

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2038, H.D. 1, S.D. 1

March 28, 2014

RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

House Bill No. 2038, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, establishes within the State treasury a special fund to be known as the Human Trafficking Victim Services Fund to be administered by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. The bill authorizes the deposit of unspecified amount of fees paid by individuals who are convicted of an offense under Part VIII of Chapter 707, HRS, or convicted of an offense under Part I of Chapter 712, HRS. The disbursement of money from the special fund is to be used to supplement programs, grants, or purchase of service contracts that support or provide comprehensive services to victims of labor trafficking crimes or victims of trafficking related to crimes under Part 1 of Chapter 712, HRS.

The Department of Budget and Finance does not take any position on support and services to human trafficking victims; however, as a matter of general policy, the department does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the HRS. In regards to House Bill No. 2038, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed source of revenues will be self-sustaining or if there is a clear nexus between benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program.



ONLINE SUBMITTAL

Hearing on: Friday, March 28, 2014 @ 9:25 a.m.
Conference Room #211

DATE: March 25, 2014

TO: Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Sen. David Ige, Chair
Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

FROM: Eva Andrade, Executive Director

RE: Support for HB 2038 HD1 SD1 Relating to Human Trafficking

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure. Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of various Christian Churches and denominations. We support this bill that would establish a special fund to aid victims of human trafficking.

The U.S. State Department estimates that thousands of human beings, many of them children, are trafficked each year into the United States to work in the sex trade or as slave labor. Women and children have been forced to work in prostitution and child pornography rings, and even coerced into different types of manual labor, without pay or protection. As an organization that cares deeply about the family, especially the children, we find this both reprehensible and unacceptable.

In Hawaii, many child victims of human trafficking commonly seek to escape their personal struggles with the hope of finding opportunity and a brighter future. It is in these types of environments that human traffickers flourish, promising these precious keiki an opportunity to travel, at no immediate expense, for employment and housing. What they find instead, is coercion, abuse, entrapment, and sexual exploitation in a brothel, a massage parlor, or an agricultural outpost. By the time they are rescued, if ever, they are shattered by physical, mental, and psychological abuse. Many become ill and some have even lost their lives.

As a faith-based organization who fought to protect children from sexual exploitation (our organization was instrumental in the raising of the age of consent in Hawaii from 14 to 16), we support this measure. We cannot, however, stop there. Protection of our keiki from sexual exploitation must be a top priority for Hawaii and providing support and needed services to victims is crucial!

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this measure.

March 26, 2014

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland
Senator Ronald D. Kouchi
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Senator Russell E. Ruderman

Senator J. Kalani English
Senator Laura H. Thielen
Senator Will Espero
Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Senator Gilbert Kahele
Senator Sam Slom
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, March 28, 2014

TIME: 9:25AM

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**RE: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2038 HD1 SD1
RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Aloha, Committee on Judiciary:

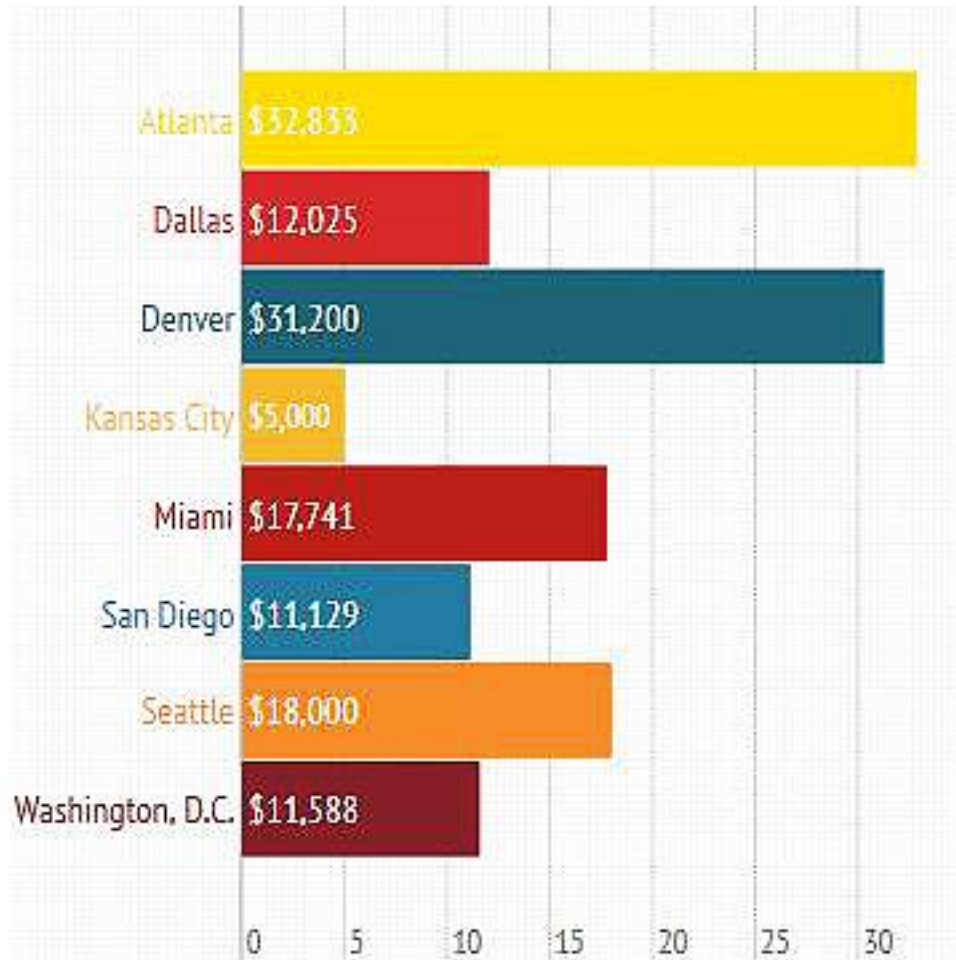
Funding means the difference between saving a victim of human trafficking and losing her to revictimization. Human trafficking victims are rescued from extreme situations, often with only the clothes on their back. Their recovery hinges on our ability to immediately provide them a stable and supportive environment, including reliable shelter, access to healthcare, and basic items like clothing and toiletries. These emergency situations make it impossible for service providers to accurately budget for services and ensure that grant funds are available throughout the year for all rescued victims who need them. The reliable funding provided by HB2038 HD1 would make it possible for all victims to receive quality services, regardless of when they are rescued.

Victims of human trafficking require and deserve access to quality, licensed residential treatment facilities, which don't currently exist in Hawai'i. By passing HB2038 HD1, we could fund the establishment of a local treatment facility, thereby saving thousands of dollars in victims' travel expenses to mainland facilities. Furthermore, the vast majority of child victims served by the Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery are Pacific Islanders originally from Hawai'i. Receiving culturally appropriate treatment nearer to their home communities and family support systems would support their healing process and safeguard against potential revictimization.

Against all odds, many of young trafficking victims set their sights on college. One particular survivor comes to mind; her dream is to become a dental hygienist. For her, funding means the difference between paying for school to achieve financial independence and going back to the street just to survive.

We request that the fees paid into the fund, that convicted pimp/traffickers must pay, be of significant amount. Below, please find a graph from the Urban Institute estimating the weekly income of pimp/traffickers in various cities. Hawaii is no exception to this pay scale and we estimate that pimp/traffickers in Hawaii make more due to foreign clientele.

Pimp's Weekly Income



Source: The Urban Institute, 'Estimating the Size and Structure of the Underground Commercial Sex Economy in Eight Major U.S. Cities.'

Please pass HB2038 HD1 SD1.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Xian
Executive Director



HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

6301 Pali Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744-5224

Online Submittal
Hearing on Friday, March 28, 2014 @ 9:25 a.m.
Conference Room #211

DATE: March 25, 2014
TO: Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Sen. David Ige, Chair
Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
From: Walter Yoshimitsu, Executive Director
Re: Support for HB 2038 HD1 SD1 Relating to Human Trafficking

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means, I am Walter Yoshimitsu, **representing the Hawaii Catholic Conference**. The Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents Roman Catholics in Hawaii. We strongly support this bill that would establish the Human Trafficking Victim Services Fund.

The Catholic Church has placed the elimination of trafficking as an important priority in the areas of public advocacy, public education, and services with respect to the victims. We are working to raise awareness within the Catholic community about the problem, including education, to help people in the community identify and understand the problem of human trafficking.

Trafficking victims need, first and foremost, safety and security. Many of them are terrified of the traffickers who brought them to Hawaii. Providing them with a secure, safe, and nurturing environment is crucial to ensuring their return to society as contributing members. The Church and its service organizations, does all that it can to provide support services to both adult and child victims of trafficking, including health and mental health services, employment assistance, English-language training, counseling, housing and other material assistance needs; however, there is so much more to be done.

The themes of Catholic social teaching—the protection of human dignity and human rights; the option for the poor; the call to family and community; the rights of workers; solidarity and care for creation—all address evils inherent in the trafficking of human beings. These principles of justice are not unique to Catholicism but are manifest in most religions. Commitment to these principles gives the issue of human-trafficking a sense of urgency to many faiths and religious communities. For this reason we strongly support passage of this measure but respectfully leave the legal application to the experts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: emilieharrell@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Mar 28, 2014 09:25AM
Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:31:04 PM

HB2038

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2014 09:25AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emilie Harrell	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Human Trafficking is a huge issue here in Hawaii. It is vital that we provide the necessary services to ensure the healing of our children. Lets ensure the safety and future of a healthy life for our children! Thanks

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: email@joannawright.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Mar 28, 2014 09:25AM
Date: Thursday, March 27, 2014 6:40:54 AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2014 09:25AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanna Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this Bill. As a society that values justice, compassion, and human rights, we must adequately support victims of crime, especially those who are most vulnerable.

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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