

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF BARBERING AND COSMETOLOGY**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2017

Tuesday, February 28, 2017
2:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 680, H.D. 1, RELATING TO INTIMATE PARTNER
VIOLENCE.**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Margaret Williams and I am a member of the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology ("Board"). Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill No. 680, House Draft 1, Relating to Intimate Partner Violence. This bill proposes to require persons licensed under Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") chapters 438 and 439 to complete a one-time training program that would enable them to be aware of and recognize signs of intimate partner violence shown by their beauty culture or barbering clients. Should a licensee observe indications that the client is experiencing such violence, the licensee would then have been trained and provided with resources to address the problem, such as referring the client to the appropriate social services or domestic violence organizations.

The Board supports the intent of this bill; however, the Board identified and discussed a number of concerns for which the Board respectfully requests the Committee's consideration at this time.

Board members who are licensed barbers and beauty operators stated that in their many years of professional experience, no one had ever confided that he or she was a victim of intimate partner violence. They also stated that they had never witnessed physical indications that a client is experiencing such violence. The Board questioned whether the proposal would actually be beneficial to address the problem of intimate partner violence.

The Board also questioned why only barbers and beauty operators were included in the proposal. Board members stated that perhaps massage therapists and other personal service providers should be included in the measure.

Barbers and beauty operators are engaging in their professions in order to provide beauty culture and barbering services to their clients, and Board members expressed concern that the proposal would elevate the level of responsibility of the licensee beyond the scope of practice that a barber or beauty operator should be expected to perform.

The Board is also concerned about the real possibility of retaliation against licensees for being involved in recognizing signs of violence and advising their clients of available resources. Retaliation and additional violence are real possibilities should the perpetrator of the violence become aware of the licensee's involvement in the situation.

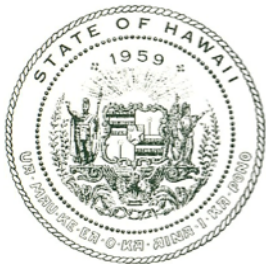
Should the bill pass, the Board is concerned about the cost of such training for applicants and for licensees as a condition of license renewal. The financial burden as well as the time away from employment will certainly impact the licensee, and will need to be considered.

The Board also requests that the Committee consider one point that needs to be clarified in this bill. In addition to barbers, cosmetologists, estheticians, hairdressers, nail technicians, and beauty instructors, licensees under HRS chapters 438 and 439 include barber shops, beauty shops, and beauty schools. These entities would not be able to participate in the proposed awareness training, and there may be confusion as to whether the owners or managers of these entities would need to comply with the training requirements. Neither HRS chapter 438 nor chapter 439 includes a definition of “person”; however, the Professional and Vocational Licensing Act, HRS chapter 436B, defines “person” as “an individual, partnership, joint venture, corporation, association, business, trust, or any organized group of persons or legal entity, or any combination thereof”. Therefore, the bill should clarify that the training would be required of individual licensees only.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that the Board supports the intent of this bill, however, the Board respectfully requests that the Committee consider the above-mentioned concerns identified by the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill No. 680, House Draft 1, Relating to Intimate Partner Violence. I will be available to answer any questions that the Committee may have.

HAWAII
STATE
COMMISSION
ON THE
STATUS
OF
WOMEN



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February 28, 2017

To: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and
Commerce

From: Cathy Betts
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support, HB 680, HD1, Relating to Intimate Partner
Violence

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 680, HD1, which would require licensees under the board of barbering and cosmetology to complete a one time training program on intimate partner violence awareness and education.

In 2016, Illinois became the first state to pass legislation similar to HB 680, HD1. It was sponsored by State Senator Bill Cunningham whose wife was a former hairstylist who shared incidents of domestic violence told to her by trusted clients. The purpose of the measure was to equip those who work in the cosmetology and barbering fields with important information to assist survivors of intimate partner violence.

Those in the beauty industry have a unique opportunity to notice signs of abuse. Professionals in the grooming and beauty industry often enjoy close relationships with their clients. These professionals have a unique opportunity to provide advice, resource information, and assistance.

HB 680, HD1 is not broadly extensive or overburdensome. Requiring a one time training program on intimate partner violence would enable more professionals in these fields to recognize the signs of intimate partner violence and potentially direct their clients to much needed resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 680, HD1.



TO: Chair McKelvey
Vice Chair Ichiyama
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

FR: Nanci Kreidman, M.A.
Chief Executive Officer

RE: HB 680 HD1

Aloha! Thank you for considering the need for attention and training designed for the benefit of hairdressers, and others in related roles – professionals who may find themselves in a position of detecting or receiving confidential disclosures about partner abuse.

Although some training is better than none, preparing people with information on a one time basis or for such a short period of time may be insufficient to reach the goal. Partner abuse is a complex issue, largely misunderstood by the public and other intervenors. Learning about it in one hour would be impossible. Requiring more may be a deterrent to participation or passage of this Bill. However, the good intention could be disrupted if the guidance shared is not aligned with best practice, or potentially harmful to decisions made by those in risky relationships.

It may be wise to require a three hour training, at the very least. This would provide more time to describe the dynamics of abuse, understand the barriers for survivors, and be introduced to the community of resources available to assist.

Thank you for allowing us to participate in this community discussion.



February 23, 2016

To: Rep. Angus L.K. M Kelvey, Chair
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

From: Theresa Gilliland, Domestic Violence Educator
Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Re: Testimony in Support, HB 680, HD1 Relating to Intimate Partner Violence

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of HB 680. The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide Coalition made of 25 member programs that provide domestic violence services across all Islands in Hawaii. We would like to thank you for your ongoing efforts to work towards ensuring victims of domestic violence in Hawaii are safe.

HB 680 would require that a licensee under the board of barbering and cosmetology complete a one-time, one- hour training program on intimate partner violence awareness and education. This requirement would assist licensees in becoming more aware of the problem of intimate partner violence.

Licensed practitioners currently undergo between 350 and 1800 hours of education based on the varied fields of practice (Nail Technicians, Estheticians, Barbers, and Cosmetologists). The requested one- hour training could be implemented via training video or in person training as a part of the boards required theory hours. Although one- hour is a minimal amount of time for the duration of their careers it would allow for the provision of community resources.

It is the Coalitions belief that because of the close and often long standing relationships developed between licensed practitioners and their clientele that sensitive information regarding intimate partner violence may be disclosed, thus reiterating the importance of the practitioner having the skills and knowledge to be able to give the proper response to the victim. While ideally we would love to see extended training in this area, providing awareness is a positive start.

The training requested in HB 680 will assist licensees on how to react in these situations and best service the client (victim). Having knowledge of these community resources can prove to be a valuable asset in the unfortunate circumstance of Domestic Violence being disclosed.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to provide testimony in this matter.

Together we can do amazing things

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 1:28 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: annsfreed@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB680 on Feb 28, 2017 14:00PM

HB680

Submitted on: 2/28/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 28, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Ichiyama and members, the Coalition is in strong support of this legislation which will help victims of Domestic Violence by training people in the cosmetology profession to identify this deadly social ill. 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.

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