



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310  
P.O. Box 541  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
Phone Number: 586-2850  
Fax Number: 586-2856  
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

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

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2466, S.D. 1, RELATING TO CONTINUING  
EDUCATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS.**

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

My name is Lynn Bhanot, and I am the Executive Officer of the Marriage and Family Therapists Program ("Program"), Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2466, S.D. 1.

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

requirements for all licensed marriage and family therapist (“MFT”) in the State of Hawaii. As such, after a series of discussions between the parties, a proposed bill was submitted to the State of Hawaii Legislature.

As written, the Program supports this bill as it will ensure that licensed MFTs maintain their professional competency and keep abreast of the latest developments in their profession. Currently in Hawaii, there are 332 licensed MFTs who will be required to obtain continuing education credits as proposed by this bill. However, similar to other professions that require continuing education, the Program in consultation with the AAMFT Hawaii, agreed to perform post-renewal random audits of 5% - 10% of its licensees who renew their MFT licenses. By choosing to perform random audits, there will be minimal impact on the workload of the administrative staff.

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

The House companion measure, House Bill No. 2031, has also been scheduled for a Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection hearing on Thursday, March 13, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2466, S.D. 1.

## kawakami3-Benigno

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2014 11:34 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** jennydecker17@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2466 on Mar 12, 2014 14:10PM

### SB2466

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Decker	Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family Therapy	Support	No

Comments: Jennifer Decker 99-053 Kinoole Pl Aiea, HI 96701 March 11, 2014 TO: Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists LETTER OF SUPPORT Dear Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, My name is Jennifer Decker. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (#349) and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists. I strongly support this bill for the following reasons: · Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals. · Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients. · Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers. · All states, except Michigan and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists. CE is a national standard. We Marriage and Family Therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard. · Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele. · Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field. I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Sincerely, Jennifer Decker

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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**kawakami3-Benigno**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2014 7:24 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** ajohnson@hinamauka.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2466 on Mar 12, 2014 14:10PM

**SB2466**

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Johnson	Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition	Support	No

Comments: The Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition supports continuing education requirements that improves quality.

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

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

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

I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Warmest Aloha,

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

Janet Covington  
240 Kilea Place  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

March 10, 2014

TO:  
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

My name is Janet Covington and I am a Hawaii Licensed Mental Health Counselor and National Certified Counselor. I strongly support HB 2031/SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists as I believe mandating continuing education for licensed healthcare professionals will strengthen the profession as a whole and provide for higher levels of care for our clients.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

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

I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Janet Covington

Alan Y Tamai  
2139 Maha Place  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair	
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair	
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce	

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

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

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

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

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

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

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

I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Alan Y Tamai



Mark Matsushita  
95-1030 F Ainamakua Drive  
Mililani, HI 96789

March 10, 2014

TO:  
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

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I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

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

I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mark Matsushita

Name  
Address

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kelly Donovan MFT



**kawakami3-Benigno**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2014 8:20 AM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** ksweet30@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2466 on Mar 12, 2014 14:10PM

**SB2466**

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

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

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

Comments: Continuing credits will make our profession better educated and better respected

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

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

March 11, 2014

TO:

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

RE: SB 2466 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

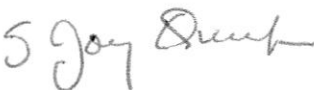
Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed Marriage and Family Therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
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I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2466. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



S. Joy Quick

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

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mitchell Berman, MA  
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

**LATE**

**Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT**

**197 Sand Island Access Road, Suite #201 3608 Diamond Head Circle  
Honolulu, HI 96819 Honolulu, HI 96815**

**11 March 2014**

**TO: House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
FAX#: (808) 586-8437**

**FROM: Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT  
FAX#: (808) 842-1936**

**Thank you for accepting this attached testimony.**

Mahalo,

  
Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT

*pages = 2 (two) including cover*

Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT  
 197 Sand Island Access Road, Suite#201  
 Honolulu, HI 96819

March 11, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
 Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
 And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce: My name is Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon. I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.
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I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Carlton-Jarmon, MFT



**LATE**

SUSAN J. RAY, MFT  
Windward Therapy, LLC  
970 N. Kalaheo Ave; Suite A-212, Kailua, HI 96734  
Phone: (808) 227-6791 Fax: (808) 744-8322  
Email: [susanray@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:susanray@hawaii.rr.com)  
Website: [www.windwardtherapy.com](http://www.windwardtherapy.com)

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

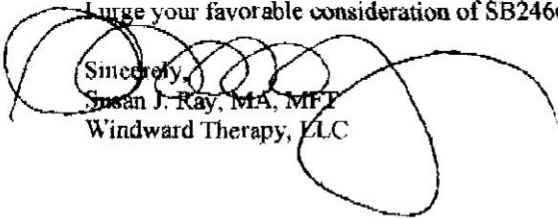
**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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Urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
  
Susan J. Ray, MA, MFT  
Windward Therapy, LLC

**LATE**

**kawakami3-Benigno**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:53 PM  
**To:** CPCtestimony  
**Cc:** hawaii1ceejay@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2466 on Mar 12, 2014 14:10PM\*

**SB2466**

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

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

Comments:

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

March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### LETTER OF SUPPORT

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is Virginia Jones and I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist . I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons:

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I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Virginia Jones, MFT, LMHC, NCC, CSAC, SAP

Name  
Address



March 10, 2014

TO:

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists

### **LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Representative McKelvey, Chair, Representative Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, my name is (name). I am a Hawaii Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SB2466 SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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I urge your favorable consideration of SB2466 SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Kelly Donovan MFT

