



To: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
Committee on Ways and Means

Re: **HB 2663 – RELATING TO FILING FEES**

Hearing: Thursday, February 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 211 and
Videoconference

Position: **Strong support**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

The Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports SB 2663. This measure changes the filing fee schedule for paternity actions by establishing an initial filing fee of \$100 and eliminating fees to file motions.

The Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i favors this measure as it would create uniformity in filing fees between matrimonial actions and paternity actions making the courtroom process financially predictable for the litigants which is important, especially for low-income litigants. This is especially important when the paternity suit may necessarily involve motions practice. Having waivers of filing fees for motions, would make the cost of suit predictable and less stressful in an already stressful environment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Melodie R. Aduja

Melodie R. Aduja

Chair, Health Committee

Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Contact: legislativepriorities@gmail.com (808) 258-8889

SB-2663

Submitted on: 2/20/2022 8:14:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/24/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Elle Yi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a highschool student attending Roosevelt High School. I strongly support the bill SB2663. This bill achieves parity for filing fees for paternity and divorce cases, so that the initial filing fees for both unmarried and married persons are the same, and there are no filing fees for motions.

I am in favor of this bill as this helps low income litigants be able to have certainty of the cost of bills. This will benefit struggling citizens and equalize the rights of unmarried people with those of married people. Thank you for the opportunity to testify upon this bill.

Mahalo