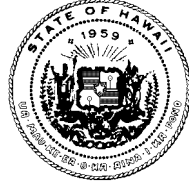


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 29, 2022

TO: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SCR 225/ SR 218 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO DEVELOP LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS SPECIFIC TRAINING GUIDELINES FOR INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AGENCIES THAT SERVE AND ASSIST LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS SURVIVORS.**

**HEARING:** March 31, 2022, 3:00 pm  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of these resolutions and provides comments.

**PURPOSE:** These resolutions request the Department of Human Services to develop LGBTQ+ specific training guidelines for intimate partner violence agencies that serve and assist LGBTQ+ survivors, to obtain input for the training guidelines from relevant advocates and professionals; and that the intimate partner violence agencies that serve and assist LGBTQ+ survivors are requested to receive the training guidelines developed by the Department of Human Services to address the needs of LGBTQ+ survivors.

For the Legislature's information, several local and national organizations provide training to serve and assist LGBTQ+ survivors. For example, the Hawaii State Coalition Against

Domestic Violence recently completed a series entitled "Exercising Cultural Humility with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Communities." The series included the following learning objectives: create safety plans that cater to survivors of LGBTQ+ abusive relationships with sexual violence components, describe how organizations can be trauma-informed, provide better environments to LGB&T survivors, and analyze resources and skills to help LGB&T survivors navigate social and judicial systems. Other local and national organizations sponsor and support training events and resources.

Additionally, the Department's ShakaTown.Org website for former foster youth has a resource page to support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Youth (LGBTQ) Children, Youth, And Families, see <https://shakatown.com/lgbtq/resources>.

The Department will work with organizations interested in developing or compiling the relevant curriculum.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on these resolutions.

**SR-218**

Submitted on: 3/28/2022 1:19:17 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/31/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shandhini Raidoo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am an obstetrician-gynecologist and I have provided care to my community in Hawaii for over 6 years. I work closely with LGBTQ+ folks in my medical practice and on community and research efforts. I have conducted research studies with the LGBTQ+ community that demonstrates that intimate partner violence is prevalent in this community but that people are less likely to seek help from community resources such as shelters or IPV-specific organizations. The LGBTQ+ community is uniquely vulnerable and has often been ignored by our community systems. It is critical that work to support efforts like this resolution to improve the safety and care of LGBTQ+ folks in our community.

Thank you for your support and attention to the safety of LGBTQ+ folks in our community,

Shandhini Raidoo, MD, MPH