

**HB-1435-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 2:49:02 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/13/2019 2:00:00 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 HB 1435 HD 1.

Mahalo for your consideration and for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.

Chair

LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

**HB-1435-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 1:37:04 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/13/2019 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1435-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 6:55:20 PM

Testimony for LMG on 2/13/2019 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl Bergquist	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Cullen, Vice Chair Nakashima, Committee Members:

As the father of two daughters, currently aged 2 and 5, I cannot count the number of times around the state that I have been unable to find a suitable place to change their diapers. Sometimes, my partner, who happens to be a woman, was with me and we could then find a place where she could change the diaper. Sometimes, if I am alone with the children, a park bench or the restroom floor will have to do.

Neither of those options can begin to make up for the lack of options available to men. The first furthers the excessive pressure that women face in society to do all things related to children. The second is demeaning and possibly dangerous.

I was back in my native Sweden this past summer and even I was struck by the difference. Hawai'i can emulate Sweden and in so doing, we can send a signal to our keiki and society at large that we believe in gender equity. This is a small policy change, but its symbolism cannot be overestimated. Mahalo.