



February 2016

Joyce Masamitsu  
Director, Public Policy  
Pacific and North Central Markets  
HQ Public Policy, Law and Security

The Honorable Dee Morikawa  
Chair, House Committee on Human Services  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room 442  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 2639 – Domestic Abuse Victim – In Support

Dear Chair Morikawa, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

On behalf of Verizon, I submit this testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 2639. This legislation provides liability protections for wireless service providers to transfer billing authority to a victim of domestic violence, at their request, and to release them without penalty from a shared wireless plan. Additionally, HB 2639 allows greater flexibility for service providers to complete the transfer and provisioning of service for a victim of domestic violence with a 48 hour period.

Verizon appreciates Chair Morikawa's willingness to work in cooperative effort with the wireless industry, to provide assurances that a service provider's desire to assist survivors of domestic violence in their time of need, does not place companies at unnecessary risk of litigation for simply doing the right thing.



Verizon has long been recognized as a philanthropic leader providing support to survivors of domestic violence. Through our HopeLine Program, Verizon supports the efforts of domestic violence organizations and agencies to prevent domestic violence; to educate communities on cultivating healthy relationships; and to empower victims and survivors with resources and tools to rebuild and succeed.

Through HopeLine, we aim to prevent, educate and empower.

HopeLine provides ways for individuals to take action against domestic violence by donating no-longer-used wireless phones, batteries, chargers and accessories in any condition, from any service provider. Verizon turns these resources into support for domestic violence organizations and programs nationwide.

Since its launch in October 2001, HopeLine has collected more than 11.4 Million phones nationwide. Verizon also donates wireless phones, complete with voice and text capabilities, to local domestic violence shelters and non-profit organizations and agencies for use by victims and survivors. These phones serve as a vital link to support services and provide a safe line of communication to family, loved ones and employers. Through HopeLine, Verizon has donated over 190,000 phones to domestic violence victims and survivors across the country.

Additionally, through HopeLine, Verizon has awarded over \$24 Million in cash grants to worthy non-profit organizations and agencies in recognition of their commitment to support victims of domestic violence. HopeLine supports programs and initiatives across the nation that aim to end the domestic violence epidemic by promoting community awareness and educating our youth to "break the cycle" of domestic violence.

This is Verizon's commitment to help the 1 in 3 women, 1 in 4 men and more than 3 million children in the United States impacted by domestic violence.



Verizon has also awarded grants and resources to many organizations and agencies in Hawaii that provide direct assistance to victims of domestic violence. In the past six years alone, the Verizon Foundation, including our HopeLine program, has donated over three hundred thousand dollars in cash grant awards and in-kind giving of phones and wireless service to Hawaii organizations. Domestic Violence is one of Verizon's pillars for philanthropic giving. Our goal is to support community outreach and education programs of local non-profits, and to help survivors to not only cope and recover but to empower them to thrive in a new life they build for themselves by providing them with the tools they need to succeed.

For the above reasons, Verizon respectfully requests Chair Morioka and Committee members to PASS HB 2639.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on this measure.

Joyce Masamitsu

Edward Thompson, III

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 9:22 AM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: brenda.coleman@sprint.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2639 on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM\*

**HB2639**

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brenda M. Coleman	Sprint	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Edward Thompson, III

---

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:05 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB2639 on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM\*

**HB2639**

Submitted on: 2/11/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dara Carlin, M.A.	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**LATE**

Edward Thompson, III

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 5:51 PM  
To: HUS testimony  
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2639 on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM

**HB2639**

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for HUS on Feb 16, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann S Freed	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Morikawa, The Coalition supported this bill last year and continues to support it this year. Perpetrators of domestic violence often use shared wireless phone contracts as a way to further abuse victims. They can and have wracked up excessive charges and/or used the contract as a way to find the victim. This bill would protect victims from such harm. Please pass this bill out of Committee. Mahalo, Ann S. Freed Co-Chair, Hawaii Women's Coalition

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)