

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



PANKAJ BHANOT
DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 10, 2020

TO: The Honorable Representative Chris Lee, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2037 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,
TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS COMMISSION.**

Hearing: February 12, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of the bill and provides comments. DHS appreciates amendments made by the Committee on Human Services and Homelessness.

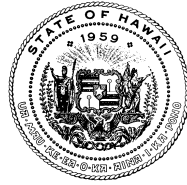
PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill establishes the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2059. (HD1).

DHS supports and recognizes the generosity and efforts of the different LGBT and LGBTQ advocacy groups, especially around the issues of bullying prevention and equity. The proposal is modeled after the statutes that establish the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, which has long been successful in its promotion and advocacy to improve the status of women in Hawaii.

DHS comments that an appropriation for the executive director as well as an operational budget is necessary for the proposed Commission to function and implement its statutory mission. The Legislature should also know that office space within DHS is also lacking

so an appropriation may need to include funds to develop an office and to obtain necessary IT and other office systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2037 HD1 HD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,
TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS COMMISSION.**

REP. CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: February 12, 2020

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the intent of HB2037 HD1
3 which is to address disparate treatment, including bullying, for lesbian, gay, bisexual,
4 transgender, queer, plus (LGBTQ) residents.

5 Epidemiological data for this community describes higher rates of adverse conditions such as
6 being victims of targeted violence, behavioral health issues, and communicable disease. These
7 conditions may be exacerbated by social and economic pressure such as employment
8 discrimination or lack of family support.

9 Although the measure requires further refinement for it to be practical, examples like the Hawaii
10 State Commission on the Status of Women are useful models from which to draw. DOH looks
11 forward to the ongoing comprehensive public policy and public administration conversations for
12 and with LGBTQ communities.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

14



HB2037 HD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAI'I STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER,
PLUS COMMISSION

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Ho'okolokolo

Pepeluali 12, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Lumi 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on HB2037 HD1, which would create a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission. This measure would provide a meaningful and permanent way to ensure that our LGBTQ+ community members' unique issues and needs are documented, considered, and valued in policymaking and programmatic facilitation.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender ("LGBT") people have deep roots in traditional Hawaiian society, and remain a significant but often unacknowledged part of Hawai'i's community today. Hawaiian culture has a rich history of gender diversity and acceptance of those who would now be considered lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender non-conforming. In pre-colonial Hawaiian culture and society, aikāne and mähū were even revered and maintained special roles in society and in certain cultural practices.¹

Unfortunately, our community today does not meaningfully acknowledge and accommodate our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and gender non-conforming communities, resulting in various forms of systemic and invidious discrimination not reflective of Hawai'i's cultural history and traditional values. Currently, over 1 in 10 public high school students in the state identify as LGBQ (including youth who are "questioning" their sexuality), with 22% of these youth being Native Hawaiian,² over 3% of adults in Hawai'i also identify as LGB, with approximately 18% of the adult LGB population being Native Hawaiian.³ Moreover, Hawai'i ranks first in the nation with the highest proportion of its population composed of transgender adults,⁴ and three percent of Hawai'i's high-school-aged youth identify as transgender, with 25% of these youth being Native Hawaiian.⁵ Unfortunately, Hawai'i's LGBTQ youth suffer from poor access to healthcare and health outcomes,⁶ high incidence of substance abuse,⁷ high incidence

¹ See, e.g., NOENOE SILVA, ALOHA BETRAYED: NATIVE HAWAIIAN RESISTANCE TO AMERICAN COLONIALISM (2004); Lilikalā Kame'eleihiwa, *Le'ale'a o na Kupuna: Traditional Hawaiian Sexuality*, Ke Ola Mamo Conference (1999); Keith Bettinger, *Historically Speaking: A quick look at homosexuality and gender roles in pre-contact Hawai'i*, HONOLULU WEEKLY (Jun. 20-26, 2007).

² HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HAWAII SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY HEALTH REPORT 2017 14 (2017), available at <https://health.hawaii.gov/surveillance/files/2017/05/HawaiiSexualandGenderMinorityHealthReport.pdf>.

³ *Id.* at 26.

⁴ WILLIAMS INSTITUTE, HOW MANY ADULTS IDENTIFY AS TRANSGENDER IN THE UNITED STATES? 3 (2016).

⁵ HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HAWAII SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY HEALTH REPORT 2018: A FOCUS ON TRANSGENDER YOUTH, 24 (2018) available at <https://health.hawaii.gov/surveillance/files/2018/09/HawaiiSexualandGenderMinorityHealthReport2018.pdf>.

⁶ *Supra* note 2 at 15-16.

⁷ *Id.* at 18.

of sexual and emotional abuse by a partner,⁸ bullying in schools and poor educational outcomes,⁹ and poor mental health with high rates of self-harm and suicidal ideation.¹⁰ Despite a notable presence in Hawai'i, nearly half of all transgender youth live in unstable housing situations compared to only 6 percent of cisgender youth.¹¹ And Hawai'i's LGB adults report similarly dismal experiences:¹² Hawai'i's LGB adults, especially women, experience health disparities, particularly in rates of chronic diseases and conditions;¹³ poor mental health;¹⁴ high rates of physical and sexual violence;¹⁵ and higher incidence of risky behavior.¹⁶ Although more than half of LGB adults have received higher education, they also earn much less than heterosexual adults overall.¹⁷

Despite being recognized and included in positions of reverence in the Hawaiian Kingdom and in pre-contact Hawai'i, LGBT people in Hawai'i face significant adversities today. Their exclusion from consideration or recognition in government policies and programs may not only perpetuate such adversities, but may also limit our society from realizing and benefiting from its members' true and full potential. By establishing a body to improve the State's policymaking and programming with respect to our LGBTQ+ community, this measure would take an important first step toward better supporting this segment of our community and improving their lives, and thereby benefitting our society overall.

To best protect and promote the needs of the Native Hawaiian LGBT community, OHA offers a friendly amendment, to be inserted on line 15 of page 5, to read as follows:

- (4) Promote the diversity of cultural expressions of persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, and sex characteristics and ensure the recognition of culturally-based sexual and gender identities specific to Hawai'i, such as māhū and aikāne;

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB2037 HD1. Mahalo piha for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

⁸ *Id.* at 20.

⁹ *Id.* at 20 & 25.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 22.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² The adult transgender population and sample size was so small as to be insufficient to support reporting the data collected by the Department of Health. *Supra* note 5, at 23.

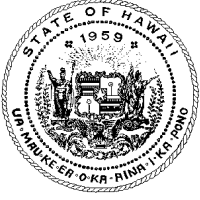
¹³ *Supra* note 2 at 30.

¹⁴ *Id.* at 36.

¹⁵ *Id.* at 35.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 34.

¹⁷ *Id.* at 26.



LATE

HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: 586-8636 · FAX: 586-8655 · TDD: 568-8692

February 12, 2020
Rm. 325, 3:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.B. No. 2037. H.D. 1

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

H.B. No. 2037, H.D. 1, amends the HRS to add a new chapter to establish the Hawai‘i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission..

The HCRC supports H.B. No. 2037, H.D. 1.

The purpose of this chapter to provide for a statewide program, on a permanent and continuing basis, on the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus people in Hawai‘i.

The civil rights laws that the HCRC enforces prohibit discrimination based on sex, including gender identity or expression, and sexual orientation in employment (HRS chapter 378, part I), public accommodations (HRS chapter 489), and housing (HRS chapter 515). Indeed, the HCRC’s statutory purpose reads: “**§368-1 Purpose and intent.** The legislature finds and declares that the practice of discrimination because of race, color, religion, age, *sex, including gender identity or expression, sexual orientation*, marital status, national origin, ancestry, or

disability in employment, housing, public accommodations, or access to services receiving state financial assistance is against public policy...”

Noting that the new HRS chapter proposed in the bill is modeled after HRS chapter 367 which established the Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women, the HCRC supports H.B. No. 2037, H.D. 1.



February 10, 2020

House's Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, February 12, 2019 – 3:00 p.m.

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 2037 HD 1**

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and fellow committee members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 2037 House Draft 1 on behalf of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawaii's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization. HB 2037 HD 1 establishes the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission and the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission Trust Fund.

It has been 7 years since we passed Marriage Equality here in the Aloha State, while that was a huge milestone for Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community we have a lot more work to do to ensure Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community has full equality at every level government and society. We also need to remain vigilant to ensure there is no back sliding for all of the advancements we have made to the lofty goal of equality.

Even with all of the advances we have made here are just some of the difficulties facing Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community:

- LGBTQIA+ suicide rates are 3 to 4 times that of their straight and/or cisgender peers
- 85% of LGBTQIA+ students have experienced verbal harassment
- When the State of Hawaii's Department of Health did do a study for Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community they only included lesbians, gays and bisexuals
- There is no federal law protecting employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression in the United States.
- Homophobia and transphobia are the most publicly accepted forms of bigotry, harassment and discrimination
- 80% of the transgender population who were employed experienced harassment or mistreatment on the job or took steps to avoid it
- When it comes to statistics about Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community we have to rely on studies done on the continent or Europe
- When the State of Hawaii's Department of Health did do a study for Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community they only included lesbians, gays and bisexuals

The LGBT Caucus understands that even when the Commission is established the Commission alone will not be able to solve all of these problems facing Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community. But just imagine having a Commission, with commissioners from every county, working with other community stakeholders and the ex-officio members representing the Department of Education,

LGBT Caucus Testimony is Strong Support of House Bill 2037 HD 1

University of Hawai'i, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Department of Human Services, Department of Human Resources Development, and Department of Health can do to start to address these and other difficulties facing Hawaii's LGBTQIA+ community.

For all these reasons the LGBT Caucus humbly asks that you support HB 2037 HD 1 as it is the right thing to do.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:02:17 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:34:51 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pride at Work - Hawaii	Pride @ Work - Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 8:07:09 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rainbow	Rainbow Family 808	Support	Yes

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 Strongly Supports HB2037 HD1 in order that the State of Hawai`i acts in agreement of Equal Rights to grant Social Justice to our LGBTQ Plus children..Thank you for hearing this important bill in the search of justice in Hawai`i.

The Bureau on the Status of Women's existence for over 20 years is an example of how a State acts in protection of populations who are attacked during historical moments in the life of the state. Our LGBTQ Plus population continues to suffer harm in the workplace, in public places and in their own homes. It is the duty of a Just Society to protect At Risk citizens. HB 2037 HD1 will address, educate and inform society of the inadequacies faced by our LGBTQ Plus population.

Rainbow Family 808 is a non-profit based on the support of family members in Harm's Way and thus Strongly supports HB2037 HD1 for the fair and equal treatment of our LGBTQ Plus family members. Thank you in advance for your consideration and the speedy passage of HB2037 HD1.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Martinez Golojuch, MSW

Founding President of Rainbow Family 808

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:28:13 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Tuiolosega Silva	Hawaii Island HIV/AIDS Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii Island HIV/AIDS Foundation (HIHAF) strongly supports HB 2037 HD1, which will create the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. The Hawaii State Department Health was the first health department in the country to publish both a sexual and gender minority health report (2017) and a follow-up report which focused on transgender youth (2018). These reports and the resulting Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group have highlighted the need for a statewide comprehensive strategy for our LGBTQ+ community to address related health disparities and social inequities in Hawaii.

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 12:12:26 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
amy agbayani	Filipina Advocacy Network FAN	Support	No

Comments:

We support this measure that provides a structure and resources to monitor and support the civil rights and full inclusion of the LGBTQ community in our state.

LATE

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 3:33:08 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katrina Obleada	Hawaii Psychological Association	Support	Yes

Comments:

TO: House Committee on the Judiciary

Hearing: Wednesday, February 12th @ 3:00 P

From: Heather Lusk, Executive Director, Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center

Strong Support for HB 2037 HD1 (with suggestions)

Dear Rep. Chris Lee, Chair; Rep. Joy A. San Buenaventura Vice Chair, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) strongly supports HB 2037, which will create the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. The Hawaii State Department Health was the first health department in the country to publish both a sexual and gender minority health report (2017) and a follow-up report which focused on transgender youth (2018). These reports and the resulting Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group have highlighted the need for a statewide comprehensive strategy for our LGBTQ+ community to address related health disparities and social inequities in Hawaii.

HHHRC's mission is to *reduce harm, promote health, create wellness and fight stigma in Hawaii and the Pacific*. We focus our efforts on those disproportionately affected by social determinants of health, including but not limited to: people living with and/or affected by HIV, hepatitis, substance use, and the transgender, LGBTQ and the Native Hawaiian communities. We foster health, wellness, and systemic change in Hawai'i and the Pacific through care services, advocacy, training, prevention, education, and capacity building. HHHRC's roots are in the LGBTQ+ community with a transgender health program, a LGBT-specific smoking cessation program and more than 500 participants of other programs who identify as LGBTQ. One of our biggest lessons learned over the past 30 years is the importance of hiring and engaging with people who identify as LGBTQ to ensure that all decisions, programs and policies are inclusive and reflective of the diversity of the LGBTQ+ community.

We respectfully suggest that HB2037 be amended to add one member identified from the Hawaii Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group to participate in the commission as well as add language to its charter about the importance of have a commission that is diverse and represents people with lived experience who identify as LGBTQ+.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

February 12, 2020
3:00 pm



House Committee on Judiciary
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: HB2037 HD1 - RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS COMMISSION.

Aloha Chair Chris Lee, Vice-Chair San Buenaventura and members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

We **SUPPORT** the intent of HB2037 HD1. This bill, if enacted, will establish the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission and appropriates funds. We support the rights of our LGBTQ+ community and understand that such a commission will help to better the enforcement of those rights. We recall that “an injury to one, is an injury to all” and so we stand in solidarity with our LGBTQ+ community.

Sincerely,

T. George Paris
Managing Director

TGP: MP

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:50:35 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hannah Wallace	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) strongly supports HB 2037 HD1, which will create the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. The Hawaii State Department Health was the first health department in the country to publish both a sexual and gender minority health report (2017) and a follow-up report which focused on transgender youth (2018). These reports and the resulting Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group have highlighted the need for a statewide comprehensive strategy for our LGBTQ+ community to address related health disparities and social inequities in Hawaii.

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 3:06:22 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write in support of this bill. Hawaii has been a leader in creating better legal protections for our LGBTQ community, but members of that community continue to suffer dramatically increased risks of suicide, harassment, discrimination, abandonment and stigmatization. There is much more we can and should be doing. Creating a commission to focus research and policy analysis on this issue would do much to create stronger networks, policies, and safety to benefit our friends, neighbors and family who are LGBTQ+. Please pass this bill.

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 3:47:31 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB2037 to establish the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission.

This commission is long overdue and needed. There are some in the community who believe that with the passage of marriage equity the fight is over. The opposite is true – the fight must continue. Why? Even with the laws on the books, there is still discrimination going on in housing, elder care, jobs, adoptions, and visitor support to name a few. Further, the police forces have not fully implemented the hate crimes law that allows for those attacks against the LGBTQ+ to be properly identified. The passage of this bill will allow the commission to interact with state and county officials as well as the private sector. It will finally allow one central point for LGBTQ+ issues to be heard with appropriate follow-up.

Although a straight ally, I have worked with a variety of LGBTQ+ organizations and firmly believe this commission is warranted. I have also heard the individual stories of being beaten, fired, thrown out of their homes, and denied various benefits or proper care. Please pass HB2037.

Thank you for allowing me to provide my comments in favor of HB2037.

Sincerely, Mike Golojuch, Sr., Lt Col, USAF (Ret), MS, MPA

Secretary/Board Member, Rainbow Family 808

Secretary/Board Member, Pride at Work

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 3:53:14 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandy Ma	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 6:42:20 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Salisbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 8:06:03 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Robinson-Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 8:26:25 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jen Jenkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Buenaventura, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

My name is Jen Jenkins, and I write in SUPPORT of HB2037 HD1, which would create a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Plus (“LGBTQ+”) Commission. The creation of an LGBTQ+ commission would provide Hawai’i with an agency that serves and recognizes some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Respectfully,

Jen Jenkins

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 8:27:13 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good Afternoon Chair and Committee Members:

As a private individual deeply familiar with the public health, social and legal issues facing the LGBT+ community, I would like to offer **strong support** for passage of HB2037 HD1.

The proposed commission offers all of us in Hawaii the opportunity to identify legacy items of stigma, discrimination and limited access that are no longer appropriate or just in Hawaii. It offers us the opportunity to make positive changes that can make Hawaii more inclusive for all our residents. Our state has a strong tradition of establishing commissions to focus on issues needing attention and working to bring all stakeholders together. This LGBT+ commission offers these possibilities and deserves our support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha

Peter Whitarcar

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 9:39:08 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chuck Spence	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

We support the legislation but note the representation is not fair. Oahu is asking for 4 seats and all outer Islands will get one. I am asking that there are 2 seats from each island, Essentially to keep Oahu from being the de facto dictatorship. This is being run through fast 'cause no one thinks its important and they are checking a box. We do care on the outer islands and demand fair representation.

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:09:51 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As concerned public citizen and public health professional, I strongly support HB 2037 HD1, which will create the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. The Hawaii State Department Health was the first health department in the country to publish both a sexual and gender minority health report (2017) and a follow-up report which focused on transgender youth (2018). These reports and the resulting Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group have highlighted the need for a statewide comprehensive strategy for our LGBTQ+ community to address related health disparities and social inequities in Hawaii.

Please support this important and necessary bill.

With thanks,

Thaddeus Pham

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:11:51 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Tomita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

JUDtestimony

From: Valerie Clark <vclark@mauiequality.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 9:58 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Subject: re HB2037

To whom it may concern,

With regards to the hearing on HB2037, it is my intention to express my concern over the current bill and it's lack of adequate representation of Hawaii's LGBTQ Citizens on outer islands. It is my hope along with the many other persons of LGBTQ status on outer islands that you will amend the bill to give an equal number of seats to ALL islands and NOT 4 to Oahu simply because the representation on OAHU THINKS it self more important or larger than that of the outer islands. Please consider an amendment to change the representation to 2 seats per island. Honolulu, though lovely, IS NOT indicative or an accurate representation of the LGBTQ community and it should not hold the most representation or POWER over the information that is disseminated to the State with regards to data and ultimately the welfare of Hawaii's LGBTQ Community.

Sincerely,

Valerie Clark
808-868-9132
588 Kaleo Place
Kihei, HI 96753

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:34:06 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda Martinez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:41:39 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryan Chin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:43:40 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 1:57:40 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alyssa Yang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB 2037 HD1, which will create the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. The Hawaii State Department Health was the first health department in the country to publish both a sexual and gender minority health report (2017) and a follow-up report which focused on transgender youth (2018). These reports and the resulting Sexual and Gender Minority Work Group have highlighted the need for a statewide comprehensive strategy for our LGBTQ+ community to address related health disparities and social inequities in Hawaii.

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 2:59:17 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vickie Kam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

Mahalo

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 3:43:40 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark A. Koppel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

lgbtq people still face many difficulties and need a commission to find solutions.

LATE

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 7:09:19 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Bradshaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2037-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/12/2020 7:49:49 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Werner MPH	Individual	Support	No

Comments: