

# **SB 200**

Measure Title: RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION.

Report Title: Social Workers; Continuing Education

Description: Requires licensed social workers 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.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, CPN

Introducer(s): BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, ESPERO, GALUTERIA, GREEN, Ige, Ihara, Nishihara, Solomon, L. Thielen, Wakai



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2013

Thursday, January 31, 2013  
1:15 p.m.

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

TO THE HONORABLE SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Ahlani 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 in support of Senate Bill. No. 200.

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 1,814 licensed social workers (LBSW – 15, LSW – 910, and LCSW – 756) will be required to obtain continuing education credits as proposed in 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 post-renewal 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 a part of its licensing laws.

Testimony on Senate Bill No. 200  
Thursday, January 31, 2013  
Page 3

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill  
No. 200.

HAWAII  
STATE  
COMMISSION  
ON THE  
STATUS  
OF  
WOMEN



Chair  
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

ELENA CABATU  
ADRIENNE KING  
CARMILLE LIM  
AMY MONK  
LISA ELLEN SMITH  
CAROL ANNE PHILIPS

Executive Director  
Catherine Betts

Email:  
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HSCSW

235 S. Beretania #407  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: 808-586-5758  
FAX: 808-586-5756

February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi  
January 31, 2013, 1:15 PM, Conference Room 016

FROM: Annie Hollis, BA, MSW candidate (2013)  
Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, practicum student

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair, and members of the Human Services Committee, the Commission strongly supports SB 200, Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

Social workers provide an incredibly comprehensive range of services to diverse communities, from work on an individual level with people to work on a macro scale with organizations and communities. Every state in the nation except Colorado and Hawaii require continuing education. Continuing education requirements ensure 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.

Social workers provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele, including vulnerable women, children, elderly, and families, who are often dealing with challenges such as gender-based violence, including intimate partner violence; access to healthcare and issues around death and dying; and many other issues that intersect with gender in unique ways. Social workers also, often, play an instrumental role in shaping public policy that directly affects the lives of consumers, including policies that affect women, children and families in the areas of safety, health, and political representation—issues that the Commission works on every day. Social workers are a critical piece in the landscape of working towards equality for women and girls.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Annie Hollis, BA, MSW candidate (2013)  
Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, Practicum Student



# Hawai'i Psychological Association

## *For a Healthy Hawai'i*

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P.O. Box 833  
Honolulu, HI 96808

[www.hawaiipsychology.org](http://www.hawaiipsychology.org)

Phone: (808) 521-8995

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services

January 30, 2013

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

Honorable Chair Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Green 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.

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair  
January 30, 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 Psychology Association  
President

# HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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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

January 25, 2013

To: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair,  
And members of the Committee on Human Services

## Testimony in Support of SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education

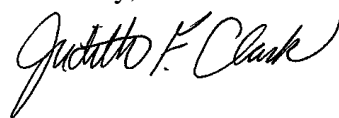
Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education.

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





National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter  
January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

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

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, my name is Marty Oliphant. I serve as the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawai'i Chapter (NASW). I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

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.

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 SB 200. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter

January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

FROM: Sharon Otagaki, LSW; ACSW

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

Dear Chair Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Josh Green and Members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

My name is Sharon Otagaki and I am the Chair of the Legislative Committee of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter. NASW has over 900 members statewide and has been committed to the professional development of social workers in all practice areas. NASW strongly supports SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education For Social Workers.

Social workers provide critical services in health, mental health, substance abuse, child welfare, education, rehabilitation, families, and aging to a broad spectrum of clients. It is essential for social workers to engage in continuing education to regularly increase their knowledge base, competency levels, best practices, and social work ethics. Hawaii is one of two states that do not require continuing education for social workers. If passed, SB 200 will ensure consumers and their communities that social workers are current with the latest developments in their field, and are providing quality services.

Once again, NASW strongly supports SB 200, and urges your favorable consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Victor Voth, LCSW, DCSW, President of NASW's Hawaii Chapter

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee. My name is Victor Voth, I am a clinical social worker and current president of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), Hawaii Chapter.

I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers for the following reasons:

- **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 Colorado and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed social

workers. Social workers in Hawaii deserve to be recognized as professionals meeting that standard.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

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

January 28, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Donna Lucero, CSAC

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

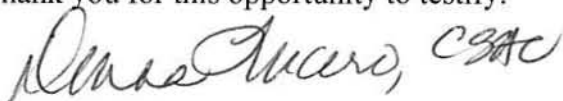
Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, my name is Donna Lucero, a social worker and a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social 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 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 Colorado 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Handwritten signature of Donna Lucero, CSAC.

January 28, 2013

**TO:** Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

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

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and 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 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.
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- 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Stephanie W. Batzer

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, my name is Stephanie Batzer. I am a Masters of Social Work candidate at the University of Hawaii, and a student member of the National Association of Social Workers, as well as a member of its Executive Committee. I have had the great fortune to travel and live across the globe during the course of my adult life, finally settling in this great state for the past 15 years. Four years ago, I chose to make a mid life career change, moving from information technology to social work in order to give back to the communities that have supported me over my career. I have come to see Hawaii as a great melting pot, filled with different cultures, which have unique perceptions as to their needs and beliefs. 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 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 Colorado 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.

These reasons support the core values rooted in the mission of social work, which include:

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity, and
- Competence

Competence is the key core value driving our need for continuing education. Ethically, social workers practice within their areas of competence and develop and enhance their professional expertise. Our code of ethics from the NASW states: "Social workers should strive to become and remain proficient in professional practice and the performance of professional functions. Social workers should critically examine and keep current with emerging knowledge relevant social work. Social workers should routinely review the professional literature and participate in continuing education relevant to social work practice and social work ethics."

I believe that the practice of continuing education stimulates the day-to-day practice of social workers by exposing them to new ideas and techniques. It also keeps social worker skills sharp, avoiding obsolescence. We don't know what will be important in 10 years. We don't know what research will be published, what concepts will make a difference in our clients lives. Continuing education is vital in providing services across our diverse population.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

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

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Dr. Sharon Liden, I am a Marriage and Family Therapist and the President of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (AAMFT) –Hawaii Division. I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers. It is our hope that Marriage and Family Therapists will also have Continuing Education as a professional standard.

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.
- 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

ROBIN E. S. MIYAMOTO, PSY.D.  
677 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD SUITE 904  
HONOLULU, HI 96813  
PHONE: (808) 525-6255 FAX: (808) 525-6256

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

January 29, 2013

Honorable Chair Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Green and members of the committee, my name is Dr. Robin Miyamoto. I am a Clinical Psychologist and Past-President of Hawai'i Psychological Association. I would like to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 200 requiring mandatory continuing education for Social Workers.

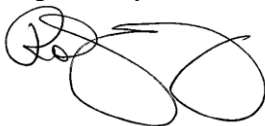
As a founder and the Director of Training of I Ola Lāhui, a non-profit committed to increasing the availability and quality of services available across the State of Hawai'i, particularly rural and underserved areas, I am very familiar with the delivery of mental health services to diverse populations. Additionally, I have made a commitment to lifelong learning, for my role as teacher and mentor requires that I must be up to date on current evidence based practices.

Of course, a commitment to lifelong learning needs to take into account the changing world in which we live. Multicultural experts have pointed to changing demographics in the United States, particularly Hawai'i, and suggest that practitioners must make substantive revisions in 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. Keeping abreast of new knowledge, skills and relevant attitudes is an important strategy for us all. I feel that SB 200 is an important step in that direction.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin E. S. Miyamoto', written in a cursive style.

Robin E. S. Miyamoto, Psy.D.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [WestsideServiceProviderNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:WestsideServiceProviderNetwork@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB200 on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM  
**Date:** Sunday, January 27, 2013 4:02:32 PM

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**SB200**

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R tenno		Support	No

Comments: strongly support this measure

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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January 25, 2013

To: The Senate Committee on Human Services

Hearing: January 31, 2013, 1:15 pm, Conference Room 016

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 Chun-Oakland and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

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.

January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Nicholas Szubiak

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I Nicholas Szubiak, LCSW am 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 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 Colorado 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

January 30, 2013

To: The Senate Committee on Human Services

Hearing: January 31, 2013, 1:15 pm, Conference Room 016

From: Nathan Chang

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

Chairperson Chun-Oakland and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

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. In my experience over the years, 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.

January 30, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee

Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani

Senator Sam Slom

Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Natalia Matsumoto, LMFT

RE: SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists - SUPPORT

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Natalia Matsumoto, I am a licensed marriage and family therapist and a member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy as well as Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family Therapy. I strongly support SB 200 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 therapists (LMFTs).
- Continuing education requirements ensure that LMFTs 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 teleconference by approved providers.
- Overwhelming amount of research suggests LMFT continued education benefit clients and prevents LMFT professionals from stagnation, burn out, as well as from harming consumers. CE is a national standard; therefore, LMFTs want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- LMFT provides critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for LMFTs who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that LMFTs are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Mylinda M.N. Morris

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Mylinda M.N. Morris, I am 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. When I graduated from UH in 1997, licensure was on track to establish Hawaii as a positive force in recognition of the high standards of the profession on Social Work. When I returned to HI in 2010, I was dismayed to find HI had not adopted CEUs for licensure which caused me NOT to change my current clinical license to the state of HI from my current state of Virginia. In my opinion, the proposed CEU requirements are absolutely critical to ensure the professional standards of social work.
- 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

//signed//

Mylinda M.N. Morris, LCSW, CSAC

February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Mark Matsushita

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Mark Matsushita, I am Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and a member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). 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 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 Colorado 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.
- The American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Hawaii Division believes in continuing education for the reasons listed above and we plan to also pursue this next year.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [maribeth@mauitransformations.com](mailto:maribeth@mauitransformations.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB200 on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM  
**Date:** Sunday, January 27, 2013 9:04:04 PM

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SB200

Submitted on: 1/27/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maribeth Theisen, LCSW	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am opposed to continuing education requirements for Social Workers who have received Master Degrees, as this level of education ensures professionalism and skill. Thank you

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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January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

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

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee:

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:

- Continuing education (CE) increases the knowledge base and competency levels of social work professionals.
- 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.



February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

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

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Kenneth W.Y. Lee, a retired social worker with 45 years of experience. Since my retirement, I continue to practice as a licensed social worker through volunteer work with the Red Cross and American Cancer Society. I offer my total support of SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

My strong support of this bill 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.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed social workers have access to best practices and recent innovations in the field of social work and can continue to provide effective, quality services to an array of clients. As social workers often provide services and treatment 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. We social workers want to be recognized as meeting that standard and I urge you to support SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

KENNETH W.Y. LEE, MSW, LSW

January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15pm Conference Room 016

FROM: Katherine Bennett, JD, MSW

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Katherine Bennett, I a teach social work to undergraduate students at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work.

I strongly support SB 200 Relating to Continuing Education for Social Worker 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 Colorado 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



February 2, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Karissa Kinney

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Karissa Kinney, a student intern 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 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 Colorado 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Representative Josh Green, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Jill Oliveira Gray, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist

DATE: Thursday, January, 31, 2013

SUBJECT: **Support of SB 200** Relating to Continuing Education

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Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

My name is Jill Oliveira Gray. I am a licensed clinical psychologist and serve as a clinical supervisor and Director of research and evaluation with I Ola Lāhui, a rural behavioral health psychology training program. Due to my professional roles, I firmly believe that continuing education is not only a means to stay abreast of relevant information to provide the patient care but it is an ethical obligation for professionals who engage in health care delivery.

I strongly support SB200 that seeks to establish mandatory continuing education hours for social workers who play a vital role in our State's health care delivery system.

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit my written testimony.

Jill Oliveira Gray, Ph.D.  
I Ola Lāhui  
Clinical Supervisor  
Director of Research and Evaluation

January 27, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Jess Glasser

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am **Jess Glasser**, I am a social work graduate student at UH Manoa 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:

- Because we all need a refresher now and then... especially during a career that may span over thirty years!
- 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.
- All states, except Colorado and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed social workers. CE is a national standard. We, Hawaii's 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES  
SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN-OAKLAND, CHAIR  
SENATOR JOSH GREEN, M.D., VICE CHAIR

Jeffrey D. Stern, Ph.D.  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
1833 Kalakaua Ave. Suite 503  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Monday, January 28, 2013

Honorable Chair Chun-Oakland, Vice Chair Green, and esteemed members of the Committee on Human Services, In regards to SB200 that requires mandatory continuing education for social workers, I am STRONGLY in favor of the bill as it addresses a serious need for mandated continuing education, ensuring that licensed providers remain current with empirically supported treatments, culturally adapted treatments and changes in knowledge and practice in social work and the allied health professions.

My name is Jeffrey Stern I am a psychologist who was raised here in Honolulu and I am the Past President of the Hawaii Psychological Association. I am also the internship director at HPU's master's program in clinical mental health counseling and I have been teaching research methodology to graduate and undergraduate students at University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University for 15 years. I attended a meeting over a year ago with the DCCA in which the issue of mandatory continuing education (heretofore referred to as "MCE") was addressed and the idea (for social workers and other licensed allied health professionals) was embraced.

In preparation for that meeting, I conducted a brief literature review on MCE and identified two consistent findings; first, the criticism that continuing education fails to impact treatment outcome is not because of a lack of effect. Rather, it is because research methods are not well suited to measuring this effect. Simply put, absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. Secondly, licensed psychologists and allied health professionals (including social workers) from states requiring continuing education reported strong satisfaction with their CE experiences.

Social work, like all licensable health professions, is committed to continuing development of its knowledge base and the practice of social work should be guided not only by previously established facts and treatments, but also by relevant and more recent additions to our knowledge base. In an age of ever-growing accountability, we have an obligation to consumers and our colleagues to be current with our knowledge in our respective fields.

In a 1990 article by VendeCreek, Knapp, and Brace in *Professional Psychology Research and Practice*, the authors reviewed the literature on effectiveness of CE *across allied health professions* in enhancing quality of services in health professions and concluded that if properly implemented, CE can positively impact health care in the face of ever- and rapidly-increasing knowledge base and technology. Note, this article is nearly 25 years old, covering research conducted up to 50 years ago. Since then, CE programs have improved and are implemented in a manner that is accessible (including to those living in rural communities) and more accountable. I emphasize the age of the article as evidence that the time has come for Hawaii to move forward and mandate continuing education for social workers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my mana'o.

January 28, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Janessa Zabkowski, LSW

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Janessa Zabkowski, I am 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:

- I want to be able to provide my clients with the best service possible, and continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of social work professionals.
- I believe it is critical for social workers to have access to best practice and innovations in the field in order to improve our quality of service and continuing education requirements would ensure that all social workers continue to develop their skills.
- All states, except Colorado 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

January 27, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Chris Ridley, LCSW  
Director of Social Services, Life Care Center of Hilo, 959-9151  
Program Coordinator, Alzheimer's Association, Island of Hawaii

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,  
I am Chris Ridley, I am 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 an array of clients.
- All states, except Colorado 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 SB 200.**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

January 29, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair Senate Human Services Committee  
Senator Josh Green M.D., Vice Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani  
Senator Sam Slom  
Senator Brian Taniguchi

January 31, 2013 1:15 Conference Room 016

FROM: Chiyo Churchill, MFT

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland Chair, Senator Josh Green M.D. Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am a Marriage and Family Therapist and a member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). 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 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. 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 SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

January 29, 2013

TO: The Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Ben Myers, Concerned Citizen

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

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair, and members of the Human Services Committee, I strongly support SB 200, Relating to Continuing Education for Social Workers.

I am currently a graduate student in the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawai'i. During the last year I have had the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with people who have graduated from the same program over the last several decades. Their views and ideas on treatment and client care cover the entire spectrum of theories and models developed throughout the last several decades as well. Some of the more recent graduates adhere to the newer practices and theories that they have recently learned and conversely the others who have graduated decades ago cling to the ideology and theories that they learned during their MSW program. If there is a not a requirement for continuing education then recent graduates will also cling to the ideologies and theories that they learned during their education and the cycle will continue.

As social workers the goal is to give the consumer (client) the best possible services and treatments that are available currently. It is a client-centered profession that serves people who are at every stage of life. Our clients need qualified and professional social workers that are educated with the current best practices in their field. Continuing education requirements ensure 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.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 200.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HMS Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rodrigues@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:rodrigues@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB200 on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 2013 9:14:57 PM

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SB200

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for HMS on Jan 31, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Antoinette Rodrigues	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a member of the AAMFT (American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy) Hawaii Division, I support this bill because it requires social workers to stay current with new developments in their profession, to provide the highest quality of care to consumers.

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)