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**PRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Monday, March 11, 2013
2:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 200, RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION.

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

My name is Ahlani K. Quiogue and I am the Executive Officer of the Social Worker Program ("Program"), Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 200.

The companion bill, House Bill No. 178, H.D. 1, Relating to Continuing Education, was passed unamended by the House Committee on Finance on February 20, 2013. The only substantive difference between Senate Bill No. 200 and House Bill No. 178, H.D. 1 are the effective dates of each bill. The Senate bill is effective upon approval. The House bill is effective January 1, 2012. Our preference is the Senate version of the bill.

The purpose of the bill is to require licensed social workers in Hawaii to:

1) complete a minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours of continuing education courses for the licensing renewal period beginning July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016; and 2) complete a minimum of forty-five (45) credit hours of continuing education courses during each renewal period beginning July 1, 2016, and thereafter.

By way of background, the Department and the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter (“NASW-Hawaii”) were requested pursuant to Senate Resolution No. 78, which was adopted by the Senate of the Twenty-Sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, to submit a proposed draft for a bill to establish, implement and monitor continuing education requirements for all licensed social workers in the State of Hawaii. As such, and after several months of discussion and compromise between the parties, a proposed bill was submitted to the State of Hawaii Legislature on December 20, 2012.

As written, the Program supports this bill as it will ensure that licensed social workers maintain their professional competency and keep abreast of the latest developments in their profession. It is estimated that approximately 1,681 licensed social workers (LBSW – 15, LSW – 910, and LCSW – 756) 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 NASW-Hawaii, agreed to perform post-renewal random audits of 5% - 10% of its licensees who renew their social worker licenses. By choosing to perform random audits, the Program’s staff will have little to no impact on its workload due to this additional requirement.

Furthermore, the bill will no longer place the Program in the minority as one (1) of only three (3) jurisdictions that do not require continuing education credits as part of its licensing laws.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S.B. 200.

kawakami2 - Rise

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 8:02 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: annie.hollis.hscsw@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB200 on Mar 11, 2013 14:00PM*

SB200

Submitted on: 3/10/2013

Testimony for CPC on Mar 11, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Hollis	Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women	Support	No

Comments:

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March 8, 2013

To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

From: Dr. Noreen Mokuau
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, MBT School of Social Work

Re: SUPPORT of SB 200, relating to continuing education for social workers

Chairperson McKelvey and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

My name is Dr. Noreen Mokuau, and I am writing today in support of SB 200, relating to continuing education for social workers.

As the dean of the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, I am committed to the concepts of life-long learning and continual professional development. These are values that are especially important for professional social workers because theories and skills within the field are constantly changing and improving. In order to be as effective as we can be, professional social workers must keep abreast with the latest knowledge and technologies available.

The MBT School of Social Work is also committed to meeting the changing needs and demands of the professional social work community. As part of that commitment, the school has increased its credit and non-credit course offerings in recent years. In addition to expanding the range of topics being covered – from practice theories and methodologies to clinical supervision and program management, the School has also expanded the formats through which the trainings are being delivered. So, while many of the trainings are being done in the traditional, face to face, manner, we are increasingly expanding our distance education options that utilize two-way video and internet based technologies for course delivery. Should continuing education credits be required for licensed social workers in Hawaii, we at the MBT School of Social Work are confident that we will be able to assist practitioners by providing training opportunities to workers in the entire state – including neighbor islands and rural areas of Oahu.

I am therefore strongly urging your favorable consideration of this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer these comments.



National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter
March 7, 2013

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Representative Della Au Belatti
Representative Tom Brower
Representative Rida T.R. Cabanilla
Representative Romy M. Cachola
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Cindy Evans
Representative Sharon E. Har

Representative Ken Ito
Representative Chris Lee
Representative Clift Tsuji
Representative Ryan I. Yamane
Representative Bob McDermott
Representative Cynthia Thielen

Date: March 11, 2013 Time: 2:00 p.m. Location: Conference Room 325

FROM: Marty Oliphant, Executive Director
National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter

RE: SB 200 (SSCR509) Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - **SUPPORT**

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey Chair, Derek S.K. Kawakami Vice Chair, and members of the Consumer Protection Committee, my name is Marty Oliphant. I serve as the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawai'i Chapter (NASW). NASW strongly supports SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers. SB 200 is similar to HB 178 with the exception of the effective date is upon its approval.

Consumer Protection ~ Requiring continuing education courses for social workers who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawai'i's consumers that social workers are current with the latest developments in their field.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW), in Hawai'i, is the largest membership organization of professional social workers with 950 members statewide. It promotes, develops, and protects the practice of social work and social workers. NASW also seeks to enhance the well being of individuals, families and communities through its advocacy. NASW has been working closely with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to develop language for this legislative bill. Continuing Education, in any profession, increases the knowledge base and the competency level of professionals. NASW views continuing education as an essential activity for ensuring quality social work services for clients. Social Workers are providing services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to an array of clients. Knowing the best practices and innovations in the field of social work will assist in protecting consumers in getting the best services as possible.

Social work provides critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele. Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconference (i.e. Polycom) by approved providers. Continuing education is a national standard. Social workers want to be recognized as meeting that standard.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE
--

REPRESENTATIVE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair

REPRESENTATIVE DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, Vice Chair
--

DATE:	MONDAY MARCH 11, 2013
TIME:	2:00 P.M.
PLACE:	Conference Room 325 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

FROM: Victor Voth, LCSW, DCSW
President
National Association of Social Workers - Hawaii Chapter

RE: SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - SUPPORT

- **Consumer Protection**: Requiring continuing education courses for social workers who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that social workers are current with the latest developments in their field. Social workers provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele, including women, children and families, the incarcerated, the elderly, the medically vulnerable, the homeless and the marginalized who face racial and gender discrimination all of whom deserve to know their social worker is current in their chosen area of practice.
- Continuing education increases the **knowledge base** and **competency levels** of social work professionals. I serve returning Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, many of whom present complex emotional, psychological and physical needs requiring in many cases long-term care from a multi-disciplinary team of care providers. It is critical that these

men and women Veterans know that I and my social work colleagues are current and trained in up-to-date treatment methods and care no less than any other professional serving them.

- **Access to best practices and innovations** in the field of social work. The role of the Hawaii chapter of NASW will be to assist in the coordination of the variety of important trainings necessary to ensure that its membership is in compliance with this critical legislation, to include not only in-person trainings but electronic teleconference and webinar outreach to social workers in both urban and rural settings throughout Hawaii.
- **Continuing education is a national standard and social work ethic**. All states, except New York and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. Our Hawaii communities deserve that social workers in Hawaii be recognized as professionals meeting that standard.
- **Note**: I acknowledge the one discrepancy with regard to effective date as stated in the Senate and House bills. The House Bill 178 states “effective date 2112”; Senate Bill 200 calls for “effective date upon approval”.

I strongly urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.
Victor Voth, LCSW, DCSW



Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

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Phone: (808) 521-8995

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce Protection & Commerce

March 8, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 200 **Relating to Continuing Education**

Honorable Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair Derek S.K. Kawakami and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Darryl Salvador. I am a Clinical Psychologist and President of Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA). I would like to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 200.

Similar to the National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter, the mission of the HPA is to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by encouraging, integrating, applying, and communicating the contributions of Psychology in all its branches. The HPA seeks to strengthen public relations, advocate for a psychologically healthy community, develop solutions for mental health care, be responsive to the multiple cultures in Hawai'i, promote the highest standards of professional ethics, and to diffuse psychological knowledge through meetings, conventions and publications. As part of this mission, we are committed to promoting lifelong learning to account for the changing world in which we live. We support this bill with the shared goal to promote client/patient safety and support the valuable role social workers contribute in our health care system.

It is estimated that the rate of human information is doubling every two years. Additionally, multicultural experts have pointed to changing demographics in the United States, particularly Hawai'i, and suggest that professionals must make substantive revisions to their curriculum, training, research and practice to address issues of race and ethnicity, culture, gender and sexual orientation. To maintain minimal competency in working with these diverse populations, we must understand the cultural context of these populations, be aware of potential bias in our practices and be familiar with culturally adapted treatments.

We all must maintain the ability to learn how to learn, be able to adapt to change and access new knowledge to improve our competencies and performance. The goal is to constantly recharge our batteries to motivate self-renewal and keep abreast of new knowledge, skills and relevant information. We feel that SB 200 is an important step in that direction.

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair
March 8, 2013
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony in support of SB 200.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl S. Salvador, Psy.D.
Hawai'i Psychological Association
President

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

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

March 8, 2013

To: Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and
Commerce

Testimony in Support of SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education

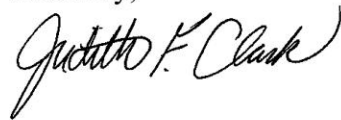
Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education.

Every state except Colorado and Hawaii has continuing education requirements for social workers. Continuing education is important because:

- Social workers need to be up-to-date on the latest developments in their field;
- It ensures that licensed social workers have access to the best practices and innovations in the field of social work and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients, and are necessary to increase and maintain professional competence.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

March 8, 2013

To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

From: Nathan Chang

Re: SUPPORT for SB 200, relating to continuing education for social workers

Chairperson McKelvey and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

My name is Nathan Chang, and I am writing today in support of SB 200, relating to continuing education for social workers.

First, let me say that I have been a practicing social worker in Hawai'i for more than 37 years, have been an active member of the National Association of Social Workers for the same period of time, and was one of a group of social workers who developed the current licensing statute for social workers twelve years ago. I have a strong commitment to the profession, to the concept of professionalism, and to the public that we serve. It is from this perspective that I advocate for the passage of this measure.

I must admit that I was initially somewhat hesitant to support mandated continuing education for social workers as it would place yet another financial burden on practitioners who are generally not compensated adequately for the work that they do and the responsibilities that they carry. However, after long contemplation regarding the relevant issues and concerns, I have determined that it is a reasonable and necessary addition to the current licensing law.

An inherent part of being a professional is the utilization of theory to inform practice and the continual maintenance and enhancement of practice skills. As such, it is necessary for professionals to keep up with developments within the field in relation to things like research and theory on best practices. It has been my observation over the years that most social workers understand this and do seek continual training to maintain their theory base and skills. They would not be adversely affected by this measure because they are already engaged in continuing education. The concern is for those social workers who need more incentive to do so, and that is what this measure would provide.

I am therefore strongly urging your favorable consideration of this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer these comments.

March 8, 2013

TO: Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

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

March 11 at 2:00 pm in Room 325

FROM: Mari Ono, MSW, LSW

RE: SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - **SUPPORT**

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair; Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection Committee & Commerce, my name is Mari Ono, MSW. I am a social worker and a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of social work professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed social workers have access to best practices and innovations in the field of social work and can continue to provide quality services to our diverse clients and communities.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconference (i.e. Polycom) by approved providers.
- All states, except New York and Hawai'i, have continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. CE is a national standard. We, as social work professionals, want to be recognized as achieving that standard.
- Social work provides critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for social workers who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawai'i's consumers that social workers are current with the latest professional knowledge and developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Mahalo nui loa.

kawakami2 - Rise

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 4:04 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: jtomoso@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB200 on Mar 11, 2013 14:00PM

SB200

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for CPC on Mar 11, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB 200, which requires licensed social workers, such as myself, to complete a minimum of fifteen credit hours of continuing education courses for the licensing renewal period beginning July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2016, and forty-five credit hours of continuing education courses during each licensing renewal period, for the period beginning July 1, 2016, and thereafter. Since becoming licensed in Hawai'i in 1995, Social Workers have delivered competent, consumer-protected and regulated practice. However, I believe that our "accountability factor", as practicing professionals in the community, has not been allowed to mature with the parallel and competency validating mandate for continuing education. I think this bill allows my colleagues and I to fully join in with the other "fully regulated" professions, who engage of consumers, in this state. I urge passage of SB 200. Mahalo John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW 51 Ku'ula Street Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-2906

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.

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March 09, 2013

TO: House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Lana Sue Ka 'opua, PhD, DCSW, LSW

RE: SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - **SUPPORT**

My name is Lana Sue Ka'opua and I am a licensed social worker, social work educator, researcher specializing in evidence-based health interventions, and a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Although all licensed social workers must graduate from an educational program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, educators and practitioners generally, agree that continuing education (CE) is necessary to **competent professional practice in the ever-evolving socioeconomic-political landscape.**
- CE requirements ensure that licensed social workers have access to best practices and innovations in the field of social work and thus, are able to provide services based on evidence-based (empirical) research and best practices literature. **Importantly, this serves to protect those who we serve as clients.**
- CE opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconference (i.e. Polycom) by approved providers.
- CE in social work is the national standard. Hawai'i is one of only two states that presently, have no CE requirements for licensed practitioners. We in Hawai'i aspire to meeting the **national standard.**
- Social work provides critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Requiring CE courses for social workers renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawai'i's consumers that social workers are **current with the latest developments** in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Lana Sue I. Ka'opua

March 7, 2013

TO: House Committee on Consumer Protection

FROM: Kenneth W.Y. Lee, MSW, LSW

RE: SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - **SUPPORT**

HEARING DATE: March 11, 2013, 2PM, House Committee Room 325

My name is Kenneth W.Y. Lee and I am retired social worker with over 45 years of experience. Since my retirement, I have continued to practice as a licensed social worker through volunteer work with the Hawaii Chapter of the American Red Cross and American Cancer Society. I would like to offer testimony in expression of my avid support of SB 200, Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

Since I completed my social work training in 1968, the practice of social work has dramatically changed through evidence-based research studies. Some of the social work interventions and practices that I was initially taught have been proven, through evidence-based studies to be ineffective, or sometimes counter productive to clients.

As an example, the model for the stages of resolution of grief (created by Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross in her milestone book "On Death and Dying", 1969) was well accepted and utilized by mental health professionals (myself included) for over four decades. The stages in her model (denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance) have very recently been proven through evidence-based studies to be inaccurate. The model itself was not based on any credible scientific research, yet it was widely accepted by both the professional community and the public. Many mental health professionals, without any knowledge of these recent findings, still continue to use this model of grief resolution, to the possible detriment of their clients.

My strong support of SB 200 is for the following reasons:

- Only through mandating continuing education can the State ensure that the knowledge base and competency levels of all licensed social work professionals are current.
- Mandated continuing education ensures that licensed social workers are required to have access to best practices and the most recent innovations in the field of social work. This would improve and maintain the ability of social workers to provide effective, quality services to a broad spectrum of vulnerable clients. Requiring continuing education will protect Hawaii's consumers by assuring that social workers are current with the latest developments in their field.

- Required continuing education will not present an undue burden for social workers. Many training opportunities are available statewide through in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.

All states, except Colorado and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. CE is a national standard. Hawaii's licensed social workers want to be recognized as meeting a widely accepted professional standard. For this, and all of the above reasons I urge you to support SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify,

Kenneth W.Y. Lee, LSW

March 11, 2013
Conference Room 325, 2:00 pm

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

Rep. Della Au Belatti	Rep. Romy M. Cachola
Rep. Ken Ito	Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Mele Carroll	Rep. Tom Brower
Rep. Chris Lee	Rep. Bob McDermott
Rep. Rida T.R. Cabanilla	Rep. Clift Tsuji
Rep. Cindy Evans	Rep. Cynthia Thielen
Rep. Sharon E. Har	

RE: HB 178 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers - **SUPPORT**

Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair, and Representative Derek Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is Karissa Kinney, and I am an MSW candidate at Hawaii Pacific University. I strongly support HB 178 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of social work professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed social workers have access to best practices and innovations in the field of social work 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 teleconference (i.e. Polycom) by approved providers.
- All states, except New York and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. CE is a national standard. We social workers want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Social work provides critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for social workers who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that social workers are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HB 178.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.