



LATE

Testimony on behalf of the
Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women
Khara Jabola-Carolus, Executive Director

Prepared for the Senate Committee on Judiciary

In Support of GM612
Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 016

Dear Chair Rhoads and Honorable Members:

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women writes in **support** of GM612, which would confirm the Gubernatorial Nominee, STACEY MONIZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

I am pleased to submit my endorsement on behalf of Ms. Moniz. Ms. Moniz has served as the executive director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence on Oahu. She also led as the executive director of Women Helping Women, the central domestic violence resource center for women on Maui. Her leadership would be a valuable asset to the Commission.

Sincerely,

Khara Jabola-Carolus

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 904 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Rick Collins, President

Judith F. Clark, Executive Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Collins Consulting, LLC

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action Network

Hawaii Health & Harm

Reduction Center

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Kokua Ohana Aloha (KOA)

Maui Youth and Family Services

Na Pu'uwai Molokai Native

Hawaiian Health Care Systems

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

PHOCUSED

PFLAG – Kona Big Island

Planned Parenthood of the

Great Northwest and

Hawaiian Islands

Residential Youth Services

& Empowerment (RYSE)

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

May 8, 2020

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

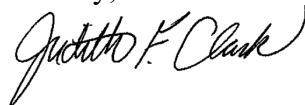
Testimony in Support of GM 612 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women, Gubernatorial Nominee, STACEY MONIZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Hawaii Youth Services Network, a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports GM 612 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women, Gubernatorial Nominee, STACEY MONIZ, for a term to expire 06-30-2023.

Ms. Moniz is a long-time advocate on and very knowledgeable about domestic violence and sexual assault. I have known and worked with her since 2005 and found her to be hard working, articulate, and reliable. She will be an asset to the Commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

GM-612

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 1:12:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Griffith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Stacey Moniz for confirmation to the Commission on the Status of Women. She is a knowledgeable, committed advocate for the women of Hawai'i. I directly experienced Stacey's work to support and protect the women and children of Maui when I lived in the Women Helping Women domestic violence shelter. Also, as the mother of two daughters who are growing up in Hawai'i, I'm concerned about women's issues in our state. I feel fully confident that Stacey will look out for the best interest of all of us.

GM-612

Submitted on: 3/16/2020 7:46:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/20/2020 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

JAMES A. PLEISS, D.C.
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March 14, 2020

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: In support of Stacey Moniz, for consideration to the Commission on the
Status of Women
Hearing, March 20, 2020, 10:30 AM

Dear Senator Rhoads and Keohokalole,

Please accept this in support of Stacey Moniz for confirmation to the Commission
on the Status of Women.

I have known Stacey for many, many years. I know of no other person that is
better qualified to serve on this board.

On Maui, Stacey was the executive director for Women Helping Women for many
years. She was instrumental in developing Women Helping Women over the years
to what it is today.

It is without hesitation that I would highly recommend her to be a member of the
Commission on the Status of Women.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James A. Pleiss, DC

GM-612

Submitted on: 5/8/2020 3:52:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sanoe Kaaihue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Stacey Moniz to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women. I have the utmost respect and appreciation for her dedication and commitment to women's issues.

I have personally known Stacey since 2006. As an advocate for victims of domestic violence, Stacey is well-known throughout the social services community as the innovative leader of Women Helping Women. Her community work, volunteerism and fierce advocacy for survivors, mainly women, helped change the process for survivors in every avenue. Stacey has served on many boards and helped to create Domestic Violence Task Force groups throughout Maui County. Stacey understands the needs of survivors, especially women of color.

Looking to further her advocacy Stacey took on the role of Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition of Domestic Violence and then to her current role of Executive Director of the Maui Farm. She continues advocating for women and children and sees the success that comes with nurturing positive growth. She is kind, thoughtful, patient, clear, easy-going and a terrific listener. She is intuitively connected to people. Stacey has a breadth of knowledge and depth of experience and humanistic skills that are so needed during these times. Our community needs more of people like her.

I wholly support Stacey Moniz and encourage you all to do the same.

Mahalo,

Sanoe Kaaihue

GM-612

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 6:24:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jina Rabago	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee,

I am in support of the appointment of Ms. Stacey Moniz to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women as the Maui Commissioner.

I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Moniz during her time at the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. With over 30 years of experience in domestic violence prevention, Ms. Moniz has demonstrated her dedication to gender equality. Her advocacy, expertise, and leadership are invaluable to our community and to the future of women and girls in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Regards,

Ms. Jina Rabago

GM-612

Submitted on: 5/10/2020 11:47:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristl Ito-Lau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Moniz on a professional basis, and also volunteering together on the board of a non-profit organization. Her professionalism and passion for the community is evident in all that she does. In particular, her many, many years of dedication to supporting women and girls makes her an ideal fit for an appointment to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

Mahalo!

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GM-612

Submitted on: 5/12/2020 6:49:24 PM

Testimony for JDC on 5/12/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

March 6, 2020

Ms. Stacey Moniz
2 A Kilakila Place
Pukalani, Hawaii 96768

Dear Ms. Moniz:

Re: Nomination to the Commission on the Status of Women

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor David Y. Ige to the Commission on the Status of Women. To assist the Committee with its preparation for the confirmation process, I am requesting that you submit to my office a written statement that addresses the following questions. As other Senate committees have done, I intend to make your responses public and post them with testimony on the State legislative website.

1. Please describe your understanding of the role and jurisdiction of the Commission on the Status of Women (Commission).

The commission serves as a voice for women across the state, with representation from each island offering perspectives to the State's Governmental leaders. It brings current issues forward that might otherwise be overlooked and makes sure women's voices are considered at every level of government.

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Commission?

I think it's important that members are active in their communities, active with diverse groups of women so they can best represent their unique island/county. It's important to have positive working relationships with other women's organizations and with a wide range of cultures, ages, religions, etc. to ensure strong representation. I think a commissioner should be sure to check in with their constituents prior to meetings and after meetings for good communication and transparency.

3. Why do you wish to serve as a member of the Commission? Please note if you initially applied to be nominated to the Commission or if you were invited to apply.

I have worked in women's empowerment for over 30 years, mostly in Maui County, and mainly in the field of domestic violence. I care very deeply for my community and have vast knowledge, training, expertise, passion and interest in helping the lives of women in my community, locally, statewide, nationwide and globally.

Karl Rhoads

Senate District 13

State Capitol, Room 204 – Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Phone: 586-6130

E-Mail: senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov

Moniz CSW Letter 030620/ GM Nominations

I applied to serve on the Commission as a way to continue helping women and because I thought my perspective and years of experience would be helpful. I think my connections to a wide variety of Maui County groups and individuals brings a unique perspective to this role.

When I ran the domestic violence program here on Maui I worked with so many groups, organizations, service clubs, churches, groups, other non-profits, government, local and state officials, private businesses, etc. I still maintain positive relationships with these groups and individuals which is another asset I bring to the Commission.

4. Please describe why you believe that you are qualified to be a member of the Commission. Please discuss any skills, expertise, knowledge, or volunteer involvement that would aid in your decision-making ability.

Having worked in domestic violence for over 34 years, so much of that work is rooted in gender inequality, gender analysis and how women's lives are different based solely on gender. It also includes considerations of racism, homophobia, class bias, genocide, colonization and historical trauma. Having studied these issues deeply over time and trained and mobilized people with this knowledge I think my perspective at the Commission is valuable.

I am a woman of color, three generations of immigrant ancestors from Japan and Portugal, I am a survivor of domestic violence and more recently, breast cancer, I am a mother, grandmother, sister, aunty. I am a qualified expert in the field of domestic violence. I am president of Soroptimists International/Maui, a service club of women working to empower women and girls through education. And I still have so much to learn.

5. What do you hope to accomplish during your term as a member of the Commission?

I would love to see more work being done to address the impacts of generational trauma and poverty on Native Hawaiian women and children. I'd love to see a living minimum wage, paid family leave that affects women caring for both their children and their parents disproportionately. I'd like to plant the seeds for the creation of housing subsidies for single women with children.

6. What issues do you believe that the Commission has handled well in the past? What issues do you believe that the Commission should address in the future?

I think the Commission has done a terrific job of coordinating legislative efforts from a wide base of constituents via the Women's Coalition. This is a tough task to manage given everyone's perspectives, personal and professional agendas, funding considerations, etc. I feel the Commission has helped create unity and a strong voice for women even if we are

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Moniz CSW Letter 030620/ GM Nominations

not all in consensus and sometimes with very strong disagreement. As tough as these meetings can be, I think it's very important to have a time, place and mechanism to air our disagreements privately in order to find places where we are united and get behind those issues together.

Issues handled well in the past: domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, paid family leave, living wage.

Issues moving forward: continued work on domestic violence laws, human trafficking, paid family leave and living wage.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I work as the Executive Director for a non profit that houses women and children. We do not receive State funding at this time, but that could become a conflict if we applied for a Grant in Aid, but not a direct conflict with the Commission.

Communication is the key and I will keep a vigilant eye out to avoid any conflict and I will communicate with transparency and disclose any potential for conflict quickly.

8. Is there any other information regarding your experience and background that you believe should be considered for your nomination?

I was recently diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer and had a mastectomy in January which has healed wonderfully. However, I just completed my first round of chemotherapy and will have another 5 rounds over the course of the next few months. I am out of work on TDI through the end of June and have a reduced capacity for about a week every three weeks. I believe I can meet the requirements of this position after June, however, I am not at 100% until then.

9. Is there anything in your background that might be deemed as negative or controversial by the Senate?

There was a time early in my career where domestic violence work was considered controversial, maybe even negative - but I am happy to say that is no longer true and thankfully domestic violence advocates are appreciated rather than feared. Even my status as a survivor is valued and appreciated where it was once judged.

I've also been a fierce advocate for LBTQI+ rights because homophobia is rooted in misogyny and gender-based violence against women. I think that is no longer controversial, but I'm including it here, just in case.

Karl Rhoads

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State Capitol, Room 204 – Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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Moniz CSW Letter 030620/ GM Nominations

I've been grateful to submit testimony on legislation to the Senate since the 1980's and I feel that I've worked hard on behalf of the women of Hawaii to create and update laws that protect us and our communities.

Your prompt response is requested by Friday, March 13, 2020 to ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner. You may provide your response by email to senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov or by mail to State Capitol, Room 204, 415 S. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813. My office will be in contact with you about scheduling a one-on-one meeting with me and informing you of the date of the Committee hearing when your nomination will be initially considered.

I also want to take this opportunity to remind you that any testimony submitted by other individuals on your behalf will be posted on the Legislature's website as submitted. It might be helpful to inform individuals who intend to submit testimony on your nomination of the public nature of the testimony. Testimony may be submitted once the Committee hearing on your nomination is scheduled.

Should you have any questions, please contact my office at 586-6130.

Mahalo,

Karl Rhoads
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary

KR: ems

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