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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2016

Thursday, February 18, 2016  
9:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2169, RELATING TO SOCIAL WORKERS.**

TO THE HONORABLE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is May Ferrer, Executive Officer for the Social Workers Program, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”), Professional and Vocational Licensing Division. The Program appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony offering comments on House Bill No. 2169, Relating to Social Workers.

House Bill No. 2169 revises the supervision requirements for the licensure of clinical social workers by deleting the requirement of direct face-to-face individualized supervision, and replacing it with supervision that may be face-to-face or via a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-certified (“HIPAA-certified”) video conferencing service. By deleting the requirement for individualized supervision on page 4 line 14, it is not clear what type of supervision would have to occur to meet the

sixty hour requirement. The Department recommends that the individualized supervision requirement be retained.

Regarding the language in the bill that would provide for face-to-face or HIPAA-certified video conferencing, the Department recognizes that a number of states have begun to authorize face-to-face electronic supervision and understands that this mode of supervision will facilitate supervision in rural areas. The Department suggests that rather than allowing all the supervision to occur in this fashion, the committee consider retaining at least some in person face-to-face supervision. The Department also requests that the bill include a definition of HIPAA-compliant video conferencing so that the required mode of video conferencing is clear.

Regarding the revisions on page 5 line 20 to page 6 line 1, the Department supports this revision. The Department finds that this language is prohibitive to some individuals who are not able to obtain supervision within their employing agency because a qualified Licensed Clinical Social Worker may not be available, or because the agency does not allow for supervision to take place on site.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 2169.



Date: February 11, 2016

To:

House Committee on Human Services

Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice-Chair

The National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter (NASW) strongly supports House Bill 2169, relating to social workers, with an amendment.

- NASW Hawaii represents 865 members
- There are currently 1,952 Social Workers licensed by DCCA.
- Tele-medicine has become standard practice in the Social Work/Mental Health field and should be allowed for garnering supervision.
- Social Workers on the neighbor islands, rural Oahu and some Department of Veteran's Affairs Social Workers are currently challenged to meet the statute requirements for direct "Face to Face" Supervision.
- Rural Social Workers qualified to provide supervision for the LCSW Certification are limited in number.
- Universities across the Nation offer both bachelor and masters level Social Work Degrees via technology, which does not require direct in-person "face to face" instruction.

We would like to suggest the following amendment:

Page 6, line 1, the addition of the word "assessment" after "review of".

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonja Bigalke-Bannan, MSW, LSW".

Sonja Bigalke-Bannan, MSW, LSW

Executive Director

National Association of Social Workers, Hawai'i Chapter

February 11, 2016

I support House Bill 2169 in support for social workers. I believe in expanding avenues of face-to-face supervision allowing video conferencing would open up many more opportunities for future social workers.

With the growing amount of social problems and social needs for social workers, it is important to look at different ways in obtaining clinical supervision hours so it makes it more accessible for both supervisor and student. Not only does it provide more opportunity it is also important to begin to look at the constant advancing field of technology and how it is utilized around the world and how the working class will transition and adapt to that, and video conferencing is just an additional avenue for us to adapt and utilize the resources we have.

Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 1:59 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: berniestrand\_llc@msn.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bernice Strand	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Greetings: I support HB2169, regarding supervision for social workers in Hawaii. The need for supervision by mental health practitioners seeking licensure who also live in rural areas or on the neighbor islands has created unnecessary hardship on those who seek to advance their knowledge, experience, and credentials in the field of social work. I would also like to advocate that special exception be provided on SECTION 2, (3) (c), line 5 for social workers who are Veterans, Service Members, and their Family (SMVF) members who often struggle to meet the supervision restrictions tied to accumulating sufficient supervision hours "within no more than five years". This limitation presents undue hardship to SMVF whose first priority may be serving our country, as dependents supporting a loved one who experiences multiple changes in duty assignment, or who may require special consideration related to their status as a Veteran. I recommend current language be retained, but with addition language similar (or simplified) indicating the following caveat, "exception being provided to Veterans, Service Members, and their family members who may request extension to the limit of five years, with written statement detailing the reason for the request for extension and verified by written statement from the applicant's current supervisor." Thank you for your consideration. Bernice Strand, LCSW

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HB2169

Thank you to Senators BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, KEITH-AGARAN, KIDANI, NISHIHARA, Inouye, Tokuda for introducing this important housekeeping measure.

I am in strong support of its passage.

Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies and individuals in need. SB2269/HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural Molokai social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This is critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,  
Edwina L. Greenleaf  
UH Manoa, MBT School of Social Work, MSW Student.

Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 2:07 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John A. H. Tomoso	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kakou, As A Social Worker in practice since 1977 and in licensed practice since 1995, I support this measure which essentially opens up supervision, for licensing purposes, in a more effective and efficient way, with confidentiality and security protocols/ processes in place, and with greater access by professional seeking Social Work Licensure. Mahalo John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW 51 Ku'ula St. Kahului, HI 96732-2906

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Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 10:31 AM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: lpaul@hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you allowing me to testify in strong support for this important housekeeping measure for social work licensure. Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers are necessary to ensure the public are provided services through qualified individuals. HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision. Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

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HB2169

To: Senators BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, KEITH-AGARAN,  
KIDANI, NISHIHARA, Inouye, Tokuda

RELATING TO SOCIAL WORKERS.

Social Workers; Licensed Clinical Social Workers; Licensing Requirements;  
Supervision

I am in strong support of its passage with amendments. Firstly, I would like to see a cap of the amount that a supervising LCSW can charge to a supervisee.

I feel that this measure will ensure that "brain drain" is prevented and help to keep those seeking a LCSW from moving out of state to obtain licensure. More than likely, once they are licensed, they will not come back to Hawaii.W

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sean Cho

Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 4:13 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: Holly00000@aol.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Holly Baker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha- Here on The Big Island we have a limited number of people who have the credentials that are needed so that we the new MSW's are able to get our hours. With the passage of this Bill it would allow us in rural areas the ability to be licensed to help others. I support the passage of this bill. Mahalo for your time, Holly Baker

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Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 5:43 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: chrismccconnell85@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris McConnell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you to Representatives MCKELVEY, FUKUMOTO CHANG, Aquino, Cullen, Morikawa for introducing this important housekeeping measure. I am in strong support of its passage. Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies and individuals in need. SB2269/HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision. Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Edward Thompson, III

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From: Donna Lucero <kuponomaui@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 4:35 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Subject: Submitting testimony for HB2169; Thursday, February 18, 2016; 9:00AM

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee:

Licensed Clinical Social workers provide integral and specialized services to individuals and families in need through government agencies, health care facilities, educational systems, social service organizations and many other types of settings. HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. Living in a rural community on the Island of Maui, this will increase access to licensed professionals to provide face-to-face supervision. In addition, after licensure, I hope this will allow for more specialized training without the additional travel and lodging cost for Continuing Education Units.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Submitted by, Donna Lucero, MSW, CSAC  
Individual  
Comments Only  
Will not be present at hearing

Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 4:53 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: hchoe@Hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helen Choe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a student in the University of Hawaii at Manoa MSW program, I fully support this bill.

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Aloha House Chair Dee Morikawa & Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi

RE: HB 2169

Thursday/2-18-16

9:00 AM/Room 329

My name is Brent Keliokamalu Nakihei born and raised in Kalamaula, Molokai. I am a Pure Hawaiian representing my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to the tenth power. I am testifying in support of HB 2169 for the supervision requirements for Licensure of clinical social work, including permitting the supervision requirements to be met through face-to-face supervision or via a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-certified video conferencing service. As a full-time resident of Molokai; the passing of this Bill will benefit me, as well as other social workers on island who cannot afford to travel off island in meeting the requirements for Licensure.

In closing, I am in support of HB 2169 and its passing to benefit this island of Molokai, its people, and the families who will gain from the services conducted by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

Mahalo,

Brent Keliokamalu Nakihei

[bnakihei@gmail.com](mailto:bnakihei@gmail.com)

Ph: (808) 213-4858

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Human Services

Re: Support of HB2169, Relating to Social Workers

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2016

Time: 9:00 AM

Place: Conference Room 329

Dear Chair Morikawai, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and the Members of the Committee on Human Services,

My name is Courtney Cabebe and I am a graduate student obtaining my Master's in Social Work through the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Distance Education program. In addition, I am employed as a Match Specialist with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui.

I am writing individual testimony in strong support of HB2169 that clarifies the supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social workers.

Living on the neighbor islands and in rural areas on Oahu provides barriers to meeting the face-to-face supervision licensure requirements. Distance Education programs minimize these barriers as it provides online collaborative learning for isolated residents that is engaging as it allows students to have real-time interactions with their instructors. This education option has produced many successful students who were able to obtain their degree while continuing to serve the community they are connected with and committed to.

To obtain licensure of clinical social work, it would be beneficial to have the video conferencing service for supervision because I feel it has been an effective form of communication for education purposes. It will also motivate students residing in rural areas to acquire their clinical licensure since they will have access to qualified supervisors across the state. Populating different parts of the state with more licensed clinical social workers will result in better access to quality care in our rural communities.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Courtney Cabebe (House District 10)  
ccabebe@hawaii.edu

February 16, 2016

The Honorable D. Morikawa, Chair and Members  
Committee on Human Services  
State House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2169, Relating to Social Workers

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 18, 2016

Time and Location of Hearing: 9:00 AM in House conference room 329

Dear Honorable D. Morikawa and Members,

My name is Courtney Harrison and I am a Distance Education Masters of Social Work Student from Hawai'i Island. I am testifying on behalf and **in support** of House Bill 2169 that aims to clarify the supervision requirements for social workers obtaining clinical licensure.

As a Distance Education Student, I face the challenges of not only obtaining a higher education, but also seeking qualified Licensed Clinical Social Workers in my community for potential supervision. Furthermore, conflict of interest concerns arise due to the nature of living in a small and rural community. This proposed bill would provide social workers' living in rural areas, such as those on the neighbor islands more opportunities to acquire clinical supervision hours. The bill further states that in addition to face-to-face supervision, any HIPAA certified video conferencing service will be sufficient to fulfill the supervision requirement for clinical licensure. I humbly ask that you consider supporting House Bill 2169.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Courtney A. H. Harrison  
Masters of Social Work Student  
Hilo, Hawai'i



Edward Thompson, III

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:08 AM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: dollytatofi@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dolly Tatofi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha mai kakou, Thank you to Senators BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, KEITH-AGARAN, KIDANI, NISHIHARA, Inouye, Tokuda for introducing this important housekeeping measure. I am in strong support of its passage. Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies and individuals in need at varying capacities. HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This is critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision. This bill will also allow for more Social Workers to gain clinical experience outside of an agency setting. This will only benefit our community as they have an even greater chance to acquire skilled Social Workers. Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated. Mahalo nunui loa, Dolly Tatofi, MSW, LSW, LCSW

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To: House Committee on Human Services  
Rep. Dee Morikawa, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Re: Support for HB 2169 Relating to Social Workers; Licensed Clinical Social Workers;  
Licensing Requirements; Supervision

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 18, 2016

Time: 9:00 AM

Place: Conference Room 329  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

My name is Loren Case and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) in the Social Work Distance Education Program. My current location is on the Big Island of Hawaii. I am writing in support of HB 2169 to clarify the supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social workers through face-to-face supervision or via Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-certified video conferencing service.

During my time as a graduate student on the Big Island I have had the chance to do multiple internships with the Judiciary and Department of Health. During my internships video conferencing was a vital piece for communication with clients and other centers. On the Big Island the demand for social work services are most needed in rural areas where transportation options are limited. Fewer Licensed Clinical Social Workers work in rural areas and thus it is very important to have the option for supervision via video conference service. During one of my internships I had to drive two hours a day just to get to and from my supervision sessions which was very challenging mentally and financially.

Due to rural locations throughout the State of Hawaii where individuals seek out work and experience to fulfill their total of three thousand hours, it is important to integrate the requirement of face-to-face supervision with supervision via Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-certified conferencing service which will count towards the required one hundred supervision hours. The reason being that it is difficult for individuals in rural areas to meet the face-to-face supervision requirements. Transportation is poor in most of the rural areas and many centers have been starting to use video conferencing services as a main way for communication. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support HB 2169.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to express my opinion.

Respectfully submitted,

Loren Case  
llcase@hawaii.edu

# Robin Gene Arndt

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February 16, 2016

Testimonial Support for HB2169

Committee on Human Services

February 18, 2016      9:00 AM      Conference Room 329

Aloha Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robin Arndt and I am a Licensed Social Worker in the State of Hawaii. I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony and I strongly support SB2269.

Thank you to Representatives McKelvey, Fukumoto, Chang, Aquino, Cullen, and Morikawa for introducing this important housekeeping measure.

Licensed Social Workers (LSW) and Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) provide integral services to individuals in need throughout the state. HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7. Specifically, this housekeeping measure provides important clarification on the way in which supervision for those working towards the LCSW is provided. This will increase the opportunity for neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers to access and obtain clinical supervision. These rural areas can often experience a shortage of qualified LCSW professionals, making it difficult for face-to-face supervision to occur.

Thank you again for this opportunity. I humbly request your support of this housekeeping measure.

Sincerely,

Robin G. Arndt

*✧ Sharon K. Usagawa MSW, DCSW, LCSW ✧*  
970 N. Kalaheo Avenue Suite C201 Kailua, Hawaii 96734  
ph: 808-386-8523 email: [skulcsw@aol.com](mailto:skulcsw@aol.com)

February 16, 2016

Thank you to Senators McKelvey, Fukumoto-Chang, Aquino, Cullen and Morikawa for introducing this important housekeeping measure. I am in strong support of its passage.

Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies and individuals in need. SB2269/HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This is critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision.

As an LCSW, I have personally confronted conflicting answers to the provision of supervision hours for Licensure Candidates that are employed in a setting without a Licensed Clinical Professional available on site to provide them supervision. This revision will provide valuable and necessary clarification to make Licensure at the Clinical level more accessible and in turn create a higher level of professionalism and client accessibility, which then ultimately benefits the consumer.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sharon K. Usagawa LCSW*

Sharon K. Usagawa LCSW

Le'a Moses  
[leam@hawaii.edu](mailto:leam@hawaii.edu)

February 17, 2016

To: Representative McKelvey  
Representative Fukumoto Chang  
Representative Aquino  
Representative Cullen  
Representative Morikawa  
Committee on Human Services  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

From: Le'a Moses, BSW

RE: HB2169, Relating to Social Workers, Support

Representatives and Committee members, I am testifying in support of HB2169, Relating to Social Workers. My name is Le 'a Moses and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in the School of Social Works Distance Educations Program. I support this bill for the following reason:

- Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies, and individuals in need. HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA.
- The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O 'ahu social workers to obtain clinical supervision. This is critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face-to-face supervision.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,  
Le'a Moses, BSW

**LATE**

February 17, 2016

TO: Rep. Morikawa, Chair, Rep. Kobayashi, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Human Services

HEARING DATE: Thursday, February 18, 2106, 9:00 am, room 329

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW

RE: HB 2169 Relating to Social Workers

WRITTEN TESTIMONY in SUPPORT

Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi and members of the House Committee on Human Services. I am testifying in strong support of HB 2169 Relating to Social Workers.

I was the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter in 1994 when we first established the LSW license for social workers in the state and in 2002 when we added licensing for bachelor level social workers (LBSW) and clinical social workers (LCSW). At that time, 14 years ago, the technology for video conferencing was still fairly new and not fully accepted as a means of communication for a profession that is historically based on face-to-face interaction. In fact, at that time we were very skeptical and cautious about using technology to do therapy. Today the technology has matured and become very sophisticated. Security and privacy issues have been resolved and it is an accepted mode of communication. Telehealth including the use of technology for therapeutic purposes is much more widely accepted than in 2002. In fact, professional education for our degrees and continuing education courses are also now provided via teleconferencing or online. Our professional practice has evolved to embrace technology and so must our statute change to incorporate these new advances.

This bill allows the option of either face-to-face or a HIPAA compliant video conferencing to meet supervision requirements for licensing. Additionally, this will make it easier for our colleagues on the neighbor islands to receive supervision for their clinical license.

We need our profession to keep up with the times and HB 2169 will help us do that. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2169.

**LATE**

RE:SB2269/HB2169

Thank you to Senators BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, KEITH-AGARAN, KIDANI, NISHIHARA, Inouye, Tokuda for introducing this important housekeeping measure. I am in strong support of its passage.

Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provide integral services to many of our department, agencies and individuals in need. SB2269/HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA. The housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This will allow more neighbor island and rural O'ahu social workers, one of which I am, to obtain clinical supervision. This critical as rural areas have a shortage of licensed professionals able to provide face to face supervision.

Your support of this housekeeping measure is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lawrence P. Ritter, MSW  
Waianae, HI 96792

**LATE**

Thank you House Members for considering this important housekeeping measure. I am in strong support of its passage.

As a graduate student getting ready to graduate this May with my Masters in Social Work, this piece of legislation is extremely important to me. Living on the Big Island provides a challenge regarding licensure because of the shortage of licensed professional who can provide direct supervision. As our island leads the state in many categories of social problems, the need for Licensed and Licensed Clinical Social Workers to provide integral services to many of our departments, agencies and individuals in need, is in very high demand. I feel that HB2169 provides much needed clarification to wording in HRS 467E-7 which will greatly ease the licensure process for the DCCA and remove some of the challenges that those like me who seek to become a Licensed Social Worker face. This housekeeping measure also provides important clarification to supervision provided in person or through video conferencing. This option to supervision, allowing it to occur face to face or via video conferencing and remove the complicated language, would mean a huge leap forward in our ability to access clinical supervision. By passing this measure it would allow more neighbor island and other rural area social workers to meet the crucial clinical supervision requirement necessary for licensure and expand services to the areas that really need it the most. You have my deep appreciation for supporting this measure.

Mahalo for your consideration, time and effort regarding this matter.

Michael A. Sado  
BA, Sociology



**LATE**

Edward Thompson, III

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 1:48 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: wendyyosh@gmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2169 on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM\*

**HB2169**

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 18, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendy Yoshioka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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