



Testimony of the Office of Lieutenant Governor
Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means & Judiciary
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
1:10 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
On the following measure:

## S.B. 2795 SD1 RELATING TO ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, Chair Rhodes and Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and Judiciary. The Lieutenant Governor's office **SUPPORTS** S.B. 2795, SD1, which appropriates funds for 1 full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position, operating costs, and equipment to support the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in administering the Address Confidentiality Program.

It is critical that we offer this program for victims of domestic violence in accordance with Act 115 which was signed into law by Governor David Ige on July 5, 2018. We respectfully ask that the Legislature fund this program adequately so the Office of the Lieutenant Governor can execute the start-up and day-to-day operational cost of maintaining the service for victims of domestic violence.



TO: Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)

DATE/LOCATION: February 26, 2020; 1:10 p.m., Conference Room 211

## RE: <u>TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2795 SD 1– RELATING TO ADDRESS</u> <u>CONFIDENTIALITY</u>

We ask you to support SB 2795 which appropriates funds for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position, operating costs, and equipment to support the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in administering the Address Confidentiality Program. This critical funding would provide personnel to operate the Address Confidentiality Program, which was established with the creation of Act 115 in 2018. This will enable us to join the 36 other states who have launched address confidentiality programs helping to protect victims of crimes such as sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

The address confidentiality program will keep survivors safe and allow them to focus on putting the pieces of themselves and their lives back together to become healthy and whole again. All survivors deserve to be safe. All people deserve to be safe. With laws in place that help to protect their safety, we can all work together to help them triumph over trauma and focus on their positive future story.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 15,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 18 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB 2795 SD 1**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or <u>rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org</u> if you have any questions.

<u>SB-2795-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2020 10:23:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2020 1:10:00 PM

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

Comments:

<u>SB-2795-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2020 10:24:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/26/2020 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Testifying for Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:



February 25, 2020

Members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means & Judiciary:

Chair Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Chair Sen. Karl Rhoads

Vice Chair Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Vice Chair Sen. Jarrett Keohokalole

Sen. J. Kalani English

Sen. Breene Harimoto

Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye

Sen. Kaiali'i Kahele

Sen. Dru Mamo Kanuha

Sen. Michelle N. Kidani

Sen. Sharon Y. Moriwaki

Sen. Gil Riviere

Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi

Sen. Kurt Fevella

Sen. Mike Gabbard

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim

Re: SB2795 SD1 Relating to Address Confidentiality.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means & Judiciary:

The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) engages communities and organizations to end domestic violence through education, advocacy, and action for social justice. HSCADV is a private, not-for-profit organization and is a statewide partnership of domestic violence programs and shelters.

On behalf of the 23 members of the HSCADV, I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB2795 SD1 which appropriates funds for one full time position, operating costs, and equipment to administer the Address Confidentiality program.

Address confidentiality for victims of domestic violence is a critical aspect of planning for long term safety. Protecting the location of a person who has left a violent relationship will promote long term safety and will likely reduce harassment, stalking attempts, and the day to day



anxiety a person who has relocated experiences upon terminating the relationship.

Appropriations to make this program a reality would show a commitment to protect citizens from offenders of violent crime. Hawaii would join the other 36 states that have a program like this in place.

HSCADV strongly supports passage of this bill. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Angelina Mercado Executive Director, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence