

SCR 63 / SR 30

ENCOURAGING FEMALE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES
SENATE TO REFORM MILITARY INVESTIGATORY AND
PROSECUTORIAL SYSTEMS GOVERNING SEXUAL ASSAULTS.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SCR 63/SR 30 ENCOURAGING FEMALE MEMBERS OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE TO REFORM MILITARY INVESTIGATORY AND
PROSECUTORIAL SYSTEM GOVERNING SEXUAL ASSAULTS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS & SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

BY

MR. RONALD P. HAN, JR.
DIRECTOR OF STATE OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES

April 1, 2014

Chairs Espero & Hee, Vice Chairs Baker & Shimabukuro and Committees
member's:

I'm Ron Han, Director of the State Office of Veterans Services (OVS). I
appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of the concepts on
Senate Concurrent Resolution 63 and Senate Resolution 30.

In response to the Resolution, the OVS has a Women's Military and Veteran
Sub-Committee under the State Advisory Board on Veterans Services
established to address issues affecting women who continue to serve and for
those who have served in uniform. Undoubtedly, much more must be done in
legislation and reform to stop these cases of military sexual trauma and assaults.

The OVS supports reform initiatives to help our Women Veterans, who comprise
10-12% of our Hawaii State Veterans population today and is our fastest growing
group of Veterans.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of Hawaii's Veteran community.



Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

To: Hawaii State Senate Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs & Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 2:45 p.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 224
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood of Hawaii in support of S.C.R. 63/ S.R. 30

Dear Chairs Espero and Hee and Members of the Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs & Judiciary and Labor,

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii writes in support of S.C.R. 63/ S.R. 30, which urges Congress to enact reforms addressing sexual harassment and assault in the United States Armed Forces.

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii is dedicated to providing Hawaii's people with high quality, affordable and confidential sexual and reproductive health care, education, and advocacy. Military members and their families, in particular, use our services at a high rate because they are unable to obtain the same confidential care through the military's healthcare system. We support this resolution because it will promote the sexual and reproductive health of military women by deterring harassment and assault and encouraging reporting by victims.

Sexual harassment and violence in the military is a known and present problem, and it is imperative that reforms are made to prevent harassment and assault and provide victims with appropriate and effective services and systems both during and after their military service. Enacting reforms to address sexual harassment and assaults will help to ensure that these brave women and men have the prevention and care that they need and deserve.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Temple
Director of Public Affairs & Government Relations

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Dara Carlin, M.A.
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April 1, 2014

Good Afternoon Senators and thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony **IN STRONG SUPPORT** of SCR63/SR30.

Last year I was intensively involved in a military sexual assault case that involved one of my prior DV (domestic violence) survivor moms. Years removed from her abusive ex-husband, this mom was happily remarried to a member of our military preparing to deploy to Afghanistan. When her husband deployed, this mom had a 5 year-old, a 3 year-old and an 18 month-old in her care. Only a week into her husband's deployment, mom was brutally attacked and raped in her home *in front of her children*. While mom was on the floor being raped by a high-ranking enlisted, she recounted the outstretched hand of her 5 year-old pleading with her to "Just grab my hand mommy, just grab my hand..."

Recalling the details of the assault that this mom shared with me is probably as difficult for you all to read as it is for me to tell you about but can you fathom what this memory is like for this mom and her children? Can you fathom what it was like for her husband to receive this information while on the battlefield? Now try to fathom what came next:

Nothing

Mom and I reported to everyone and anyone of every rank, standing and office we could think of from here to Washington DC believing that what happened to her was so unique and extraordinary that surely someone would do something – but then it was revealed that mom was only one of **19,300** reported victims that rose to **26,000** reported victims with further inspection. At first we were hopeful because with numbers like those, someone somewhere was sure to do something right? A year after mom's report, here's what happened:

Nothing

It's time to do something -- make SCR63/SR30 it.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate