

**Testimony of the Board of Nursing**

**Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
2:15 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**On the following measure:  
S.B. 415, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HEALTH**

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lee Ann Teshima, and I am the Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing (Board). The Board appreciates the intent of this bill and offers comments.

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) establish a task force chaired by the director of health to review other states that allow advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) or similar health care providers to perform abortions, patient access to abortion services, and the costs of unintended teenage pregnancies; (2) study the State's Safe Haven Law; and (3) submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2020 Regular Session.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to participate in this task force to ensure that APRNs possess the requisite training to perform aspiration abortions if they are authorized to perform them.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



Submitted Online: March 18, 2019

Hearing: Wednesday 20, 2019 2:15 p.m. in room #329

TO: COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

FROM: Eva Andrade, President

RE: Comments on SB 415 SD2 HD1 Relating to Health

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of various Christian Churches and denominations. SB 415 SD1 was amended by the House Health Committee to create a task force to study the need for abortion expansion in Hawaii. We appreciate the concern expressed by the House Health Committee by not moving forward with so many unanswered questions regarding the alleged need.

Hawaii Family Forum has long opposed abortion in any form and of course, would oppose its expansion. However, we understand that abortion is legal and available. Everyone agrees that the protection and safety of women who choose to undergo this medical procedure should be a top concern. We strongly believe that that a woman with an unplanned pregnancy should have access to all options available including access to adoption services, counseling and education on healthy life choices which can include abstinence. However, in addition to abortion services, an exhaustive list of ALL these available services is lacking.

Groups can and should decide on which options to promote within their purview. Pregnancy Resource Centers should be free to promote their services without government interference and Planned Parenthood (and other groups like them) should be free to promote theirs whether we support them personally or not. In that manner, we believe the task force should be able to provide a unbiased and accurate report of ALL services provided in Hawaii relating to an unplanned pregnancy.

Before a group can work together as a task force, members must unite with a shared mission without prejudice. We agree that the participants serving on this task force should possess the knowledge and expertise necessary to accomplish the group's goals in a fair and unbiased manner. Successful task force groups include members with varying skills who work in different areas of expertise, thus offering diverse viewpoints. Hawaii Family Forum has worked hard over the past several years to present a fair and gracious response to controversial issues without changing any of our long-standing positions on life, family and religious freedom.

We would welcome the opportunity to participate in the task force in a fair and balanced manner as long as we are able to protect the resources available that do not include abortion expansion or put us in a position of presenting a report that would be contrary to our deeply held religious convictions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and special mahalo to the Health committee for putting their faith in us..



**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Wednesday, March 20, 2019 2:15 p.m.**

**by  
Laura Reichhardt, MS, AGNP-C, APRN  
Director, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

**WRITTEN COMMENTS  
SB 415, SD1, HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH**

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, thank you for this opportunity to provide written comments related to this bill, SB 415, SD1, HD1. This bill, if enacted, authorizes advanced practice registered nurses to perform aspiration abortions.

The mission of the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing is that through collaborative partnerships, the Center provides accurate nursing workforce data for planning, disseminates nursing knowledge to support excellence in practice and leadership development, promotes a diverse workforce, and advocates for sound health policy to serve the changing health care needs of the people of Hawai'i.

The Center offers the following information for your committee's review:

- The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing conducts biennial research on the nursing workforce supply. The most recent Hawai'i Nursing Supply Report, published in 2017, finds that advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) have grown 104% in 12 years, and are present all over Hawai'i, bringing primary care to the communities where people live and work. Further, 100% of APRNs on Hawai'i, Maui, and Kaua'i Counties and nearly 5% of APRNs on Honolulu City and County work in HRSA defined Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs).
- California, New York, Montana, Oregon, Vermont, and New Hampshire laws or rules enable non-physician providers to perform abortions. The two most recent enacted legislation is from California and New York.
- Education models exist to develop expert providers in abortion care services. Research findings on these education models are as follows:
  - McLemore, Monica R., Amy Levi, and E. Angel James. "Recruitment and Retention Strategies for Expert Nurses in Abortion Care

Provision.” *Contraception* 91, no. 6 (June 2015): 474–79.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.contraception.2015.02.007>.

Findings: Clear mechanisms exist to develop expert nurses in abortion care provision.

- Taylor, Diana; Safriet, Barbara; Dempsey, Grayson; Kruse, Beth; and Jackson, Courtney. “Advanced Provider Clinician Toolkit on Providing Abortion Care: A Professional Toolkit for Nurse-Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants” <http://apctoolkit.org/wp-content/themes/apctoolkit/index.html>

Findings: There is evidence of abortion care education in entry-level APC programs, with clinical training lagging didactic education. However, education and training in abortion care knowledge and skills, including medication and aspiration abortion provision, are offered in a number of postgraduate training programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments related to this measure.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 5:12:44 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii supports the passage of SB 94 SD1 HD1. We respectfully request that SB 94 not only does the study but allows APRNs or similar health care providers to perform abortions while the study takes place.

Mahalo for your consideration and for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.  
Chair  
LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii



To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 2:15 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 329  
Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in support of intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, with amendments

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committees,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii (“PPVNH”) writes in support of the intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, which originally sought to remove burdensome and unnecessary restrictions on abortion access in Hawaii. However, we are disappointed by amendments made in the most recent version of this legislation, HD 1, and request amendments to restore the language from SD1. Rather than making needed changes to expand and improve access to abortion in our state, this most recent version of S.B. 415 establishes an unnecessary task force. We request that this committee amend S.B. 415 to reflect the requirements in SD1 to make meaningful improvements to abortion access in Hawaii.

### **Abortion Access in Hawaii**

Current Hawaii law prohibits anyone other than physicians and surgeons from providing abortions. However, other types of providers, including advanced registered nurse practitioners (APRNs) can provide equally safe abortion care. A 2018 review by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examined available research comparing the outcomes of abortions provided by physicians with those provided by nurse practitioners and other advanced practice clinicians. This review concluded that APRNs are just as capable of providing safe and effective abortion care when they have received proper training.<sup>1</sup>

The same review concluded that limits that prevent otherwise-qualified providers from providing abortions “are more burdensome for women who reside far from providers and/or who have limited resources.” This is true in Hawaii, where our state’s provider restrictions have led to a shortage of abortion providers that present a real-life barrier to access for many people in Hawaii. Without the ability to access abortion in real life, the legal right to an abortion is meaningless for people in Hawaii.

We know that many people in Hawaii live on an island without a provider or with limited access to a provider. People on Kauai, Molokai and Lanai must travel to Oahu or Maui for

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<sup>1</sup> Nat'l Academies of Sciences, Eng'g, & Med., *The Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the United States (Abortion Care)* 159 (2018).

care. On the Big Island, abortion care is only provided one day per month and on Maui, one day every other week. When people face such geographic barriers to abortion access, they are forced to delay care, travel long distances to access care, and face increased costs for travel, lodging, childcare, and other expenses. If people are unable to travel to another island due to these costs or other barriers, they may not be able to access abortion at all.

### **The Impact on People in Hawaii**

Planned Parenthood has seen firsthand the negative impact that this unnecessary barrier has on our patients and on the ability of people in Hawaii to access the care they need. In 2018, more than ten percent of our abortion patients in Hawaii had to travel between islands to receive abortion care. There are likely many other people who are unable to travel between islands who do not receive the care they need when they need it.

This provider restriction also negatively impacts Planned Parenthood's ability to provide accessible health care that meets the needs of our patients. Because many providers are not currently allowed to provide abortion care, Hawaii has a significant shortage of abortion providers. This shortage limits Planned Parenthood's ability to provide scheduling flexibility to our patients, making our services less accessible for some patients. It also burdens the abortion providers themselves, who often spend large amounts of time traveling between islands to meet patient need.

### **Join the Growing Number of States Removing Burdensome Physician-Only Requirements**

S.B. 415, SD1, is a simple, commonsense solution to these challenges for patients and providers. Other states have already taken similar steps to decrease barriers to abortion access. For example, both California and Oregon already allow ARNPs to independently provide both medication and aspiration abortions. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, the Attorney General of Washington issued an opinion stating that APRNs can provide abortions in Washington state without a physician being present.<sup>2</sup> And other states that have left similarly burdensome restrictions in place, including Maine and Montana, are experiencing legal challenges to these restrictions.

In the recent Supreme Court case *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, the Court stated that any regulation that places a substantial obstacle for people seeking abortion or that unduly burdens abortion access violates the Fourteenth Amendment. Washington's recent Attorney General opinion recognized that restricting qualified providers such as ARNPs from providing abortions is likely to place an undue burden on people seeking abortion because it unnecessarily restricts access while conferring no medical benefit. The opinion noted that "we think it is unclear whether a physician-only requirement would survive a Fourteenth Amendment challenge in light of *Whole Woman's Health* and the National Academies' recent conclusions that non-physicians can safely and effectively provide medication and aspiration abortions."

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.atg.wa.gov/ago-opinions/authority-advanced-registered-nurse-practitioners-and-physician-assistants-perform-pre>

Hawaii legislators should remove undue burdens that prevent people in Hawaii from accessing the care they need by amending S.B. 415, SD1, HD1 by amending the bill to restore the language from S.B. 415, SD1.

### **Amend S.B. 415 to Meaningfully Improve Abortion Access**

We also respectfully request that the committee further amend S.B. 415 to create concrete improvements to abortion access in Hawaii. HD1 amended this legislation to remove language that would meaningfully improve abortion access and instead establish a task force studying, among other things, other states that allow APRNs to provide abortions and national unintended pregnancy rates. However, such a task force is redundant and unnecessary. As discussed earlier in our testimony, there is a growing body of research showing that APRNs can safely and competently provide abortion care. National data about unintended pregnancy rates is readily available, and the geographic barriers to health care that people in Hawaii experience are already well documented. It is time for the legislature to act, and we request that the committee amend S.B. 415 to bring it in line with the language in SD1.

While we appreciate the interest of the legislature in gaining more information about the costs of teen pregnancy, this information is readily available. For instance, the National Conference of State Legislatures reported that the public cost of teen childbearing in Hawaii in 2010 was \$32 million.<sup>3</sup>

Hawaii has long been a leader in expanding and protecting access to the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion. Our current provider restrictions reduce health care access without any benefit to the health or safety of people in Hawaii, creating an undue burden for people in Hawaii seeking abortion care. A growing number of states are recognizing that removing unnecessary provider restrictions is a safe and effective way to improve access to abortion. We urge legislators to support S.B. 415 and amend it to remove unnecessary barriers to abortion and make sure that all people in Hawaii, no matter where in the state they live, can access safe, legal abortion care.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this commonsense legislation to improve health care access in our state.

Sincerely,

Laurie Field  
Hawaii State Director

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/teen-childbearing-is-costly-to-taxpayers.aspx>



**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 3:55:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Duffy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support the recommendation for the creation of a task force. I think it is wise to look at and study this issue before moving forward.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE  
S.B. 415, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, HSCR 1372, RELATING TO HEALTH  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019  
2:15 P.M., CONFERENCE ROOM 329

Chairman Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donna Van Osdol, and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Federation of Republican Women (“HFRW”) as its President. The HFRW strongly opposes this bill and any bill that will help continue the slaughter of the unborn.

As I stated in my previous testimony, since there is a doctor shortage here in Hawaii, the abortion industry is stooping to a new low because now they want to tap into the nursing industry so their culture of infanticide persists. I sincerely hope that the women and men who have succeeded in their nursing careers and have educated themselves by becoming APRNs will use their much-needed skills for the betterment of mankind and not help destroy it. I am saying this statement because the abortion doctors have tainted their noble profession.

I have a question to ask all of you. Have you been inside an abortion clinic? If you haven't, I'm simply assuming you continue to rejoice in the carnage left behind because you simply approve of abortions. Or, have you seen photos of aborted babies recently? Please view this link as a reminder as to what abortions are about:

<http://100abortionphotos.com/>

Task forces, in my view, are a total waste of tax payers' hard-earned monies. There are other critical issues our legislators need to be focusing on: protecting our coastlines from the ever encroaching ocean (remember, Waikiki and our airport are near the ocean); fixing our homeless problem which continues to grow; using unused land for crops to help feed our population, especially our poor children and their families; fixing all of our infrastructure; and finding a way to lower the cost of homes so our children don't need to move away, to name a few. Work on solutions to help the taxpayer save money rather than wasting it!

For the reasons I have stated above, please **KILL THE BILL; CONCENTRATE ON THE CRITICAL ISSUES I HAVE NOTED ABOVE, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...**

**SAVE THE BABY!**

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 10:03:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rose Davis	Concerned Women For America Of Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

As a woman living in Hawaii since 1961 I feel I speak for many of my family and friends to say we feel that Bill SB415 to allow nurses to do the work of doctors is very short sighted and dangerous. Having a task force research the programs in other states is not a wise use of Hawaii State Funds.

In light of the fact that most people do not think abortions should be done except in very rare cases this is totally disregarding the public view of health care in Hawaii.

Thank you for hearing my perspective.

Aloha,

Rose Davis

# HLA

Hearing: Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 @ 2:15PM

To: Chair Roy Takumi  
Vice Chair Ichiyama  
Members on the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

From: Janet Grace, Director, Hawaii Life Alliance

RE: SB415 HD1

Hawaii Life Alliance believes that life begins at conception and ends at natural death. We are also committed to supporting those through non-judgmental love and support, pregnancy education and health options, who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy. SB415 HD1 was amended by the House Health Committee to develop a task force to study if there is a legitimate need for expanding abortion statewide.

As an alliance we understand abortion is legal and available through hospitals and approved clinics. We believe that abortion should be allowed in only the safest conditions, which also means performed by licensed physicians or surgeons.

We submit comments only to this amendment and hope if passed that the process is fair, balanced and unbiased.

Hawaii has very few restrictions on a women's right to choose, for example, there are no waiting periods, no residency requirements, no parental notification or parental consent laws. The ability for women and girls to have access to abortion services due to geographical barriers, number of providers statewide has not been addressed as an issue since Act 1 in March of 1970 when abortion became law in Hawaii.

However, again, we do welcome this opportunity to have experts who are unbiased, have the acceptable skills with diverse areas of expertise to study such an important issue whether or not to allow APRN's to performs abortions.

We do support a review of national teenage unplanned pregnancy and strongly support more abstinence education, adoption education/

awareness and pregnancy resource centers be included as a viable resource for women and girls statewide contemplating and abortion.

Those in the noble profession of APRN's who have deeply held beliefs that abortion goes against their rights of conscious obviously should be exempt from participating in performing any type of abortion procedures.

*(which is both state and federal law)*

Thank you for allowing us to comment in a concerted effort to ensure women and girls have only the safest access to abortion in Hawaii.

Mahalo!



## of Hawaii

March 19, 2019

From: Younghee Overly, Public Policy Chair, AAUW Hawaii

To: Hawaii State House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 20th, 2019, 2:15 p.m.

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 329

Re: Testimony in support of intent of SB415 SD1 HD1 with amendments

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice-Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committees,

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Hawaii writes in support of the intent of SB415 SD1 HD1, which originally sought to remove burdensome and unnecessary restrictions on abortion access in Hawaii. We are disappointed by amendments made in the most recent version of this legislation, HD 1, and request amendments to restore the language from SD1. Rather than making needed changes to expand and improve access to abortion in our state, this most recent version of S.B. 415 establishes an unnecessary task force. We request that this committee amend S.B. 415 to reflect the requirements in SD1 to make meaningful improvements to abortion access in Hawaii.

As you know, Hawaii's unique geography combined with our outdated physician-only restriction on abortion creates unnecessary barriers to the women seeking abortion. The barriers are greater to those who cannot afford the time and/or money to travel between islands. A growing number of research shows that advanced practice clinicians – nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and physician assistants – are able to safely provide both medical and surgical abortion.<sup>1</sup> The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) also recommends training and allowing advanced practice clinicians to provide abortion.<sup>2</sup> AAUW of Hawaii supports the intent of this bill for it would expand access to reproductive health for women of Hawaii.

AAUW of Hawaii is a state-wide organization made up of six branches (Hilo, Honolulu, Kauai, Kona, Maui, and Windward Oahu) and includes just over 450 active members with over 1700 supporters statewide. As advocates for gender equity, AAUW of Hawaii promotes the economic, social, and physical well-being of all persons.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit a testimony on this important matter.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3673521/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25437741>



**Date Submitted:** March 19, 2019

**Hearing Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
2:15 pm, Conference Room 329

**To:** Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,  
Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

**From:** Stacey Jimenez, Executive Director

**Re: Comments relating to SB 415 HD1, Relating to Health**

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to offer comments regarding the task force to be formed with SB 415 HD1. As the bill is currently written, A Place for Women in Waipio opposes SB 415 HD1.

A Place for Women in Waipio is a pregnancy resource center that serves the community of Oahu. Though A Place for Women does not refer or perform abortions due to our religious beliefs, we do provide free pregnancy options counseling as well as abortion recovery classes for women who have had an abortion and are having a difficult time coping.

Although we oppose abortion, we do recognize that it is legal in Hawaii and appreciate the state doing a comprehensive study on the alleged need to expand abortion services before passing a law to do so. No matter our views on abortion, we can all agree that women in Hawaii deserve only the best medical care. We are concerned that lowering the standard of care, as the previous versions of this bill did, will hurt women.

One of the main points of the proposed task force is to determine abortion access in Hawaii. I would like for the committee to consider a few other questions.

- ◆ Is expanding abortion access what women in Hawaii experiencing an unintended pregnancy need? Or, do they need other types of support?
- ◆ Is abortion the preferred option of women? Or, do some only choose to abort their child due to a lack of other types of resources?
- ◆ Do women dealing with an unintended pregnancy have equal access and support from the state for parenting and adoption as they do for abortion?
- ◆ If expanding abortion services is found necessary by the task force, will the state equally expand services for those who want to parent or place their child into an adoptive family?
- ◆ Is the state aware of all the services available to women that need help with unintended pregnancies from outside charitable sources that already exist?
- ◆ How could abstinence education help young women in avoiding unexpected pregnancies?

In my years of experience talking with women in Hawaii who are dealing with unintended pregnancies, I have found that circumstances can be complicated and each woman has different needs. **Expanding abortion access may not be the need in this state that best serve women with unintended pregnancies. It would be a disservice to the women of Hawaii to study abortion access without studying the access of the other options for her and her family.**



Hawai'i

Committee: Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 2:15 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 329  
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i with Comments regarding S.B. 415, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, Relating to Health

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i") writes **with comments supporting the intent of S.B. 415, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, which establishes a task force to review, among other things, the possibility of allowing APRNs to perform abortions. While we support the intent behind this measure, we respectfully request that the language of S.B. 415, S.D. 1 be restored to the bill.**

Hawaii's current law requiring abortions to be provided by a physician creates a significant — sometimes, insurmountable — barrier to those who wish to terminate their pregnancy. This law and the burden it creates are so severe that it renders the state vulnerable to constitutional challenges.<sup>1</sup> This limit on who may perform abortions is a burden in and of itself, but is exacerbated by Hawaii's current physician shortage and its geography as an island state. Currently, people on Kauai, Molokai, and Lanai must travel to Oahu or Maui for abortion care. In addition to incurring the high cost of interisland travel, a person may also need to take time off from work, arrange childcare, and book lodging just to see their provider. In 2018, more than ten percent of Planned Parenthood's abortion patients in Hawai'i had to travel between islands to obtain care.

Hawaii's physician-only abortion requirement does not protect women's health or "[offer] medical benefits sufficient to justify the burdens upon access" that the law imposes.<sup>2</sup> APRNs can

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<sup>1</sup> See Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt, 136 S. Ct. 2292, 195 L. Ed. 2d 665 (2016), as revised (June 27, 2016).

<sup>2</sup> Id. at 2299.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i  
P.O. Box 3410  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801  
T: 808.522-5900  
F: 808.522-5909  
E: [office@acluHawai'i.org](mailto:office@acluHawai'i.org)  
[www.acluHawai'i.org](http://www.acluHawai'i.org)



Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

March 20, 2019

Page 2 of 2

safely provide abortion care.<sup>3</sup> Absent such a medical benefit, Hawaii's physician requirement may constitute an undue burden on abortion access, exposing the state to potential litigation similar to what has been brought in Maine.<sup>4</sup> The U.S. Constitution requires the connection between a law limiting access to abortion and the benefit to women's health to be *real*, and the medical benefit that the law provides for women's health must outweigh any burdens on access that the law creates for women. **We believe that Hawaii's law does not survive this test.**

**A task force is unnecessary. We already know that certain medical providers other than physicians can safely and competently provide abortion care. A task force merely delays the implementation of changes that are necessary to bring Hawaii's law into compliance with the federal and state constitutions.**

For the above reasons, we respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure in an amended form by reverting to the language of S.B. 415, S.D. 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mandy Fernandes  
Policy Director  
ACLU of Hawai'i

*The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for 50 years.*

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<sup>3</sup> Nat'l Academies of Sciences, Eng'g, & Med., *The Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the United States (Abortion Care)* 159 (2018).

<sup>4</sup> Wadsworth Women's Health Center v. Hamilton, No. Cum-17-494, Appellants Br. (Me. Supreme Judicial Ct. Feb. 2, 2018).

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To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Consumer Protector  
& Commerce  
Date/Time: Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 2:15 p.m.  
Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 329  
Re: Testimony in support of intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, with amendments

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committees,

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (HMHB) writes in support of the intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, which originally sought to remove burdensome and unnecessary restrictions on abortion access in Hawaii. However, we are disappointed by amendments made in the most recent version of this legislation, HD 1, and request amendments to restore the language from SD1. Rather than making needed changes to expand and improve access to abortion in our state, this most recent version of S.B. 415 establishes an unnecessary task force. We request that this committee amend S.B. 415 to reflect the requirements in SD1 to make meaningful improvements to abortion access in Hawaii.

HMHB also supports Planned Parenthood's suggestions to strengthen this legislation and do even more to improve health care access in our state by removing other barriers to care, including criminal penalties for abortion providers and a provision that allows hospitals to refuse to provide abortions.

### **Abortion Access in Hawaii**

Current Hawaii law prohibits anybody other than physicians and surgeons from providing abortions. However, other types of providers, including advanced practice registered nurses ("APRNs") can provide equally safe abortion care. A 2018 review by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examined available research comparing the outcomes of abortions provided by physicians with those provided by nurse practitioners and other advanced practice clinicians. This review concluded that APRNs are just as capable of providing safe and effective abortion care when they have received proper training.<sup>1</sup>

The same review concluded that limits that prevent otherwise-qualified providers from providing abortions "are more burdensome for women who reside far from providers and/or who have limited resources." This is true in Hawaii, where our state's provider restrictions have led to a shortage of abortion providers that presents a real-life barrier to access for many people in Hawaii. Without the ability to access abortion in real life, the legal right to an abortion is meaningless for people in Hawaii.

We know that many people live on an island without a provider or with limited access to a provider. People on Kauai, Molokai and Lanai must travel to Oahu or Maui for care. On the Big Island, abortion care is only provided one day per month and on Maui, one day every

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<sup>1</sup> Nat'l Academies of Sciences, Eng'g, & Med., *The Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the United States (Abortion Care)* 159 (2018).

other week. When people face such geographic barriers to abortion access, they are forced to travel long distances to access care, increasing costs for travel, lodging, childcare, and other expenses. And if people are unable to travel to another county or another island due to these costs or other barriers, they may not be able to access abortion at all.

This provider restriction also negatively impacts the ability to provide accessible health care that meets the needs of our patients. Because many providers are not currently allowed to provide abortion care, Hawaii has a significant shortage of abortion providers. It also burdens the abortion providers themselves, who often spend large amounts of time traveling between islands to meet the need for abortion.

### **Join the Growing Number of States Removing Burdensome Physician-Only Requirements**

S.B. 415, SD1, is a simple, commonsense solution to these challenges for patients and providers. Other states have already taken similar steps to decrease barriers to abortion access. For example, both California and Oregon already allow APRNs to independently provide both medication and aspiration abortions. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, the Attorney General of Washington issued an opinion stating that APRNs can provide abortions in Washington state without a physician being present.<sup>2</sup> And other states that have left similarly burdensome restrictions in place, including Maine and Montana, are experiencing legal challenges to these restrictions.

In the recent Supreme Court case *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, the Court stated that any regulation that places a substantial obstacle for people seeking abortion or that unduly burdens abortion access violates the Fourteenth Amendment. Washington's recent Attorney General opinion recognized that restricting qualified providers such as APRNs from providing abortions is likely to place an undue burden on people seeking abortion because it unnecessarily restricts access while conferring no medical benefit. The opinion noted that "we think it is unclear whether a physician-only requirement would survive a Fourteenth Amendment challenge in light of *Whole Woman's Health* and the National Academies' recent conclusions that non-physicians can safely and effectively provide medication and aspiration abortions."

Hawaii legislators should remove undue burdens that prevent people in Hawaii from accessing the care they need by amending S.B. 415, SD1, HD1 by amending the bill to restore the language from S.B. 415, SD1.

### **Amend S.B. 415 to Further Improve Abortion Access**

We also support proposed amendments to this legislation. Specifically, we respectfully request that legislators strengthen S.B. 415 by bringing it in line with the more robust improvements proposed in H.B. 1434.<sup>3</sup> This bill goes a step further than S.B. 415 and removes other barriers to care, including the criminal penalty faced by abortion providers

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.atg.wa.gov/ago-opinions/authority-advanced-registered-nurse-practitioners-and-physician-assistants-perform-pre>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/HB1434\\_.HTM](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/HB1434_.HTM)

and a provision that allows hospitals to refuse to provide abortions. It also recognizes that future advancements in the practice of medicine may allow additional provider types to safely and effectively provide abortion by allowing additional provider types to provide abortion if they are qualified to do so.

- The following language should be modified as follows to remove unnecessary and excessive criminal penalties that intimidate abortion providers:
  - (d) Any person who knowingly violates subsection (a) shall be fined not more than \$1,000 ~~or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.~~
- Currently, statute allows both individual health care providers and entire hospitals to refuse to provide abortions. Allowing hospitals to opt out of providing abortions creates a significant barrier to people seeking abortion. This is particularly true when an individual needs an abortion due to a medical emergency and may not be able to safely go to another hospital for the care they need. Existing refusal language should be modified as follows to protect the conscience of individual providers while also protecting abortion access for people in Hawaii:
  - (e) Nothing in this section shall require ~~any hospital or~~ any person to participate in an abortion nor shall ~~any hospital or any~~ that person be liable for a refusal; provided that the person has given prior written notice to the appropriate and responsible hospital, firm, corporation, or association, if applicable, and the refusal does not cause a serious risk to another person's health or life."
- S.B. 415 should also be amended to recognize that, as medical technology and practices advance, other provider types may become qualified to provide safe and effective abortion care. This will improve access to abortion care by allowing additional qualified health care providers to perform abortion. It should be amended by adding the following language:
  - (3) The abortion is performed by a licensed health care provider specified in paragraph (1) acting within the licensed health care provider's lawful scope of practice."

Taken together, these amendments will strengthen this legislation and do more to improve the ability of all people in Hawaii to access the health care they need. Hawaii has long been a leader in expanding and protecting access to the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion. Our current provider restrictions reduce health care access without any benefit to the health or safety of people in Hawaii, creating an undue burden for people in Hawaii seeking abortion care. We urge legislators to support S.B 415 and amend it to remove unnecessary barriers to abortion and make sure that all people in Hawaii, no matter where in the state they live, can access safe, legal abortion care.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this commonsense legislation to improve health care access in our state.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kimura  
Executive Director

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 6:13:12 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lea Minton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 12:47:49 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We don't need to lower women's health standards. I understand that the doctors doing abortions must get tired of seeing the aborted babies and would like someone else to have the blood on their hands. It must be horrific and cause nightmares. Many doctors refuse to participate in abortions. People don't like looking at pictures of aborted babies because it shows their humanity and reflects the barbaric nature of the procedure. Seeing the remains of a real baby must be so much worse than just looking at the picture. However, I would hope that abortion doctors would eventually respect the humanity of the baby and join those of us who will have nothing to do with taking the life of a living human being. All abortion gives you is a dead baby -- and sometimes it maims or kills the mother too. Since death can occur as a result of the abortion, we should keep the standards for this procedure high. Women don't want the odds of a mishap to increase over those that occur now with medical doctors. Don't waste our tax dollars studying ways to increase the risks to women. Do not pass this bill.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 2:18:06 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Danny Melton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Honorable Senators of Hawaii

I oppose this bill—quit trying to find more ways to kill the unborn. Instead find ways to protect the lives of the unborn babies and their mothers.

Respectdully

Dan Melton

Col USMC ret

Waipahu



**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 4:14:21 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JOY SCHOENECKER	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I Oppose this bill

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2019 5:28:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Toby Rushforth	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Rather than abandon patients to abortion, nursing should direct its efforts toward genuinely promoting the health and well-being of every patient, born and unborn.

ABORTION IS A SICKNESS THAT HAS SEIZED US TO MAKE SUCH KILLING ROUTINE.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 8:32:59 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 9:07:15 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandon Allen Kainoa Leong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Oppose

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 11:50:07 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please increase access to healthcare by supporting SB415. Thank you!

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 11:59:50 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Committee (CPC)**  
**Consumer Protection & Commerce**  
**Hearing Wednesday, March 20th. 2019**

Rep. **Roy M. Takumi, Chair**  
Rep. **Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair**

**Committee Members:**

Representatives: Aquino; Bellati; Cabanila; Cachola; Har; Kong; Mizuno; Onish and Matsumoto

March 18, 2019

**SB415 SD1 HD1:** Task Force; Pregnancy; Abortion; APRN

Comments as follows:

As a conservative I have and will always oppose the taking of innocent life, especially that of a human child.

Although this bill was design to eventually allow APR Nurses to participate in abortions via prescribing medication or by performing aspiration abortion ... I believe consideration should be given to the inserted section that proposes a task force and I am at least thankful for that.

For the sake and safety of the woman the following should be address but not limited to:

- ◇ how many doctors/abortion providers are there in the State of Hawaii?
- ◇ a break down island by island as to how many abortion providers are located on each island,
- ◇ and yes a study of the travel and other cost that might be incurred in the event there are no abortion providers on our sister islands,
- ◇ I would also like to know if counselling is given to these women of other options avaiable, such as adoptions?
- ◇ regarding case studies in other states, the number which required the intervention of a license physician or transfer to hospital for treatment ... the severity or outcome of these cases and the number.

As I understand it this task force would consist of:

Director of Health, who will also act as the chairperson for this task force  
Chairperson for Senate CPH: Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chairperson for the House HLT: Representative John Mizuno  
Representative from the Hawaii Board of Nursing  
and a representative from the Hawaii Family Forum

In closing although I do not support abortion, I do believe a task force recommendation for a full, fair and unbiased review and study of this issue, both here in Hawaii and other states that have authorized APRN may be beneficial before moving forward.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rita Kama-Kimura  
Mililani, HI

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 1:45:12 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and urge your approval. This bill will help expand access for abortion services by qualified APRNs. They are highly skilled professionals who can safely perform more minor surgeries of this nature. There is no reason why midwives can provide labor and delivery services for birthing a child, which is a much more medically risky procedure, while APRNs are not permitted to perform abortion services. Women on our neighbor islands and rural areas, in particular, need easier access for abortion services.



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
S.B. 415 – RELATING TO HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

March 20th, 2019, 2:15 p.m., Conference Room 329

Dear Representative Takumi, Representative Ichiyama, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Jennifer Hsu and I am a social work student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I also a member of the on campus organization, Generation Action and intern at Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and the Hawaiian Islands. I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of S.B. 415. For women, access to safe and legal abortion services have been a continuous struggle since the passage of Roe v. Wade in 1973. Since the landmark decision, women have only faced more barriers to continue to access their legal right to these basic services. Currently, there are only a handful of qualified physicians in the state of Hawai'i all of which alternate between islands to provide quality care. Not only is the current situation of services extraneous for the provider who must make innerisland commutes daily, weekly, biweekly, or monthly but also creates undue psychological trauma and physical barriers to essential reproductive healthcare. S.B 415 would help to alleviate unnecessary stress on the very few existing providers by expanding qualified practitioners. Additionally, the expansion allows an individual woman, man, and/or their respective support systems to access services without psychological fear, social stigma, or the simple inability to see a provider within their island.

In these current times, reproductive healthcare is in danger of becoming more of a privilege rather than a fundamental right granted under the Supreme Court decision established in 1973. 46 years later we are still struggling to support not only a woman's individual right to make that decision with her healthcare provider but the providers themselves.

As someone who believes that increasing the scope of qualified and advanced practitioners who can provide abortions, we can ensure that Hawai'i residents continue to be supported in their political, social, and economic decisions by having access to crucial, nondiscriminatory services to maintain the welfare of not only the woman, but also the community at large.

Accordingly, I SUPPORT S.B. 415. I respectfully urge your Committees to PASS this important bill. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Hsu

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 8:49:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
james	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**This bill is as crazy as it gets. Our so called Island of "ALOHA" or Aloha state should be renamed DEATH STATE or ISLAND OF DEPOPULATION. I know how our government embraces death like assistant suicide, abortion on demand, euthanasia, so depops is the goal. The more people it can kill or stabilize more control over Hawaii citizens. Our society is ruined because our government hates life. That's why we're 2nd in teenage suicides. That's why there was politicians mingling at the planned parenthood party or fundraiser on the grand opening weekend. This bill will just expand abortion and make planparenthood happy. Not about healthcare not about women's rights it's to depopulate Hawaiians with planparenthoods help. MONEY, MONEY, MONEY!!!!**

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 9:32:05 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Bass	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 10:09:28 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jenny Foster	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 20th, 2019, 2:15 p.m.

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 329

Re: Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in support of intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, with amendments

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committees,

I am a retired Professor of Nursing who lives in Manoa. I was the Director of the Nurse-Midwifery specialty education program at Emory University until I retired in May of 2018 and relocated to Hawaii. Years ago, I had served on Molokai as the first nurse-midwife from 1985-1988. I am familiar with the stress rural families face in accessing crucial health services.

I write in support of the intent of S.B. 415, SD1, HD1, which originally sought to remove burdensome and unnecessary restrictions on abortion access in Hawaii. However, I am disappointed by amendments made in the most recent version of this legislation, HD 1, and request amendments to restore the language from SD1. Rather than making needed changes to expand and improve access to abortion in our state, this most recent version of S.B. 415 establishes an unnecessary task force. I request that this committee amend S.B. 415 to reflect the requirements in SD1 to make meaningful improvements to abortion access in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this commonsense legislation to improve health care access in our state.

Sincerely,

Jenny Foster, PhD, CNM, MPH, FACNM, FAAN

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:23:29 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Celeste Chavez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am support of removing restrictions that would further reduce access to abortions.  
Abortion is healthcare.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 2:03:52 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kim Coco Iwamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SB415 with AMENDMENTS

Please revert SB415 back to the original language of the bill: specifically, only adding the option for an advanced practice registered nurse to perform aspiration abortions.

It is very simple and straight forward. Other jurisdictions allow for this option. Given the remoteness of our island communities, the lack of this option has limited accessibility of this medical procedure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kim Coco Iwamoto



**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 7:03:04 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alex Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for reading this testimony. I strongly support SB415 because I believe access to safe abortion is the right of women of all ages, and the study proposed by this bill will increase access and safety in Hawai'i.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 7:36:14 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
arielle	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Cheryl Toyofuku  
Mother, Grandmother, Registered Nurse, Life & Health Advocate  
1025 Noelani Street, Pearl City, HI 96782  
March 19, 2019

Representative Roy Takumi, Chair of House Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee  
Representatives/Members of the House Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee  
Hearing Date and Time: March 20, 2019 at 2:15 pm  
Re: SB415 SD1 HD1 relating to health

Aloha Representatives who are also parents or grandparents,

I strongly oppose SB415 SD1 HD1. You may recall the ooohs and ahhs when a baby squirmed in his or her mother's womb or kicked when he or she needed to stretch out more in that warm, limited space. You may have already known the name picked out for this tiny precious being that already had his or her own genetic composition that was uniquely his or hers. That little creation was already different from any other human that has ever existed with a complete "design" that will eventually appear in his or her childhood or adulthood.

As a nurse, often at the center of patient care, I took an oath, similar to a doctor's Hippocratic oath, to do no harm as I took care of fragile and often vulnerable patients. Nursing friends who specialized in the labor and delivery rooms also focused on providing dedicated care of the mother in labor and the new life about to enter this world. SB415 plans to establish a task force to allow Advanced Practice Registered Nurses or similar health care providers to perform abortions by medication or aspiration. The intent of this legislation is to eventually see if allowing these nurses authorization to do abortions, will provide greater access to abortions, thus expanding opportunities to a procedure that kills life in the womb.

Many of my family, friends and I believe that life begins at conception and more access to this atrocious practice of terminating life in the womb is unthinkable. Yet, SB415 focuses on studying the possibilities of providing more trained personnel and access to a grievous procedure that has already terminated millions of lives. Time, effort, resources and study task forces should instead be focused on assisting these medical personnel, including APRNs to be trained and equipped to morally and ethically do everything they can to save the life of a baby inside and outside of the mother's womb and to do no harm.

Here in these islands of Aloha, we desire our blood lines and generations to continue. We are grateful to our parents and grandparents, makua and kupuna, who chose, perpetuated and celebrated LIFE and destiny and NOT the termination of our generation.

Please do NOT pass SB415 SD1 HD1 out of your committee. Mahalo.

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 11:52:09 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Jimenez	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 12:44:47 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauren Finley-Jacob	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Takumi and Members of the Committees,

My name is Lauren Finley-Jacob, I am a master's student on Oahu, and I am writing in support of SB415 SD1 HD1.

I believe that we need more access to abortion providers in the state of Hawaii to better serve our population. Allowing APRNs to provide surgical abortions will help offset the need for this procedure by offering more frequent services in a timely manner. The language of the bill has changed since its original draft, and I believe that a task force is completely unnecessary and overburdensome. Postponing this bill through task force creation is just creating more barriers to accessing this care.

Again, I urge you to revert the language in this draft back to that of SB415 SD1 and support this bill.

Thank you,  
Lauren Finley-Jacob

# List of Various Individuals in SUPPORT in Amended SB 415 – With Conjunction by Planned Parenthood

Dear Hawaii Commerce and Consumer Protection,

Hawaii has long been a leader in expanding and protecting access to the full spectrum of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion. Our current provider restrictions reduce health care access without any benefit to the health or safety of people in Hawaii. A clean version of SB 415 can fix this.

Current law only allows physicians to provide surgical abortions despite the fact that other providers, like advanced practice registered nurses, are capable of providing safe and effective abortion care when they receive proper training. This means that across the state, people of Hawaii are delayed or unable to access abortion care because of Hawaii’s abortion provider shortage. People seeking abortion care are forced to travel long distances to access care, which increases costs for travel, lodging, childcare, and other expenses. And if people are unable to travel to another island due to these costs or other barriers, they may not be able to access abortion at all.

Everyone, no matter where they live or how much money they have, should have access to health care, including abortion.

I urge you to support an amended SB 415, removing the unnecessary task force.

Brooke Hunter	Pattye Wright
Gary Passon	Josie Cristobal
Ralph Filippo	Keola G.A. Downing
Mary Lu Kelley	Greg Hanna
Martha Nakajima	Charles Luce
Randy Ching	Judith Mick
Gina Chang	R. Blitzler
Jannie Wiehl	Christine Queen
Sam Pilgrim	Elaine Archambeau
Zara Berg	Nadine Newlight
Dan Gardner	Lisa Freudenberger
Kim Harter	Janet Graham
Laurie Saarinen	Kristin Gillette
Karen Daspit	Anne Fojtasek
Taurie Kinoshita	Donald Erway
Kate Sidlo	Carla Allison
Roslin Nelson	Roxan Taylor
Lilinoe Smith	Lynn C.

Stephanie Austin	Joe Carter
Carolynn Griffith	Kristen Ayotte
Susan Schneider	Linda Bess
Margo Cohen	Cris Lindborg
Tikki Bisbee	Annette Manant
B.A. McClintock	Susan Wurtzburg
Carolynn Griffith	Joanne Amberg
Frank Gordon	Teri Skillman
Cloe Cadiz	Michael Golojuch Jr.
Maisa Thayer	Judith Armstrong
Laurie McKeon	Tiffany Peek
Thomas Tizard	Deborah Nehmad
Susan Boucher	Namphuong Quach
Catie Martin	Valerie Lam
Tammy Escorzon	Joann Farnsworth
Kirstin Seal	Shantel Lagard
Debbie Story	Amanda Partick
Lorraine Garnier	Kailee Paterson
Denise Boisvert	Tamara Swift
Alani Bagcal	Nathan Braulick
Angelina Howard	Olivia York
Eva Hocking	Christine Roach
Amanda Alvarado	Stephanie Phelan
Maya Meisenzahl	Alana Reis
Douglas Stainbrook	Jessie Gonsalves
Julia White	Arlene May Laeno
Lara O'Connor	Doris Segal Matsunaga
Brian Goodyear	Ann Frost
Dorien McClellan	Alfred Wolf
Britney Carey	Jennifer Young
Erica Yamauchi	Melanie van der Tuin
Lisa Freudenberger	David Sofio
Julia Fujioka	Laurie Lloyd
Gail Gnazzo	Thaddeus Pham
April Blades	Donna Chalmers
Ramona Sewald	Nicole Schubert
Andrew Keith	Jennie W.
Kaila Chang	Lillian Renfro-Robau
Maya Abdulkarim	Alaina Abbott
Leah Ponichtera	Louise Johnson
Jaymie Moniz	David Story
Joy Oda	Kim Harter
Cierra Pagaduan	Mary Gross
Keith Richmond	Megan Tabta
Miranda Gallegos	Chelsea Pang

Jessica Garlock	Valerie Corpuz
Laura Gray	Doris Matsunaga
Christine Weger	



**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 2:51:01 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Shorba	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Rep. Takumi, Rep. Ichiyama and Members of the CPC,

Mahalo for reviewing my testimony regarding SB415 SD1 HD1. I appreciate the intent of the task force that this bill proposes, although I don't believe a task-force will benefit women and men who suffer the after-effects of abortion, which this bill essentially strives to expand availability/access to abortion for Hawaii residents. I strongly oppose this measure.

Abortions, whether performed by doctors or any healthcare professional, are not the solution to an unplanned pregnancy; women and children deserve quality health care. Abortion destroys human lives...not only the unborn child, but harms the parents: emotionally, psychologically, physically and spiritually; couples experience relational problems as well. There are numerous studies that prove this. I also know this first-hand, as I work with post-abortive women and men in Rachel's Vineyard, a non-profit program that provides weekend retreats for healing after abortion.

It would better serve the people of Hawaii to provide real support, education, counseling and services that assist women during pregnancy, and that affirm and protect innocent human life. It would also benefit our youth to learn about the risks and consequences of abortion, in addition to the value of abstinence in preventing pregnancy. It is common knowledge that contraceptives do fail, and our youth need to receive quality education on these matters.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure, and humbly ask that SB415 SD1 HD1 be held in committee.

Mahalo,

Lisa Shorba

Resident of Honolulu

**SB-415-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:08:06 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/20/2019 2:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerrie Villers	Individual	Comments	Yes

Comments:

I hope that this committee will help to ensure that any task force created will be fair in their research and data collection with the sincere understanding that you are truly discussing the health of women and girls, which can be irreparably harmed should they not receive the best standard of care.

I believe that any operation should be performed by a surgeon or physician, despite the skill an APRN or midwife may have, but thorough research into the matter and discussion is always welcome. Safety for women should be the highest priority, even before convenience.

Thank you.

Kerrie Villers