
Ofc (808) 389-9369  
Fax (808) 671-0222

- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Rhesa R. Kaulia, MC/MFT, MFT #156  
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist  
President, Grace Works, LLC  
AAMFT and AAMFT-HI Clinical Fellow

Janet Covington, LMHC  
319A N. Cane Street  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Janet Covington. I am a Hawaii Licensed Mental Health Counselor and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of all behavioral health professionals, including marriage and family therapists.
- Like the continuing education requirements for National Certified Counselors, CEs ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Janet Covington, LMHC

Mary Ann Erwin  
1128 Pueo Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816+  
February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is (Your name here). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (or other licensure/profession if not a MFT) and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Erwin

**kawakami3-Benigno**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2014 8:20 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** lorikunihara@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2031 on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM\*

**HB2031**

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPC on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lori Kunihara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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)



**ANTOINETTE RODRIGUES, MA**  
**35 Holomakani Drive**  
**Kula, Hawaii 96790**  
**(808) 878-1651, 264-9392**  
**rodrigues@hawaii.rr.com**

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Antoinette Rodrigues. I am a Marriage and Family Therapist Intern and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Sincerely,

*Antoinette Rodrigues, MA*

Therapeutic Counseling Center  
Chiyo Churchill, MFT  
1314 South King St. Suite 862  
Honolulu, HI 96814

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### LETTER OF SUPPORT

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Chiyo Churchill, MFT. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
Chiyo Churchill, MFT

Shelley Shane, MFT  
PO Box 494  
Kailua Kona, HI 96745

February 10, 2014

TO: Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for  
Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Shelley Shane. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.

- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Shelley Shane, MFT

**kawakami3-Benigno**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2014 10:24 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** hieu0115@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2031 on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM\*

**HB2031**

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPC on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hieu Pham	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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)

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Alan Tamai. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.

Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.

Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.

All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.

Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.

Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Alan Y Tamai  
2139 Maha Place  
Honolulu, HI 96819

Catherine A. Bruns, MFT

970 N. Kalaheo Ave. A-211

Kailua, HI 96734

February 11, 2014

TO: Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair, Rep. Della Au Belatti, Rep. Chris Lee, Rep. Tom Brower, Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Rep. Romy M. Cachola, Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Rep. Richard Creagan, Rep. Clift Tsuji, Rep. Cindy Evans, Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Rep. Sharon E. Har, Rep. Bob McDermott, Rep. Ken Ito, Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Catherine Bruns and I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.



I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

*Catherine A. Bruns, MFT*

Kelly Donovan Senft  
73-4322 Keo Keo  
Kailua Kona HI 96740  
February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists  
**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is (Your name here). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (or other licensure/profession if not a MFT) and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

As a rural therapist we are inundated with clients and there are many here in Kona not served because we simply don't have enough behavior health providers. It is absolutely essential in our community to keep as many therapists employed to meet the needs of our Ohana.

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Donovan Senft Feb 11 2014

**Michelle Fish**  
**3014 Kekaulike Ave. #4**  
**Kula, HI 96790**  
808.280.2901

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Michelle Fish. I have a Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy and will soon be taking the state licensure exam. I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Michelle Fish

S. Joy Quick, MA, MFT, CSAPA/AAMFT Hawaii  
Honolulu, HI 96813

February 11, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### LETTER OF SUPPORT

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



S. Joy Quick

**kawakami3-Benigno**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 12:22 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** drliden@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2031 on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM

**HB2031**

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPC on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
drliden@gmail.com	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of continuing education units for the profession of Marriage Family Therapists. It is an important bill to ensure high quality provision of mental health services. Sincerely, Sharon R. Liden, Ph.D. Licensed Marriage Family Therapist

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)

**kawakami3-Benigno**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 12:26 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** ksweet30@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2031 on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM

**HB2031**

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPC on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katherine Sweetser	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Required continuing education will make MFY's better educated and better respected as mental health professionals.

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)

**kawakami3-Benigno**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:12 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** hawaii1ceejay@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2031 on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM\*

**HB2031**

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPC on Feb 12, 2014 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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)

## kawakami3-Benigno

---

**From:** Rep. Derek Kawakami  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 3:00 PM  
**To:** kawakami3-Benigno  
**Subject:** FW: HB 2031

---

**From:** House Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 2:34 PM  
**To:** Rep. Derek Kawakami  
**Subject:** FW: HB 2031

---

**From:** [Jill Akuna/CENDO/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:Jill_Akuna/CENDO/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us) [mailto:[Jill Akuna/CENDO/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:Jill_Akuna/CENDO/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:01 PM  
**To:** House Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** HB 2031

Jill M. Akuna, DOE, BHS, Mililani High School  
94-481 Hokualea Street  
Mililani, HI 96789

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists



## LETTER OF SUPPORT

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Jill Akuna I am a Hawaii Marriage and Family Therapist and CSAC and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.

Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.

Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.

All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.

Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.

Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jill M. Akuna, MFT, CSAC



Virginia Jones, MA  
444 Auwina Place, Kailua, HI, 96734  
[mytherapistvirginia@gmail.com](mailto:mytherapistvirginia@gmail.com) / 808-226-3436

February 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is (Your name here). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (or other licensure/profession if not a MFT) and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Virginia Jones  
MFT, LMHC, NCC, CSC, SAP



**MITCHELL BERMAN, MA**  
**Marriage & Family Therapist**  
3620 Baldwin Avenue, Suite 201  
Makawao, HI 96768  
**(808) 280-1670**

February 11, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Chris Lee
Rep. Tom Brower	Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro
Rep. Richard Creagan	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Sharon E. Har	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Cynthia Thielen

RE: HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Rep. McKelvey, Chair, Rep. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, my name is Mitchell Berman. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HB 2031 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2031. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,