



National Association of Social Workers Hawai'i Chapter



February 11, 2014

TO: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair ~ Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
and Committee Members

February 13, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. Conference Room 211

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

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

Senator David Y. Ige Chair, Senator Michelle N. Kidani Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, my name is Marty Oliphant. I serve as the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawai'i Chapter (NASW). NASW strongly supports SB 2466 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

Consumer Protection ~ Requiring continuing education courses for Marriage and Family Therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawai'i's consumers Marriage and Family Therapists are current with the latest developments and practices in their field. NASW views continuing education as an essential activity for ensuring quality services for clients. Knowing the best practices and innovations in the field will assist in protecting consumers in getting the best services as possible.

The proposed measure, SB 2466, seems to appropriately address the need for Marriage and Family Therapists to secure continuing education as a means of enhancing their professional knowledge, attitudes, and competencies in the field of psychology. In addition, continuing education serves the needs of clients to receive the most effective services.

I urge your favorable consideration of SB 2466.



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February 12, 2014

TO:

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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

Senator Ige, Chair, Senator Kidani, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, My name is Jeffrie Wagner. 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.
- 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 SB 2466. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: janetcovingtoncounseling@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2466 on Feb 13, 2014 09:30AM*
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SB2466

Submitted on: 2/12/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 13, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Covington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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