



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

KEALI`I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS PROGRAM

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

Wednesday, March 27, 2013
10:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 199 AND HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 160, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY: HAWAII DIVISION, TO DEVELOP DRAFT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS IN HAWAII.

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, 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 H.C.R. No. 199 and H.R. No. 160.

The Program appreciates the efforts of the Legislature to allow the two (2) agencies to work collaboratively to develop draft legislation establishing, implementing, and monitoring continuing education requirements for all licensed marriage and family therapists in Hawaii. The Program would like to urge the Committees to include a

provision that the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Hawaii Division (“AAMFT Hawaii”), complete the Division’s Continuing Professional Education Guidelines Checklist (“Checklist”). The completion of the checklist will assist with (1) determining whether there is a demonstrated need to impose such a requirement; (2) identification of the objective(s) that mandatory continuing education is meant to address; (3) a review of existing mechanisms or methods and a finding that mandatory continuing education is the best method to achieve the objective(s) identified in (2) above; (4) verification that continuing education courses meeting the objective(s) are readily available and accessible to the person; (5) evidence that the fiscal impact on the professional will not be adverse; and (6) confirmation that resources are available for the regulatory agency to implement the continuing education program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.C.R. No. 199 and H.R. No. 160.

March 22, 2013

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Representative Rida T. R. Cabanilla
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Jo Jordan
Representative Bert Kobayashi
Representative Justin Woodson
Representative Lauren Kealohilani Cheape

March 27, 2013 10:00 am Conference Room 329

FROM: S. Joy Quick, MA, MFT, CSAPA; AAMFT Hawaii Division President-Elect

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Health, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this resolution 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, New York, and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists and currently NY has a bill pending to require CE. 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 HCR 199/HR 160. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Jamie A. Moody
3/25/2013

Resolution: HCR 199/HR160
Date: 3/27/2013
Time: 10:00am
Place: Room 329

*Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Representative Rida T. R. Cabanilla
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Jo Jordan
Representative Bert Kobayashi
Representative Justin Woodson
Representative Lauren Kealohilani Cheape

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

Aloha Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Health, my name is Jamie Moody, and I am currently a graduate student in pursuit of my Masters degree in Counseling Psychology, with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy. I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this resolution for the following reasons:

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I urge your favorable consideration of HCR 199/HR 160. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully yours,

Jamie A. Moody
House District 18 Resident

March 24, 2013

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Representative Rida T. R. Cabanilla
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Jo Jordan
Representative Bert Kobayashi
Representative Justin Woodson
Representative Lauren Kealohilani Cheape

March 27, 2013 10:00 am Conference Room 329

FROM: Janet Covington, AAMFT-HI Member

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Health, I am Janet Covington, AAMFT-HI Pre-Clinical member and I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this resolution for the following reasons:

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I urge your favorable consideration of HCR 199/HR 160. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 25, 2013

TO: Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Committee on Health
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
Representative Rida T. R. Cabanilla
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Jo Jordan
Representative Bert Kobayashi
Representative Justin Woodson
Representative Lauren Kealohilani Cheape

March 27, 2013 10:00 am Conference Room 329

FROM: Sharon R. Liden, Ph.D. LMFT; AAMFT Hawaii Division President

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists - **SUPPORT**

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Health, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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