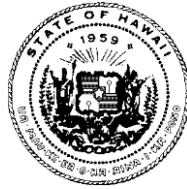


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RACHAEL WONG, DrPH
DIRECTOR

PANKAJ BHANOT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96808

February 4, 2016

TO: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: HB 2641, Relating to Domestic Violence

Hearing: Friday, February 5, 2016, 11:30 a.m.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department appreciates the intent of this measure as dissemination of information in the workplace about domestic violence resources is important to achieving safety for victims and their families. The DHS offers the following comments: it is not necessary to legislate DHS to provide this information to the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR) as it is readily available and DHS already maintains call numbers to different domestic violence services providers on its website. The DHS defers to DLIR regarding implementation and enforcement of additional mandated workplace signage.

However, if the committee envisions additional print media to be made available, then potentially an appropriation of general funds will be required.

PURPOSE: This bill mandates the Department of Human Services (DHS) to create a domestic violence call sheet with a domestic violence legal hotline number and domestic violence shelter hotline number. It also requires all employers to post the call sheet in the workplace and requires DHS and the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR) to make

an electronic version available on their websites. This bill imposes a fine of \$100 for employers for failure to comply.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-7233(SAFE)/1-800-787-3224(TTY), is federally funded and is available 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Additionally, the National Domestic Violence Hotline offers live chat from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m., Central Time, and maintains for Deaf callers video phone Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or by text at the TTY number indicated above.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline is linked to the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV). HSCADV hosts an excellent website, www.hscadv.org, with state wide referral resources. There are other locally based non-profits that host similar information for victims, family members and survivors, as well as referral phone numbers.

The Department contracts with domestic violence shelter providers, and as part of the contract, requires shelter providers to provide a hotline and answer calls 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Child & Family Services (CFS) maintains the following Domestic Abuse Hotlines: O'ahu: 841-0822, West Hawaii: (808)322-7233, and East Hawai'i: (808)959-8864.

The Hawaii State Commission on Fatherhood, an attached commission, already posts on the DHS website, telephone numbers to local domestic violence resources, including the number for the Domestic Violence Advocacy Center, 531-3771. The Department most certainly may add the information of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, the HSCADV, and the 24/7 Domestic Abuse Hotline numbers, perhaps in a more prominent place on the website. However, this does not require legislation.

The Department will certainly work with community providers and the DLIR regarding the text of the workplace signage, and consequently, a statutory change is not required to mandate DHS.

The Department defers to DLIR with regard to implementing an additional mandated workplace signage and ask the committee to allow sufficient time by effectuating a reasonable date for the Departments to develop the requested message.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

February 3, 2016

To: The Honorable Dee Morikawa, Chair,
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Human Services

To: The Honorable Mark Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Date: Friday, February 5, 2016
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 2641 Relating to Domestic Violence

Chairs Morikawa & Nakashima, Vice Chairs Kobayashi & Keohokalole, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Linda Chu Takayama and I am the Director of DLIR. We support this measure as it pertains to DLIR, which is intended to make information available through the workplace to help victims of domestic violence obtain support.

Domestic violence figures prominently among social issues in Hawaii. The preponderance of evidence indicates that psychological, emotional, and behavioral difficulties in abused mothers and their children should be treated at the earliest possible stage of intervention in order to forestall the emergence of effects that are more serious and problems. The posting of information in the workplace for domestic violence victims will likely lead to more of those persons obtaining information and help. Moreover, I believe that requiring a poster in the workplace would “normalize” domestic violence victims’ rights and the availability of support, similar to the way workers view

our other required posters: that rights and remedies exist for this problem.

In closing, I appreciate the drafters' recognition of our department's resource constraints in including language that requires us to make available the poster on our website for employers to print.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

kobayashi2-Jessi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:24 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: susan.wurtzburg@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2641 on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM*

HB2641

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for HUS/LAB on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan J. Wurtzburg	American Association of University Women, Hawaii	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

kobayashi2-Jessi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 3:52 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2641 on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM

HB2641

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for HUS/LAB on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Standing in STRONG SUPPORT!!! :)

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



LATE

TO: Chair Dee Morikawa
Vice Chair Bertrand Kobayashi
Members of the Committee

FR: Kiri Siu, LMFT
Advocacy Manager
Domestic Violence Action Center

RE: HB2641 (Support)

Aloha. And thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

I am submitting testimony in support of HB 2641, being heard on 2-5-16 which requires employers to post an information sheet with domestic violence hotlines and domestic violence shelters in the workplace. I believe that education and awareness are the first steps in working to end domestic violence. Many times, if a domestic violence victim is employed, the workplace might be the only place that the victim is away from the abuser and able to reach out for help. Having this information accessible to employees would offer one more place that a victim might learn about resources that could increase safety. Employers can take this simple step to raise awareness about domestic violence. Studies have shown that Domestic Violence has a cost to society due to missed work, lower production and medical injuries. This bill benefits everyone.

kobayashi2-Jessi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 10:12 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: rebezamo@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2641 on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM



HB2641

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for HUS/LAB on Feb 5, 2016 11:30AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebeca Zamora	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill.

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