



To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Health and Human Services
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, Mar. 22, 2018, 9:00 a.m.
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 329
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in support of
H.C.R. 73/ H.R. 88, with an amendment

Dear Chair Mizuno and Members of the Committee,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii (“PPVNH”) writes in support of H.C.R. 73/ H.R. 88, and **respectfully requests an amendment to include representation from a community group that seeks to protect and promote the rights of LGBTI families.**

H.C.R. 73 and H.R. 88 promote reproductive justice in that they seek to address legal issues in Hawaii law that limits people’s ability to determine when and how they will have children as well as their ability to raise their children in a safe and supportive environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.C.R. 73/ H.R. 88, with an amendment.

Sincerely,

Laurie Field
Hawaii Legislative Director and Public Affairs Manager

LATE



Hawai'i LGBT Legal Association

March 22, 2018

TO: House Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Hawai'i LGBT Legal Association

RE: **Support for HCR 73/ HR 88**

Chair Mizuno, Vice-Chair Kobayashi, and committee members:

The Hawai'i LGBT Legal Association ("HLLA") is a voluntary professional organization of Hawai'i lawyers, legal workers and law students dedicated to the fair and just treatment of the LGBT community. **HLLA supports HCR 73/HR 88.**

LGBT couples routinely have children using assisted reproductive technology, including in vitro fertilization and surrogacy. The process for same-sex male couples necessarily involves surrogates and surrogacy agreements.

As noted in the Attorney General's Report on Surrogacy and Gestational Carrier Agreements, Hawaii's parentage statute is old and outdated and doesn't address surrogacy. The Hawaii Family Court has a process for confirming intended parents under gestational surrogacy agreements as legal parents. But it is lengthy and costly, involving post-birth paternity and stepparent adoption proceedings, which were not designed for surrogacy situations.

HLLA agrees with the Attorney General's assessment that it would be beneficial to update Hawaii's parentage law to address surrogacy and ensure that it applies equally to children born to same-sex couples. We support this resolution because it appears to be a step in that direction.

We also appreciate that the resolution proposes to seek input from community partners, including advocates and representatives of intended parents and surrogates. We believe this is vitally important.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sean Taylor
Board Member
Hawaii LGBT Legal Association