

April 17, 2013

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

April 19, 2013 8:30 am Conference Room 229

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

RE: SCR 125, SD1 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists -
(SSCR1220) **SUPPORT**

Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair, Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Health, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SCR 125, SD1 (SSCR 1220) Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this resolution for the following reasons:

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

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

I urge your favorable consideration of SCR 125, SD1 (SSCR1220). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

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

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Friday, April 19, 2013
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 125, S.D. 1, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY: HAWAII DIVISION, TO DEVELOP DRAFT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS IN HAWAII.

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lynn Bhanot, and I am the Executive Officer of the Marriage and Family Therapists Program ("Program"), Professional and Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 125, S.D. 1.

The Program appreciates the efforts of the Legislature to allow the two (2) agencies to work collaboratively to develop draft legislation establishing, implementing, and monitoring continuing education requirements for all licensed marriage and family

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therapists in Hawaii. The Program and the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Hawaii Division will continue to collaborate after the legislative session to address the areas in the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division's Continuing Professional Education Guidelines Checklist.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 125, S.D. 1.