

LATE

March 25, 2013

TO: Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Committee on Human Services
Senator Josh Green, MD, Vice Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Sam Slom

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara
Senator Malama Solomon
Senator Glenn Wakai
Senator Sam Slom

March 27, 2013 9:30 am Conference Room 229

FROM: Teresa Lathrop, M.S., M.F.T.; AAMFT Hawaii Division Past President

RE: SCR 125/SR 88 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists -
SUPPORT

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, and Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support SCR 125/ SR 88 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/SR 88. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.