

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Julian Liu

Address: 94-1000 waiopai st
waiipahā Hi 96799

Phone: (808) 429-6023

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhodes, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: SAL AMBROCIO

Address: PO 970223 WAIPAHU HI 96797

Phone: (800) 722-1593

Subject: same sex marriage bill

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: Primalyn Español

Address: 92 319 Akaula St -

Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: 808 398 4033

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Primalyn Español

From: Eileen Fa'ima

Address: 94-302 Kahuawai St.

Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: 478 0068

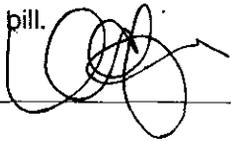
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Malama F Kaupoe

Address: 98-729 Moanalua Loop #201
Area, HI 96701

Phone: 293-7808

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: David R. Lopes

Address: 89-064 Haleakala Ave

Waianae HI 96792

Phone: 342-2005

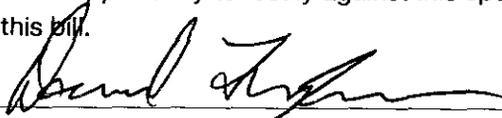
Subject: No! To same sex marriage

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: Richard Harschel

Address: 92 747 Makalapa Dr #33
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Phone: 808-561-5289

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Richard J Harschel

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Francis Tana'i

Address: 91-1842 Kalahehi St.

Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: 690-3929 / 754-2206

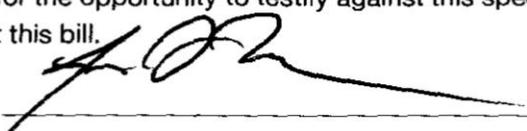
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: Evette Hauschke

Address: 92 747 Makalei Dr # 23

Kapolei HI 96707

Phone: 808 230 9947

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Evette Hauschke

From: IVAN NISHIMURA

Address: 34-612 LUMIANA ST A202

WAIPAHU, HI 96797

Phone: 808-927-0414

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Susan Hauskalt

Address: 91-1152 Makaloa St
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Phone: 808-237-9609

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Susan Hauskalt

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Leilani Johnson

Address: 91-2006 Kaioli St # 5002

Ewa Beach HI 96706

Phone: 808-292-3600

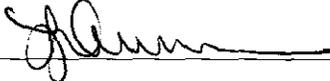
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: EVELYN A. CASTANEDA

Address: # 95-233 ULAHEA PL.

MILILANI, HI 96789-5528

Phone: 808-351-6031

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Evelyn A. Castaneda

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Tito Espāno

Address: 92-319 Akaua St

Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: 808-398-5966

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Seamus Alafantuli Jr.

Address: 94-506 Kapuski St #103
Wapahala, HI 96797

Phone: 206-854-7488

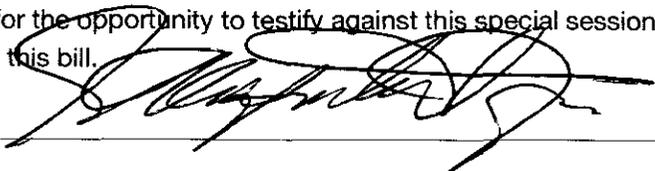
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Esperanza Tapia

Address: 91-1674 Aunahale St

Ewa HI 06704

Phone: 636-8847

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Esperanza Tapia

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: TRAVIS HOSAKA

Address: 94-515 LUMIANA ST #2-106
WAIPAHU HI 96797

Phone: 677-4859

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Travis Hosaka

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Mr & Mrs. Oswaldo & Myra Tugade

Address: 3434 Likini St.

Hon. HI 96818

Phone: 226 - 7357

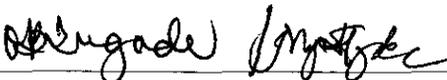
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: LELAND PICO

Address: 91-1732 TENNEY ST

EWA HAWAII 96706

Phone: 772-0946

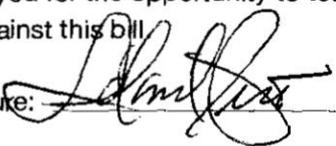
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill

Signature: 

From: Nikayla Allen

Address: 6246 IBS AVE.

Phone: _____

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Nikayla Allen

To: Ghair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Jennifer R Lively

Address: 181 Morris Rd

Wahianua HI 96784

Phone: 931 220 2273

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Jennifer R Lively

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: -Darrel & Develene Cabral

Address: 91-1180 Kaileolea Dr. # 2H6
Ewa beach, HI 96706

Phone: 783-6963

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Marvin H Kampoe

Address: 98-729 Moanalua Loop #301

Aiea, HI 96701

Phone: 344-7447

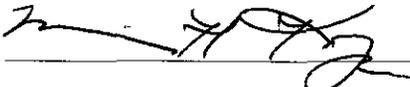
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Crystal Robello

Address: 92-1106 Palahia St #F202
Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: 808-782-0035

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: C. Robello

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Cyrusina Kahalewai

Address:

94-331 Pupunani St. #101

Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Phone:

628-0529

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:

Cyrusina K.

To: Chair Karl Rhodes, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Lyndon Shore

Address: 91-1468 Kulekua St

Phone: 674-6625

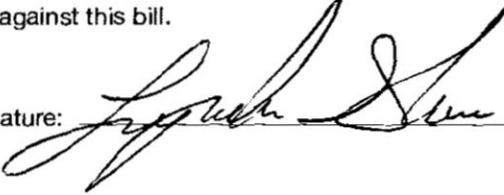
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Venessa Directo

Address: PO Box 800306

Wahiawa, HI 96787

Phone: 351-2056

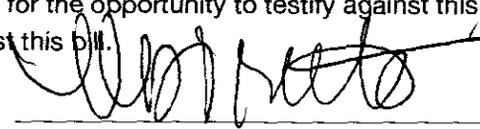
Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: NOLAN KALAHIKI

Address: 87-626 MANU ST

WAIANA, HI 96792

Phone: 808-772-2250

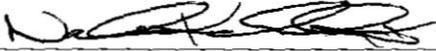
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Grace Lorenzo

Address: 94-505 Hamu Pl.

Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: 223-9459

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: CRISTINA GUTIEREZ

Address: 94-1641 KAHUANUKU ST #201
WAIKAAHU, HI 96797

Phone: (808) 554-5605

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: JON TAHIMOTO

Address: 98-715 Ito PL #1402

AIEA, HI 96701

Phone: (808) 488-6359

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: _____

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: VALENTINE CACALO

Address: 91-869 HAWAII ST.

KONA BEACH, HI 96706

Phone: 808 777-0622

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Valentine C.

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: TERI LUNA

Address: 94-315 KATHIANANI ST.

WAIKAPU, HI 96797

Phone: 808-676-9189

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Jacqui Argastali

Address:

9450 Kupuohu St #103

~~Wapahu, HI 96797~~

Phone:

~~808-455-4577~~
808-457-5587

Subject:

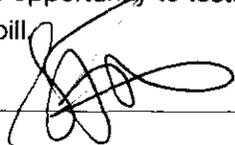
**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill

Signature:



To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: FE UNCIANO

Address: 94-039 Waipahu Pt, Apt. 303
Waipahu, HI. 96797

Phone: (808) 386-5907

Subject:

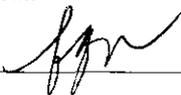
**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: _____



To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: _____

Dorcas Glendon

Address: _____

POB 700392

Kapolei HI 96709

Phone: _____

779 1448

Subject:

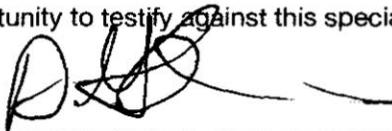
**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: _____



From: Tammy Lee

Address: 94-056 Nawalakoa St.

Wahiapahu, HI 96797

Phone: 808-699-4413

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Tammy Lee

From: Teresa Michaud

Address: 98-099 Uao St #2707

Aiea

Phone: 292-5683

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Marie Paishum

Address:

94-1075 Nali St

Waipahu HI 96797

Phone:

306 3997

Subject:

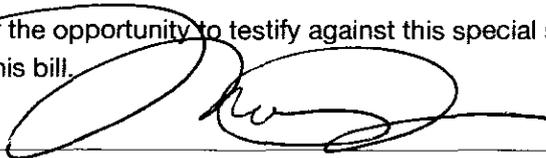
**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:



To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Devonne Pacheco

Address: 94-250 Emoloa Pl.

Mililani HI 96789

Phone: 623-3859

Subject: Same Sex Marriage

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Devonne Pacheco

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Twain Bernard

Address: 91-1035 Lelelehu St
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Phone: _____

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Twain Bernard

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: JOHN J. DIGNA STEWART

Address: 91-1010 KAI WEKE ST
ELWA BEACH HI 96706

Phone: 664-9273

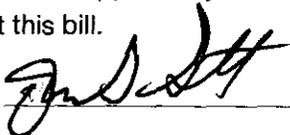
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

From: Emmanuel Terpio

Address: 91825 Candler pl
EWa Beach Hi 96706

Phone: 1-800-364-5330
same sex

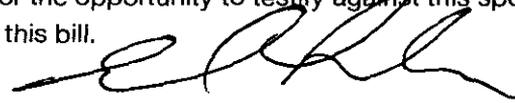
Subject: NO for gay marriage

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Julie Castro

Address: 94-646 Leoa St House #13
Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: 808-723-9415 / 808-723-9413

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Julie Castro

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Ashleigh Ambrosio - ADAS

Address: 98-102 Kihale PI

Aiea HI 96701

Phone: N/A

Subject: same sex marriage bill

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Ashleigh Ambrosio - ADAS

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Monica Joy Recardo

Address: 91-1034 Puhiwaka St

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Phone: (808) 589-9064

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:  _____

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Jay Yannaia & Leeandra Yannaia

Address: 819 N. Vineyard Blvd Apt 97

Hon. HI 96817

Phone: 847-6179

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Leeandra Yannaia

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Eric Triggs-Alex

Address: 921360 Panama St Apt 1024
Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: 808 779 0162

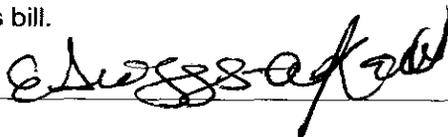
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Wilson Andrew

Address:

P.O. Box 1263

Pearl City HI 96786

Phone:

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:



To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: KARA K. TAVITA

Address: 91-1371 KIMIKI ST.

KAPOLEI HI, 96707

Phone: 808 223-9290

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Kara Tavita

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

April Atnd

Address:

P.O. Box 1263

PEARL CITY

Phone:

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:



To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Kathy Davis

Address:

2151 Baugh Rd
Area, HI 96701

Phone:

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:

Kathleen Davis

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Tina Gonveria

Address: 94-207 Waipahā St #37D
Waipahā, HI. 96797

Phone: 808-548-1840

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Kerry Ople

Address:

94-158 Anama Dr 2nd

Mulholland, AZ 85789

Phone:

808 358-1602

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:

Kerry Ople

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Barbara L Strubing

Address: 911732 Tenney St.
LWA 96706

Phone: 343 4059

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Barbara L Strubing

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Hazel Anne Quitog

Address: 87-144 Hakimo Road

Waianae, HI 96792

Phone: 366-8292

Subject: Let the People Decide

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Douglas S. Adric III

Address: 87-1088 Huamoa St.

Waianae, HI, 96792

Phone: (808) 636-4631

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Douglas S. Adric III

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Paulette ADRIE

Address:

P.O. Box 585

Geard City.

Phone:

382.3411

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature:

Paulette Adrie

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From:

Robert F. Arios

Address:

98-777 Naahu St.

Honolulu, HI 96701

Phone:

(808) 387-9869

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: _____

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Trinidad Alexander

Address: 1698 Kaweloka St
Pearl City, HI 96782

Phone: _____

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Trinidad Alexander

From: Kathy Fabia

Address: 94-329 Kealakoa St
Mililani, HI 96789

Phone: 305-3011

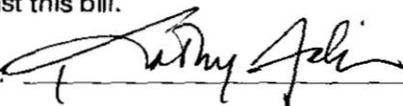
Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: JOHNSON CABACUNGAN

Address: 94-049 (~~APT 209~~) WAIPAHU ST. APT 209

WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

Phone: 630-9783

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: 

To: Chair Karl Rhods, Judiciary Committee

10/28/13

From: Mrs. Beverly Ahlgrin

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Subject:

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION
AND SAME SEX MARRIAGE BILL**

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage. I oppose the special session because it rushes the legislative process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input into the process. The fact that there can be no amendments to the bill essentially negates any concerns raised in testimony or by you, the Legislature.

I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses are subordinated to the Public Accommodations Act, essentially negating them for most churches. Finally, since we voted a constitutional amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to limit marriage between opposite sex couples, the only legitimate way to change this is to let we, the people, decide. Please do not circumvent the democratic process!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Signature: Mrs Beverly Ahlgrin

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Ted Otaguro	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose SB1 because as a grandparent, I do not want my grandchildren to be taught in their schools that homosexuality is okay. As a local resident, why are lawmakers oblivious to the far reaching effects of this law. Having equal rights can be obtained through the federal system. Redefining marriage other than between a man and a woman is against our culture and 90% of societies around the world.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
carole kaapu	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Testimony for House Hearing 10/31/13 @ 10:30am Rep Rhoads, Chair Committee on Judiciary Rep Luke, Chair Committee on Finance Re: Testimony in opposition to SB1 Relating to Equality Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the Committees: In 1998 I voted for what I understood was defining marriage to be between one man and one woman. 70% of Hawaii's voters agreed with me. Now here it is almost 15 years later and this is still an issue. If you want to redefine marriage, please let the people you represent decide by a constitutional amendment. One that means what it says, not a legal loophole. "Should the State of Hawaii define marriage as solely between one man and one woman." It seems that our elected officials are taking upon themselves to undo what the voters in Hawaii have already decided. I ask you to please do one of two things: A. Leave the institution of marriage the way it has been for thousands of years. And the way we thought we defined it in 1998. B. Take the issue back to the citizens of the State and allow them to vote for a clearly worded constitutional amendment. Thank you for your time and consideration. Carole Kaapu Voter and Concerned Citizen Kapalama Heights

Hello my name is Jaikob Garber I oppose bill Sb1 because I don't want the youth and the children to be obligated and exposed to curriculum that goes against religious beliefs without parental consent, I don't feel that it is fair to force so many changes to our schools and our society, however I do think that people have the right to go about their lives as they see fit, but I don't think that in order to give a group freedom that other freedoms need to be taken away. My hope is that somehow we could come together and come up with a different bill that would give the freedoms that are being asked without taking away freedoms that we already have that our forefathers fought so hard for. And in conclusion I ask that you would please stop and look at this from a different perspective and try and understand how this will affect our society as a whole. Thank you for your time.

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

I have countless friends who are homosexual and want same-sex marriages, they are some of the closest people to me. Despite our relationship, bonds, ties, and understanding of each other's life styles, I do not accept it, neither can I stand behind them on this important moral issue. Never will I abandon my faith. We would all be nothing were it not for our Heavenly Father. I want to share some of my faith and beliefs regarding marriage, home and family from the "The Family: A Proclamation To The World". As stated, "...marriage between a man and a woman is ordained of God and that the family is central to the Creator's plan for the eternal destiny of His children....Husband and wife have a solemn responsibility to love and care for each other and their children. 'Children are an heritage of the Lord' (Psalm 127:3) Parents have a sacred duty to rear their children in love and righteousness, to provide for their physical and spiritual needs, and to teach them to love and serve one another, observe the commandments of God, and be law-abiding citizens wherever they live....The Family is ordained of God. Marriage between a man and woman is essential to His eternal plan...By divine design, fathers are to preside over their families in love and righteousness and are responsible to provide the necessities of life and protection for their families. Mothers are primarily responsible for the nurture of their children. In these sacred responsibilities, fathers and mothers are obligated to help one another as equal partners..."

I believe all these things to be true and of God. Gods' ways are higher than the ways of man. There is an eternal purpose as why marriage was and always has been between a man and a woman. Gender is essential to His plan. Gender is important to marriage and family. I love all my friends who are homosexual, but I love my God most and His ways are superior to all.

I am looking forward to the day I become a wife to my husband and to the family we are going to create, to the home we are going to build. What means most is that I will raise them here, in my home, Hawaii. However, those dreams are being threatened because the values of Hawaii are changing, by YOUR hand. I do not want and will not raise my children to be ignorant of the ways of

society and the world, but the timing and manner of how and when that will happen should be left to me as the parent, as their mother with the help of my husband. It is not for the government to tell me how or when to raise my children. I know I cannot protect my children from everything. Now, I have to prepare myself to see, experience, and explain behaviors not only between heterosexual but also homosexual couples to my children, to my nieces and nephews.

Homosexuality and same-sex marriages will be taught in society to be "acceptable", when in my home, we will observe the ways of the Lord. What kind of a world are we building and leaving for our children? For the rising generation that will be taking care of us? The Lord is constant, always was, still is, and always will be. The ways of the world are changing and pulling farther from Him and the teachings in my home will clash head on with that of the world on matters and issues as never before in the history of time. I reserve that right as a future mother to determine how and when to raise and teach my children. My home and family are being threatened by the very people who were elected to protect and serve the citizens of Hawaii, these citizens who are your voters, voters who put their trust in you.

This bill does not protect rights to religious freedom. Church clergy and buildings are only protected if they meet certain stipulations as stated in clauses of bill SB1. How is okay to strip people of their religious beliefs and then leave them vulnerable to lawsuits under "discrimination"? Where is religious freedom in that? Not only are my rights to religious freedom at stake, but my rights as a native Hawaiian are threatened and will be greatly affected by the approval and passing of this bill.

I ask you to please do your homework. Really look into everything this bill is saying and not saying. Look to Canada and Massachusetts and see how same-sex marriages or "marriage equality" is affecting their society, government, schools, medical, communities, etc. Do your homework as well I implore you.

You were elected by the people of Hawaii to be a voice for us, not the voice of the people of Hawaii. Ponder upon this matter.

This matter demands more time. This vote should be left to the people of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Summer Malamaisaua Kawaihana Manuma
Waipahu, HI 96797

Dear House Committee,

My name is Viliamu Toilolo and I live at 55-603 Moana Street in Laie, which makes me one of the constituents whom you represent. I understand that a bill has been given to you for review by our Governor that will re-define marriage in Hawaii. I also understand that in the special session called by our Governor you will be asked to vote in the affirmative or the negative on the proposed legislation to legalize same-sex marriage in Hawaii.

The purpose of this e-mail is to ask you to please vote in the Negative on any piece of legislation that would change the definition of marriage from the currently stated "a man and a woman". The people should have the right to make this decision by placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot next year that they may vote and make the voice of the general public known regarding this decree that will affect the entire state.

As you review and contemplate the decision to vote on the legislature proposed, I want you to know that I do not support same-sex "marriage". More so I do not support the fact that our legislature is making this decision for us. This is my voice.

Sincerely,

Viliamu Toilolo

Next month, I will officially be a resident of Hawaii, as well as a constituent. Sometimes I feel as though we are still fresh off the plane, rushing to a rental agency to pick up the little beater we rented for our first two weeks here. I remember the first night we spent in our apartment, and how thankful I was to have brought a king-sized air mattress in my suitcase, as our household items weren't due in till two days after we signed our lease. My partner, our three kids, and I snuggled up together in the living room on the air mattress and slept fitfully that night, as the previous days had been stressful and long, and we weren't sure when they were going to end. The next morning, we awoke to the most gorgeous sunset coming across the mountains, and running its soft sienna fingers across the calm waters, and painting the sand with various hues of purples, pinks, oranges, and yellows. My first Hawaiian sunrise. I can't tell you how long we stood outside, marveling, and taking in the sweet scent of the two Plumeria trees in our backyard. It's been said so many times before, but I'll say it again now, and I can't imagine that I'll ever stop saying it: It's breathtaking. That first sunrise that we experienced as a family brought more than just a feeling of peace and serenity, it brought the calm of knowing that this was the chance of a lifetime, and that no matter what, everything was going to be wonderful.

Tracey and I met in high school. We didn't date, but we knew each other. You see, while she was lucky enough to know who she was from a very young age, I wasn't. Our paths crossed briefly for the last year of high school, when I moved to a small town in the deep Southeast of Texas, and we remained friends through the years. She joined the Army, and I caved to societal pressures and the pressures of a conservative family, and made a small family myself. Funny thing about pressures, when you don't know who you are or what you want out of your life, they give you an easy out, and what many of us don't realize until it's too late, is that nothing that is ever right will ever be easy. Putting the pieces of who I was together was something that I put on the backburner, and instead, I did what so many of us do, and filled the spaces with superficial things. The truth is, you can only hide from yourself for so long, before those superficial things start to dry up and crack, and eventually shatter, falling away to reveal an underdeveloped, malnourished, and lonely you, more vulnerable than you ever have been in your entire life. I came face to face with my shriveled, pink, and squalling reality--- I wasn't who I was meant to be. The shiny new sports cars, the beautiful new home, the designer clothes, none of that was me. Somewhere, between this revelation and my attempts to strengthen and nourish myself, I became a single mother of three beautiful children. I can't say that the incidents leading to my single parenthood were truly tragic, though at the time they were. I can't describe the moments where fate intervened, and my friendship with Tracey was rekindled by way of social networking and an unfortunate and traumatic event on her end. I'm in no way religious, but the way that our lives lined up in such a way that would never have been apparent before, it was similar to the way many would describe divine intervention. She had recently returned from her second deployment, where she had been injured in Afghanistan by an IED, requiring surgery. She needed help, and mentioned it in a comment on Facebook, and I answered. Seeing her for the first time in so many years, regardless of her vomiting everywhere due to pain medicine, was an electrifying wake up for me. Where had the feelings been before? To this day, I wonder if the fact that neither of us were ready played a role in how long we had known each other, yet never developed feelings so intense. Or perhaps the feelings were always there to begin with, and we simply chose not to acknowledge them. I'll probably never know.

I'm not so sure that my sexuality ever came into play in regards to the progression of Tracey and I's relationship. It just happened. Though the topic is one that begs consideration, since it is the reason we are here today. I identified as bisexual after I fell hard for a female classmate my sophomore year in high school. The truth is, I couldn't tell you when I lost attraction to the opposite sex, because I am not 100% sure that it was ever there to begin with. In those years, I could argue that I didn't have a sexuality, because my relationships were never sexual in nature. When it came down to marrying my husband, and having my amazing children, it had more to do with what I was told was normal. I may have loved the idea of being unique, but I was afraid of losing the acceptance of my family and my friends, and so I did what I believed they expected of me, and I kept quiet.

I remember the first time that Tracey held my youngest son, a tiny three month old infant. He had been crying for an hour, and fell asleep on her chest in a matter of minutes. The first time she spent the night at my house, she slept on my couch. When I woke in the morning, I found my two year old son, who was terrified of strangers, curled up on the couch with her, sound asleep. I remember watching her roll pigs in a blanket for my daughter's third birthday party, the two of them giggling in the kitchen and sharing jokes. I remember the little things from the beginning, and I have come to the realization that this story isn't just about how I fell in love with her, and how much I adore her, or how much I really want marriage equality for all. This story is about my family, and the simple fact is, I wasn't the only one falling in love with Tracey from the beginning. Our family came about in rather non traditional ways, but we became a family regardless.

Within the last few weeks, we've had protestors lined up down the main roads all over this island. You have neutral signage, demanding that marriage equality be left to the people of Hawaii to vote on, and then you have the more direct and confrontational signage, sometimes with children themselves holding signs saying things like "think of the children". I can't help but wonder if some of the feelings I experience seeing this are similar to those felt by African Americans in 1964. When our children inquired as to why there were herds of people waiving signs and yelling at every stop light, and my daughter recognized a few faces in the crowd from school, I couldn't give an easy answer. I settled for delicately explaining that not everybody agreed with our right to be a family. Seeing my children's reactions, and hearing such strong affirmation in who we are by such young souls was heartening. I feel a redeemed hope in humanity when my friend's six year old cousin doesn't even notice that Tracey and I are both women, but chooses instead to remark on the love between us being visible to him. I'm proud of our three amazing little troopers, in seeing injustice despite their innocence, and wanting to stand up and defend against it with all their little hearts. This is what they love, but it is not all that they know, because they understand that most families have a mom and a dad, or only one or the other. There is a saying, that applies to this, rather ironically and beautifully... "And from the mouths of babes", for if children can know only love and acceptance until they are taught otherwise, who are we to deprive them of these things for the rest of their lives? Regardless of whether this bill passes, or if left for the people to vote, we will remain a family. We always will be. This bill will not define our ability to be a family, and nothing ever will. What it will do, is teach our children the acceptance they crave. It will teach them that love is love, and cannot be defined by fear of the unknown in a nation brimming with individuality.

From the perspective of being a military family, I can tell you that this is not easy. We don't have the same benefits, or considerations as other families, but we do have the chance now to get them. Sections of DOMA being struck down was a monumental victory, but there is still so much to be done, and with it being left up to the states to determine what marriage is, I leave my family's welfare in your hands, and I'm confident that you will stand strongly today, on the right side of history.

I will never forget the hospitality we were shown from the people of this island from the moment we stepped foot off the plane. There really is a spirit of Aloha here, and it is contagious, and it has wiggled it's way into our hearts. Regardless of the protestors, the love we have been given from complete strangers has tied us to this island in a way that will never be severed. I am proud to stand here before you and give my testimony, to win a victory not just for the many other military families on this island, but for the LGBT community in general. It's a small island, with a big heart, and this will be a small victory, with far reaching and much more residual effects. You will be showing the world that all families can be equal, leading the world in acceptance, and teaching our children that love is love, and on behalf of my o'hana, both near and far, in spirit or flesh and blood, and on behalf of the children of this world, I thank you for that.

Noe Foster
7092-26 Hawaii Kai Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

October 30, 2013

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair on Judiciary
The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair Committee on Finance
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair on Finance
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 am
I will be present to personally deliver my testimony.

*Re: In **Opposition** to S.B. 1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013*

Dear House Committee on Judiciary and House Committee on Finance,

I am opposed to S.B.1, the Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because it introduces provisions of law that denies me and all others, protected constitutional rights and will also initiate serious unintended impacts to our State. I will focus on four problematic provisions of S.B. 1:

First, both the U.S. Constitution and our Hawaii Constitution guarantee freedom of religion to all individuals. Both constitutions strictly prohibit the enactment of laws that prevent citizens from exercising their religious beliefs. S.B. 1 is deficient. It impairs the religious liberties of individuals and businesses to free exercise of their religious beliefs by imposing a law that is in direct contradiction to their core religious doctrines, beliefs and practices relating to marriage, parenting and family life. Our First Amendment right of freedom of religion is a corner stone right of the U.S. Constitution. The free exercise of religion is a protected constitutional right for all, not a right only for churches. More importantly, the free exercise of religion is a guaranteed right for individuals. S.B. 1, fails to protect the individual rights of individuals. Therefore, S.B. 1 is unconstitutional.

Second, in 1998 Hawaii voters directed the legislature to amend the Hawaii Constitution to exclusively reserve marriage to one man and one woman. Section 25 of our Hawaii Constitution reads, "The legislature shall have the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples." To reserve, means to set aside something or to distinguish something from everything else. Like the other 285,383 Hawaii voters in 1998, I entrusted Hawaii legislators with limited authority to do one action – reserve marriage

as a union between one man and one woman. I did not give lawmakers ultimate authority to define marriage, only to execute the will of the people by reserving marriage to opposite-sex couples.

Third, S.B. 1, includes provisions of parentage presumptions based on marriage for same-sex couples that will transfer Native Hawaiian ethnicity claims to Non-Native Hawaiian individuals.

In S.B. 1, section 572 C – Right of Parents, it reads, “Parentage rights, benefits, protections, and responsibilities based on marriage shall be the same for all married spouses regardless of the gender of the spouses. These rights, benefits, protections, and responsibilities shall include paternity, maternity and parentage presumptions based on marriage.”

In every instance in a same-sex marriage, at least one of the partners is not the biological parent of the child. However, as a consequence of parentage presumptions applied as described in S.B. 1, section 572 C, the benefits reserved for Native Hawaiians are at risk of automatic transfer to Non-Native Hawaiian children. S.B. 1 at the very least needs to be referred to the Hawaiian Committee.

Fourth, S.B. 1, will put Hawaii’s marriage law in direct conflict with 90 percent of the marriage laws in more than 90 percent of the nations of the world. Forty-six nations like Japan, have constitutional provisions that reserve or define marriage as exclusively a union between one man and one woman. In countries like Japan, same-sex marriage is illegal.

This is true of 72 percent of States in the U.S. Like Japan, same-sex marriage is illegal in 36 states in the U.S. including Florida, Texas, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Michigan and others. According to Professor Lynn D. Wardle, a family law professor at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, “There is no greater evidence that a nation or state has a strong public policy against same-sex marriage than to have adopted a constitutional provision constitutionally prohibiting same-sex marriage.” Professor Wardle explained at a recent informational briefing to Hawaii State legislators on Wednesday, October 23, 2013, “The general rule of marriage recognition of marriages from other jurisdictions is that a marriage valid where it is performed or celebrated is valid in other states (or nations) unless it violates a strong public policy of that other state or nation.” Professor Wardle explained that nations, like Japan and states like Florida who have amended their constitutions to ensure that same-sex marriage is illegal are demonstrating a strong public policy that same-sex marriage violates their laws and will not recognize these marriages in their country or state. Further, Professor Wardle concluded, “Marriage recognition of Hawaii marriages in other countries and even in other states would be clearly impaired if same-sex marriage is legalized.”

According to the Hawaii Tourism Authority, in 2012, of all visitors to our islands, 125,977 visitors identified that they traveled to Hawaii for a wedding. In addition, 583,537 visitors identified the purpose of their visit was a honeymoon.

Same-sex marriage is illegal in Japan. If Japan does not recognize marriages performed in Hawaii, this will have a significant economic impact on our state. At the very least, S.B. 1 needs to be analyzed in the Tourism committee to forecast the economic impact to Hawaii.

In the preamble of our Hawaii Constitution it states, "We, reserve the right to control our destiny, to nurture the integrity of our people and culture, and to preserve the quality of life that we desire." To achieve this vision, we desperately need leaders who have the moral courage and intelligence to reject laws like S.B. 1. The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 is unconstitutional. Please reject it and vote NO on S.B. 1.

Thank you for your courageous leadership.

Respectfully,

Noe Foster
Hawaii Voter

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Michele Golojuch	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: October 31, 2013 House Committee on Judiciary House Committee on Finance Hawaii State Capitol Capitol Auditorium 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813 RE: STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Bill 1 – Relating to Equal Rights I have been testifying for equal marriage rights since the 90's. My good friend testified and supported me when I would hear people call my baby brother horrible things. He was my rock but he has passed away leaving his partner with out the rights and privileges afforded to married couples. He had to pay large amounts of taxes and if he had been able to marry the love of his life this would not be so. The highest court in the land has ruled and marriage is one of those inalienable rights that should be afforded to everyone. Gender should not be a factor. Those who have religious objections just should not marry someone of the same gender. There is separation of state and church. There are laws already for public accommodation. If a religious group wants to exclude anyone then they should have their doors open only to their members so they don't violate the law. The bottom line is my baby brother should have every right I have and right now the State of Hawaii is treating him like a second-class citizen. He pays the same taxes I do, follow the same laws I do; he should have the same rights I have. As an Early Childhood Educator it is so important to honor all families. To discriminate against same gender families teaches their children their family is less than. Michele M Golojuch 92-954 Makakilo Dr #71 Kapoleie, Hawaii 96707

Hello my name is jaikob garber I oppose bill sb 1 because I don't want the youth and the children to be obligated and exposed to curriculum that goes against religious beliefs without parental consent, I don't feel that it is fair to force so many changes to our schools and our society, however I do think that people have the right to go about their lives as they see fit, but I don't think that in order to give a group freedom that other freedoms need to be taken away. My hope is that somehow we could all come together and come up with a different bill that would give the freedoms that are being asked without taking away freedoms that we already have that our forefathers faught so hard for. Thank you for your time.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Tiana Wilkinson	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: My name is Tiana Wilkinson and I was born and raised in Waiahole Valley, now reside in Kaneohe and work in Waianae. I am testifying in strong support of SB 1, regarding Marriage Equality. I met the love of my life while I was in graduate school in Massachusetts. Thanks to the laws there, we were legally married surrounded by our loving family and friends (a fair number of catholics included, I might add). Once we moved back to Hawaii, we lost our title as married. I still call my spouse my "wife" but each time I say it: it is a daily reminder that we're not seen equally before the eyes of the law. Civil Unions are a "separate but equal" attempt that is far from equal. The fact that a separate category had to be created speaks for itself that it is not equality. I hope that you will support SB 1 so that my wife and my marriage can receive equality before the eyes of the law.

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

My name is Keith Kenyon, I live in Kapolei and I strongly oppose SB1. I encourage you to vote "NO" on this version of a same sex marriage bill. OR help me understand why this bill needs to be passed into law. I'm admittedly a journeyman to politics and started digging into all of this gay marriage business a couple of months ago.

This is what I've learned or re-confirmed, so far:

- Being Gay is not a right – it's a choice
- Marriage is not a right – it's a God-given privilege between a man and a woman
- Gay people think their choice to sin somehow earns them a position on the same list that includes age, race, gender and religious beliefs
- Our Governor thinks the same
- Hawaii Civil Rights Commission thinks the same. *Prohibited discrimination. HRS §489-3 prohibits discriminatory denial of the full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations of a public accommodation on the basis of race, sex, including gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, color, religion, ancestry, or disability. Denial on any basis other than these protected bases is not prohibited under Hawai'i state public accommodations law.*
- God considers homosexuality a sin. How did we drift so far apart from God? I'm talking every faith-based religion – Mormons, Latter Day Saints, Jews, Catholics, Muslims and Christians believe homosexuality is a sin
- God's list of sin includes murder, theft, adultery, and dishonor to parents—will the Hawaii government make any of those legal too? The PEOPLE prefer we have laws against all of that.
- This special session cuts ample opportunity for the Hawaiian people to provide ALL of their inputs
- This special session does not afford people to vote
- This special session is mis-managed due to time constraints [my written testimony in Senate was not posted with the rest, but I submitted it last week and testified in person on Monday]
- The Senate Committee Chair opted to cutoff in-person testimonies on Monday, presumably due to lack of time... after many had provided written testimony and were on their way to the Capitol building. Some blame the Chair – I blame the notion that Special Session provides enough time to hear everybody.
- My daughter supposedly submitted testimony to the Senate clerk in support of same sex marriage, but we have revealed that somebody "stuffed" the testimony box; the e-mail address that was used to send was off by one letter from her actual address. The Senate clerk knows about it
- The Governor lied throughout his Special Session FAQ website and to me in a "personal" note with a rubber stamp signature. We never needed this special session and we could have waited for regular session in just a few months
- Tax benefits for the gay marriages in 2013? Are you kidding me? I'm not buying that.
- Who tied the "Aloha Spirit" to accepting gay marriage in Hawaii? I'm thinking the Aloha Spirit had nothing to do with any of this and probably would have averted most of this, if it were allowed into our legislative process

- Who kicked our native Hawaiian friends to the curb on this Same Sex marriage Bill? Tell me. I heard a few testifying the other day and really was thankful that those few could.
- I've confirmed that there's a whole lot of monkey business going on with this SB1 bill. Monkey business is normally found at the underground card houses – NOT expected to be found in the Capitol
- I need help with this one: half of our representatives in this House are defaulted to "YES" on this bill. Why? Which half of the Hawaiian population are you representing? I saw more Opposition testimony on Monday than I saw in support. More than half, anyways. Why wouldn't you default to NO if you are undecided? Half of our state is NOT gay!
- I attended the opening session in the House on Monday. The speaker scolded the gallery for cheering for PEOPLES' rights to participate in important legislature. Rep Ward was absolutely spot on with his comments and the gallery was correct in applauding—the gallery represented the same PEOPLE Rep Ward was referencing.
- I'm really confused as to who works for who here. I thought the government worked for us— THE PEOPLE. Why can't we THE PEOPLE have a valid say in this bill?
- 13 states and Washington DC passed Same Sex Marriage laws and they are all paying for it now. Canada is paying for the same mistake... and now Hawaii wants to run [not walk] to sign up for the same troubles? Why on God's green earth would anybody want to do this?
- 600-700 thousand registered voters are not allowed to vote on this, but 60-70 are? For an issue that will ruin our society as we know it, if the bill passes, as is, to law? I don't understand. Help me understand.

To top all of this off, all of my brothers and sisters in Christ have repeatedly coached me along the way to bless and not blast. I believe God supports the same.

Well, I hope God blesses all of you with wisdom and pray that He has mercy on all of us. We are collectively messing it up. God, please forgive me if I blasted anybody in this testimony.

You know how you should vote on SB1. Please do it. Vote NO!

Keith Kenyon
 Kapolei, HI 96707
 Opposition

Follow the Money Trail ... Oppose to SB1 – Dr. Hester

Legalizing gay marriage in Hawaii is more than a victory for civil rights; it's also a big moneymaker. Hawaii in the next years will receive an estimate of \$250 million from the increased number of gay marriages in which has equated to \$16 million in revenue for the state. This same argument is being used for the Casino advocates who are still trying to push through a Multimillion dollar Casino in Waikiki, represented by House Member Tom Brower, District #22. However, the means do not justify the end ... No one really wants to talk about the “real reason” why we are having this special session ... IT IS ABOUT THE MONEY!

Mayor Bloomberg of New York (after the bill to legalize gay marriage) said, “Marriage equality has made our City more open, inclusive and free – and it has also helped to create jobs and support our economy.” The BIGGER question remains? What will “really” happen to Hawaii after we open up Pandora's Box? What will happen to the “culture” of Hawaii as we know it today? Are we prepared to live with the “new culture” of Hawaii that we are about to create! Are we prepared to change Hawaii?

Mahalo, Dr. Marcus Hester

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 8:00 PM

To: House Special Session

Cc: mikepalcic@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/29/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Michael G. Palcic	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Testimony of Michael G Palcic.on SB1 Aloha Mr. Chairman. My name is Michael Palcic. It is my pleasure stand before you this evening and I thank you for the opportunity to testify. I'm sure you have worked weeks and months, even years on this question I'm happy to have 60 seconds now to express my view. But first, I would like to propose on behalf of Hawaii's voters that if the legislature would grant each of us 60 seconds IN THE VOTING BOOTH, you would hear all of our views together. My name is Michael Palcic. I oppose same-sex marriage. I oppose SB1. Mahalo hou.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear House Members,

I am very concerned about the long-term consequences to our keiki and to society as a whole, if same-sex marriage (ssm) is legalized. At the very least you could give the people their voice with a vote. No one would fault you for doing this; in fact we would applaud you!

I would like to begin by saying that I have many gay friends and my reasons for opposing same sex marriage has nothing to do with individuals, and has everything to do with future societal consequences, especially to our keiki. The traditional family unit is capable of perpetuating itself naturally and existed before there were laws, religion, politics or government; it has kept the human race in existence. Traditional Marriage is unique and special for the very reason that it perpetuates the human race; this special status deserves a special position in our society. Traditional marriage respects natural law. The worst thing that could happen by making ssm law is that the human race could be wiped out, and our keiki could become infected with HIV, syphilis, and drug-resistant infections, anal cancer and AIDS.

If we allow marriage to adopt a same-gender status, someone will decide that it is a violation of their civil liberties to not be able to engage in polygamy and/or sex with children. We will eventually have a nation with men & women "married" to multiple men, women &/or children. It will be the end of the strength & decency of our nation, and children will be exploited. This will cause chaos and abuse to our children, as well as to our society as a whole.

Males and females are equal in dignity, and also very different. There is definitely something missing in a child's life without the love and support of both a mother and a father. SSM uses our children as human experiments: something we should never ever consider. Sociological and psychological studies have shown that children thrive when raised by both genders together in their home.[1,2] It is not always possible for a child to have both biological parents together, and we do our best in any given situation. We must face the fact that children living apart from both biological parents are 8 times more likely to die of maltreatment than children living with their natural mother and father.[4] Forcing our children to be subjected to this social experiment would risk emotional, physical and mental harm to the children of Hawaii. This risk is too great.

Same sex marriage proposes serious dangers to our children in school; once ssm is legalized, it becomes mandated to teach homosexual acts (such as sodomy), starting from elementary school! Look at Oregon, Massachusetts, Canada, etc where a "little black book" (or equivalent) leads children, starting at age 12 to 13 into very risky behavior, teaching them about sodomy and other sexual acts that can threaten their health in a BIG way. The schools provide names and addresses of gay bars, and places to go to experiment with sodomy and other sexual acts. The law has forced parents to relinquish their influence over their children and hand it over to government and schools, encouraging children to disrespect their parents and engage in risky behavior.

The Centers for Disease Control has noticed a significant increase in the number of new HIV infections among the youngest Males having Sex with Males (MSM) (aged 13-24), with an increase of 22 percent from 2008 to 2010 [6]. This correlates with the time Massachusetts, Canada and other states forced sodomy education on school children. The cost of health care would also increase in our state, and social issues are also very expensive to rehabilitate.

The CDC also published a report in December of 2012 regarding a serious increase in syphilis, which has been correlated with an increase in HIV due to easy transmission via open genital sores. 40% of MSM with syphilis are co-infected with HIV, and the viral load of HIV-infected MSM was significantly higher. This is what kids and parents would be facing more and more here in Hawaii if you accept marriage equality.

You may say that just because these other states forced risky sexuality teaching in schools, that this will not come to Hawaii. This thinking is flawed, because despite the people voting against ssm in 1998, it is being pushed on us now. Do we really want our young school children prematurely forced to think about sodomy, which distracts kids and steals time from academic learning, such as science, math, technology, etc? Being forced to "decide" your sexuality at an early age causes confusion and distress, distracting students from subjects that could help them gain employment in the future. Children will be at high risk for STDs, premature loss of innocence and less time spent preparing for college. This is what is happening in states that have legalized ssm. The numbers do not lie--youth are experimenting more with sodomy, and boys are becoming infected with HIV. Who will be there to care for the child with HIV or AIDS? It won't be the schools--it will be the parents, yet the schools refuse to inform parents of the curriculum, and the law backs up this thinking. There is no doubt that this is an abomination--by taking away the right of a parent to protect their child!

This bill trumps the public accommodation law over religious freedom. The priority here is reversed from what it should be. Several constitutional attorneys have verified that this bill puts the state at risk for law suits if pushed through. We should protect our religious freedom—even the freedom to help others who do not share our faith. Hawaii's Society will suffer from the churches curtailing their giving, and the Aloha spirit will be crushed.

As you can see, the risks of legalizing same-sex marriage far outweigh the benefits. The issue is much more complicated than a quick special session can accommodate. It is disrespectful to the citizens of Hawaii to rush into redefining marriage, when this is such a complicated issue with dire consequences.

Think about YOUR POLITICAL LEGACY. Do you want to be remembered as one who voted to ruin society and place our children in harm's way? One who denied the people their voice? Of course not! Stand strong for the DEMOCRATIC PROCESS and allow US TO DECIDE WITH A VOTE! Please save us from losing the ability to protect our kids; You are our hope!

Focus on helping Hawaii gain strength and a better future, with a safe society for children and a special place for the only union capable of propagating naturally: ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN! Please leave our society the way it is. If you cannot see to do this, then at the very least, give the people their voice and LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!

In summary, here are the main take-home points:

Voting for same-sex marriage:

Opposes the Will of the people

Opposes the Democratic process

Opposes Natural Law

Weakens our society (potential for polygamy and child marriage being legalized, etc)

Uses children as experiments

Increased cost of healthcare to our state

Social and health issues expensive to rehabilitate in our state

Forces parents to relinquish their influence over their children and hand it to state government/schools

Forces children to choose their sexual preference at an early age when they are vulnerable and immature

Weakens education (distraction from academics)

Increases risk for sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV, syphilis, etc among youth

Puts public accommodation above religious freedom

Steals keiki's innocence much earlier with a strong focus on sexuality starting as early as kindergarten (see what has happened in Mass., Canada, etc)

Disrespects the desire of the people!

The only fair way is to VOTE *NO* and take it to a public vote! LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE!!

Thank you very much for your time and attention,

Gerald T. K. Wong

REFERENCES

1. Kristin Anderson Moore, et al., "Marriage From a Child's Perspective: How Does Family Structure Affect Children, and What Can We Do About It?" Child Trends Research Brief, June 2002.
2. Mary Parke, "Are Married Parents Really Better for Children?" Center for Law and Social Policy, May, 2003
4. Michael Stiffman, et al., "Household Composition and Risk of Fatal Child Maltreatment," Pediatrics, 109 (2002), 615-621.
5. The little black book <http://www.massresistance.info/downloads/LittleBlackBook.pdf>
6. Centers for Disease Control. "New HIV Infections in the United States" HIV infections by route of transmission, December, 2012.

MICHAEL MINN LWIN

91-1325 Kuano'o Street
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706
808.478.6453

To: The House Judiciary Committee
The House Finance Committee

From: Mike M. Lwin
91-1325 Kuanoo Street
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
(808) 678-3778

Subject: Testimony in Opposition to Special Session and SB 1

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke and Members of Both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

As a concerned citizen and registered voter, I am submitting this testimony to voice my strong opposition to Bill SB1 that would legalize same sex marriage in Hawaii.

In 1998 I voted for what I understood was defining marriage to be between one man and one woman. In fact, 70% of Hawaii's voters agreed with me. Now here it is almost 15 years later and this is still an issue. If you want to redefine marriage, please let the people you represent decide by a constitutional amendment. One that means what it says, not a legal loophole. It seems that our elected officials are taking upon themselves to undo what the voters in Hawaii have already decided.

Additionally, I oppose this bill because the religious protection clauses are inadequate for people of faith to exercise their First Amendment right of speech and religion.

I ask you to please do one of two things:

- A. Leave the institution of marriage the way it has been for thousands of years. And the way we thought we defined it in 1998
- B. Take the issue back to the citizens of the State and allow us to vote for a clearly worded constitutional amendment

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against this special session and against this bill.

Mahalo!

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Joseph R Spatola	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: OPPOSITION to S.B.#1 Testimony I oppose this bill and this special session. The First Amendment: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. — The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution Religion The First Amendment prohibits government from establishing a religion and protects each person's right to practice (or not practice) any faith without government interference. The Freedom Forum's First Amendment Center operates several Religious Freedom Programs advancing the understanding of freedom of religion in public schools and other venues. Free speech The First Amendment says that people have the right to speak freely without government interference. #1 this bill is in violation of our first amendment rights. Religion The First Amendment prohibits government from establishing a religion and protects each person's right to practice (or not practice) any faith without government interference. The Homosexuals for the most part do not believe in GOD. #2 The Special Session is illegal. There is no imminent threat of emergency, no threat of loss of life and these bill only effects less than 5% of Hawaii's population. #3 Religious organizations and charities and other institutions are registered as 503c tax exempt nonprofit organizations therefore S.B. #1 dated Oct. 28, 2013, section (3) and all of its subparagraphs must be deleted.. #4. The Governor and this committee/special session have denied me and the people the right to decide this issue. #5. I want the Homosexual and Lesbian community to stop using the Hawaii State Colors as their colors. I want them to stop using the term GAY to describe themselves. #6. You have thrown down the gauntlet to the Morale Majority of the State of Hawaii and the United States of America; if you pass this bill you will empower the Homosexuals to shut down religion, eventually take you jobs and have their own people elected. This puts the United States on the road to damnation and utter destruction. #7 . This is not the same as when the slaves wanted equality. The slaves wanted to become part of the American society and be respected for it. The Homosexuals want domination and they will sue and tie up the courts for frivolous reasons. #8. Our laws are reflections of our morality. We send criminals to jail. Our morals and laws presently reflect Homosexuality and Prostitution as immoral and illegal acts. #9. I do not want them teaching the Homosexual Life style in our schools. I see lewd conduct –movies about men sleeping together –blow jobs and anal sex. I see movies about women having sex with four tits and two viginas all being made under the guise of sexual education. We have laws against pornography and want children can and cannot see. In our schools we teach biology and science, not heterosexual life style. Why should Homos be allowed to teach their life style to our children in school. #10. Most of all what happens to the statue of Saint Damien in front of the Capitol Building and the Eternal Flame across the street. Homosexuals do not believe in God, have no respect for Veterans; who have fought to preserve our American Way of life. #11. I charge you again the Government works for the people. It is supposed to be a government of the people by

the people, not 77 people dictating their will to the people. You , the Governor, the President OBAMA, and the Congress have all forgotten that. You make your petty deals to promote your own agenda and you forget about the people you work for. You have become the Kings and queen the monarchy of our government. You think you are better than us. You're not! Eventually the last straw will break the backs of the oppressed-the people. Beware the people are preparing their horses for the fight that is yet to come! There will be no special interest groups allowed, no union influence, no super pacts to fund you objectives. There will be term limits of 2 terms per office and you will allowed to serve in only one office from dog catcher to the President. And you better keep the job you had before you went into politics because that's what you will go back too. Summary: I oppose S.B.#1 and this illegal special session and any and all things Homosexual. Joseph R. Spatola 1255 Nuuan Ave. #1805 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-4009 Email: Spatwerx@gmail.com

Dear House Committee,

My name is Penny Toilolo and I live at 55-603 Moana Street in Laie, which makes me one of the constituents whom you represent. I understand that a bill has been given to you for review by our Governor that will re-define marriage in Hawaii. I also understand that in the special session called by our Governor you will be asked to vote in the affirmative or the negative on the proposed legislation to legalize same-sex marriage in Hawaii.

The purpose of this e-mail is to ask you to please vote in the Negative on any piece of legislation that would change the definition of marriage from the currently stated "a man and a woman". The people should have the right to make this decision by placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot next year that they may vote and make the voice of the general public known regarding this decree that will affect the entire state.

As you review and contemplate the decision to vote on the legislature proposed, I want you to know that I do not support same-sex "marriage". More so I do not support the fact that our legislature is making this decision for us. This is my voice.

Sincerely,

Penny Toilolo

To: House Joint Judiciary and Finance Committees
Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: **TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY**

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

First, let me say that I do support equal rights for all, but I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I do understand that if this goes to public vote, it may pass. I would feel much better about it then. But, not as it is currently written. There should be more protections for people who do not agree with this bill for religious reasons. The way it is written currently leaves many opportunities for religious freedoms to be violated. I am not just referring to religious leaders, but also to the people.

I also believe that the process should take longer than a week to decide for something of this magnitude. Please consider hearing this bill during the regular session instead so that it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jessica Plummer
Honolulu, Hi 96826

Dear House Committee,

My name is Penilosa A. Taosoga and I live at 55-603 Moana Street in Laie, which makes me one of the constituents whom you represent. I understand that a bill has been given to you for review by our Governor that will re-define marriage in Hawaii. I also understand that in the special session called by our Governor you will be asked to vote in the affirmative or the negative on the proposed legislation to legalize same-sex marriage in Hawaii.

The purpose of this e-mail is to ask you to please vote in the Negative on any piece of legislation that would change the definition of marriage from the currently stated "a man and a woman". The people should have the right to make this decision by placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot next year that they may vote and make the voice of the general public known regarding this decree that will affect the entire state.

As you review and contemplate the decision to vote on the legislature proposed, I want you to know that I do not support same-sex "marriage". More so I do not support the fact that our legislature is making this decision for us. This is my voice.

Sincerely,

Penilosa A. Taosoga

Testimony Presented Before the
HOUSE JUDICIARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

October 31, 2013 10:00a.m.

By
Joel Weaver

Re: SB 1 RELATING TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson

Thanks for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB 1. I am a 27-year resident of the state of Hawaii and proud to have been a registered and engaged voter for all of those years.

I am opposed to this bill because I believe it circumvents basic principles of democracy and opens a veritable Pandora's box of unforeseen legal, social, moral and economic issues.

There are many reasons for my opposition to this bill. Among them are:

--This rushed special session does not allow enough time to discuss one of the most controversial issues of our time.

--The refusal to allow amendments means that democracy is not being allowed to function.

--In 1998, the people of our state believed the issue had been settled. This is such a momentous social issue that the people should be allowed to vote again.

--A constitutional amendment would better address same-sex marriage AND allow for ample public input.

--Marriage is NOT a civil right, and no court (including the Supreme Court of the United States) has ever said that it is.

--None of the other states that do not currently permit same-sex marriages are rushing into a special session. The regular session starts in January □ 10 weeks away! □ so why not introduce this bill during the legislative session so it can be fully vetted?

--The so-called "religious exemption" language in the governor's bill is invalidated due to the public accommodations carve out. This would potentially lead to violations of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The bill must be amended to correct this, but this five-day session is insufficient for amendments to be made and vetted adequately.

Each of these concerns **by itself** is reason enough to refuse to pass this bill during a hastily assembled special session. Redefining the meaning of marriage is social engineering on a GRAND scale, and deserves adequate public discussion before being adopted on a statewide basis.

Thanks for giving the people a voice, and refusing to ram this bill through.

Thanks for allowing this issue to be brought up in the course of the regular session for discussion and debate, as issues are intended to be dealt with in a normally functioning representative democracy.

Thanks for letting the people vote on this momentous issue.

Mahalo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 8:43 PM
To: House Special Session
Cc: wmaglinti@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/29/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
wanda maglinti	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Aloha, My name is Wanda Maglinti, I am a wife and a Mother of 5. For years I've always believed that God was in control as far as our Government was concern. I have disagreed on a numerous things that happen throughout the years, however, I have always kept my faith and trusted that God was still in control. I have always believed as long as I keep praying for everyone in our Government and high Authority God's Devine desires would be fulfilled. However, that is not the case with this matter. I have never experienced this kind of feelings and emotions before. Then God showed me that it was important for me to voice my feelings and actually get off my okole and do and say something in His Honor. I do oppose Same Sex Marriage in all its context; from the marriage to the churches and business to the education being forced to either serve and or teach about homosexuality. It is obvious that I have been so wrong for not voting all these years and promise to be very active in that department and with the candidate that I believe would be the right choice to serve my district, city, state, and county. My 15 year old niece yesterday while holding her sign in support of Traditional Marriage was spit on in the face from a gay supporter who jumped out of his vehicle and took off. I strongly feel against any kind of aggressiveness in anyway or form on both parties. But, could you imagine how ugly this can be. Marriage is a Covenant set by God between and Man and Women with laws that are placed upon them. It is sad that yes they are not always obedient to those laws or are plain out ignorant of those laws all together. Gays have questioned about how straights disobey God with divorce. however true, the bible does give leeway for divorce how ever it has never done that for marriage. if the civil union needs to be fix to accommodate them. It seems to be more of a benefit issue first, then to me even though they know that marriage is a covenant created by God for a Man and Women, it becomes like a mockery for all those who believe in Traditional Marriage and the Holiness and sacred strengths in Marriage. please i am asking humbly and I am praying over all that you will make a Godly decision in this matter. On top of it all May God's Forgiveness be upon us all for even getting this far. May the Love of God and His Communion be with us all.. In Christ I Remain, Amen Wanda Maglinti

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly

identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Testimony Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina Date: October 29th, 2013 Karl Rhoads, Chair House Judiciary Committee Sylvia Luke, Chair House Finance Committee Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY Dear Honorable Chair Rhoads and Luke and Committee, Thank you for the opportunity to hear my voice. I stand today opposed to this bill and its so-called marriage equality, to give the rights to those of same sex gender to marry is one thing but to take the rights of others is another thing, your SB 1 gives no protection to faith based business, churches or facilities, that if this bill passes, "as is," then churches, local faith based business and facilities will be targeted by those who oppose our belief. We are asked to accept their sexual preferences but when we stand up for our faith and morals we are cussed at, name called, and worse sued for discrimination and our First Amendment Rights are thrown out as if they never existed, I thought that this was America a country built upon Faith. All I ask is that you consider revisiting the exemptions listed for the protection of faith based facilities and grounds as well as small businesses, to call this bill equal or equality, then it better balance out for ALL the people who call Hawaii home, not just a few, for less then 916 civil unions couples, as of 2 years ago when Governor Abercrombie signed it into law, are living in Hawaii out of 1.4 million people, so less then 1/5 of 1% of the people who live in Hawaii will benefit from this bill, while those of us who are of faith must defend our business, churches and facilities from being put out of service, a service that benefits the communities in which they operate. I find it rather disgusting to think that our Hawaii has come to this, that our culture has shifted so badly that we who call Hawaii home will feel imprisoned once again, to accept someone else's sexual preference when they are not willing to accept my freedom to live my life with the faith I have in Jesus Christ, this just no can. In closing, I ask that you would take a look at what's happening in the other states that have passed this type of bill, for ours is the worse one written in regards to religious exemptions for pastors and clergy, for churches and their grounds, for facilities and small businesses, not to mention the effect it will have on our keiki of Hawaii if this bill passes and there is no protection as to what is taught in the public schools. I hope that you, as our Representatives and Senators, would slow it down long enough to really listen to the people and make the right choices that would benefit ALL of the people of Hawaii, not just a few, and if that's not possible then put it on the ballot and let the people vote! Mahalo, Heidi Ka'aihue-Lacsina

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Sharon Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly oppose SB1. Like many people I have several people in my immediate family & many friends who are part of the LBGT community but I strongly believe all the people of Hawaii should have their say in this important matter. There are always so many unintended consequences when laws get passed and this bill is being rushed through & not vetted properly. Lawmakers are placed in office to represent their constituents not to vote for themselves. Monday's rallies approximately 100 people showed up in support of this bill (many from the M/L) & approximately 7000 showed up in opposition. I think majority of the people who vote in favor of this bill will likely not be in office after this next election. Please listen to the people & allow us to vote. Mahalo.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Mark Williams	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I strongly oppose SB1. I believe this bill is severely flawed and should not be rushed. Please allow the people of Hawaii to vote on this important issue.

To: Chair Karl Roads, Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Vickie M. Simpson
92-804 Ahikoe Street
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
(808) 352-8480

Subject: In-Person Testimony in Opposition to Special Session and Senate Bill 1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 at 10:00 am on Thursday 31 October 2013.

Aloha Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Finance.

I am a very concerned citizen of this state; I am submitting this testimony in opposition to this special session and the bill that would legalize same sex marriage in Hawaii.

I believe it is my right and responsibility to vote and I have been since the age of 18. I have also faithfully believed that our government is representing the will of the people. I do not believe this process is. This will change our state constitution and that should be up to the people to decide. Please let the will of the people be heard. Please let the people you represent decide by a vote. It seems wrong that our elected officials are taking it upon themselves to undo what the voters in Hawaii have already decided, and we are very disappointed in this whole process.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Vickie M. Simpson

To: The House Judiciary Committee
The House Finance Committee
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on
Judiciary and Finance:

We the people voted you in and trusted that you would protect the fundamental democratic principles. Therefore, having a five day special session is NOT ample time to discuss the most controversial issue of our time. Nor can any amendments be made to legislation. This insults the democratic process and rob the people's rights to be heard, which I'm sure is not your intent.

I am therefore opposing SB1 and implore you to please respect and defend the democratic process and allow a Constitutional Amendment which would better address same-sex marriage and allow for public input.

If it is true that the attitudes have changed toward same-sex marriage, then PLEASE allow the people to vote on this crucial issue that will have a tremendous impact and ramification that has not been thoroughly thought out on our beloved aina and its almost 1.4 million residents.

I believe all of you have been allowed to be in your position for such a time as this to uphold our state's motto: The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.

In closing, as a reminder our government is of the people, by the people, for the people...

Thank you and Respectfully,

Noela Nance
Honolulu, HI 96818

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
karen kimura	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Chairman Rhoads and Judiciary and Labor Committee, Please protect traditional marriage and centuries of Hawaii's culture and traditions by voting "NO" on this Marriage Equality Bill. Mahalo, Karen Kimura

Karl Rhoads, Chair Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Judiciary Committee House Finance Committee

10/31/13

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees,

I am a registered voter and am in opposition to SB 1. I am a teacher in our state's public school system and have been for the past 18 years. Interestingly, your job as a legislator is similar to my job as a teacher. People look to us for leadership, guidance, and direction. As a legislator, you are regularly called upon to exercise your judgment and wisdom regarding bills that you pass. As an educator, I am regularly called upon to exercise my judgment and wisdom regarding the curriculum I teach.

Passing a same-sex marriage bill would strip me of my right to question or even refuse to teach a curriculum that I felt was not in the best interest of all my students. In fact, teachers across the U.S. and Canada have not only been in danger of losing their jobs for questioning LGBT curriculum, they've been prosecuted for discrimination!

As a state legislator, imagine what it would be like if you were mandated to pass only certain bills and, when you questioned whether the bill was in the best interest of all citizens, you were not only threatened with losing your legislative seat, you were prosecuted for discrimination!

This is happening across our nation and is a direct result of bills like SB 1. I do not want to see it happen here in Hawai'i. Passing this bill will literally remove the ability and responsibility of 12,000 public school teachers to exercise their wisdom and judgment regarding the curricula they teach. While a small minority in the LGBT community are satisfied because material promoting their lifestyle is forced into the public schools, the negative impact on the rest of the students in each school is unimaginable.

Since SB 1 has such far-reaching ramifications and consequences, prudence demands that we not rush into this decision but pause and open up dialogue to look through the fine details and make a decision based on reason and that is in the best interest of all citizens.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.

Respectfully submitted,
Alec Shimizu
1203 Ala Alii St. #87
Honolulu, HI 96818
808-383-6457

To: House Committee

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and members of the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

I am the mother of four children, one of whom is a proud, out, and active member of the LGBT community. My children are all equal to me and they should be equal under the laws of our state. My three daughters have protections and benefits under the law but not my son because he is gay. I am equally proud of all of my children and expect that that the laws of our state and nation to afford each of them equal protections, opportunities, benefits, and support. My son should not have to live in another state in order to have equal protections under the law.

The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love. In Hawaii, my daughters can enter into marriage but my son cannot. A civil union is not equal to marriage.

In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love. In my family, my son's coming out publicly in a national forum has given strength to others in our family to be true to themselves and come out with the support, acceptance and understanding of family. My son's coming out has also enhanced the dialogue in our family for openness and acceptance which has not been an easy task. My maternal and paternal family have very strong ties to the Catholic Church. My mother, aunts, and cousins are alumni of Sacred Hearts Academy and my father, uncles, and cousins alumni of Saint Louis High School.

Religion is a personal choice. Marriage equality is a civil right. While many of the churches here in our state and nation do not support marriage equality, Pope Francis, the leader of the Catholic Church has acknowledged that "We have learned much about homosexuality in recent years. We now know that being gay isn't a choice, but something one is born with. If our Lord decides that someone should come into this world a certain way, who are we to judge his choice?" The churches do not represent or speak

for the law but they do speak for a vocal minority in our nation, many of whom strongly believe that one group is more deserving of protections under the law than another. These churches speak for themselves and their beliefs. Civil rights are not beliefs. Marriage equality is not a belief. Marriage equality is a Civil Right.

The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love. Many of the marriages here in Hawaii would have been illegal prior to the Loving v Virginia decision, including many in my own family and possibly your own. Marriage, as acknowledged by our government, comes with legal protections, benefits, responsibilities and opportunities. The government should not have two tiers of consenting adults where one group is afforded legal protections and the other not. The government does have a responsibility to ensure equal protections under the law to all of its citizens. Denying marriage equality to our gay community is the government denying equal protections and keeping our gay community in a second-class tier. That is not acceptable, it is not pono, and it is not just.

I have grandchildren and hope to see the day when I also have great-grandchildren. It is time for Hawaii to ensure that our generations of today and tomorrow are treated with equality under the law regardless of whether they are "straight" or gay. For Hawaii to not legalize marriage equality is to say that we in Hawaii have our family and communities in first-class and second-class tiers. That is not acceptable in any ohana and is not acceptable in our state.

Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 9:15 PM
To: House Special Session
Cc: mkalohelani@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/29/2013

Testimony for on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Mana Kalohelani	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Dear Chair Rhoads, Judiciary Committee and Chair Luke, Finance Committee I am writing today, to voice my strong opposition to Bill SB1. As an educator, I often teach my young students to always voice their concerns, talk out any issues and not be hasty when making decisions. I believe that this is an advice that I must give to all of you as well. I am asking that you allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage, as it is a value that will represent Hawaii; if passed, a value that will misrepresent the people of Hawaii. Equality for all people is an important aspect of society that all should embrace, but not when it infringes on other people and groups' rights. How is it equality for all when the focus is placed upon giving one group their rights, yet stripping another of theirs? I implore you as our elected leaders to really break down the bill and critically assess the true meaning behind the sixteen pages. By expediting this process, not only does it take away the voice of the people, but it also forces all of the elected officials to vote on an issue that they may not be truly knowledgeable about. Voting "yes" to this special session, will remove traditions, customs and most importantly, personal values. Thank you for this opportunity to testify, Mana Kalohelani Mililani, Hawaii

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

October 31, 2013

Ju Frigillana

94-406 Keaoopua St #48A

Mililani, Hi 96789

Re: OPPOSITION TO SB I

Dear Honorable Chair Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees,

I have the privilege of serving and working with communities, non-profits, schools, families and individuals with varying needs, statuses, and back grounds to make a positive impact for today and our future generation. We are so fortunate to live in a State that is full of aloha, full of breath, accepting of all cultures, nationalities, and traditions with strong foundations of good morals, freedom, conscience, faith, hard work, and family. However, I fear today we stand so close in breaking, weakening and losing our identity, our uniqueness, our strength, and our values that makes this State so beautiful.

Opposing to SBI is not about rejection or religion but about protection. Protecting the Aloha; the foundation of Hawaii, and continuing to build upon what is right, what is true, and what is sacred.

Please give this bill the due process it needs in a regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined. Please allow the people of Hawaii to let their voices be heard as you have back in 1998 and not allow this very important matter to be decided in this special session.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely yours,

Ju Frigillana

Mililani, Hi 96789

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Luke, and members of the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

The freedom to marry the person you love is a basic freedom that should not be denied to anyone. Gay and lesbian couples get married for similar reasons as everyone else – to make a lifetime promise of love, commitment and fidelity to the person they love.

In Hawaii, we don't turn our backs on family. No member of anyone's ohana – gay or straight – should have to face shame because of who they are and who they love.

The government should not be in the business of telling people who they can and cannot marry. None of us would want to be told that it is illegal to marry the person we love.

Please pass this bill to allow for marriage equality for all of Hawaii's families.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Lana Lando	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: To all of the House of representatives, Aloha My name is Lana Lando. I would like for all of you to know how I feel about this SB1. WE have put our trust in all of you to make the right decisions on behalf of the people of Hawaii on this hot topic(Traditional Marriage). This will affect my childrens future!! Also their educational rights. I will pull them out of public school if they are allowed to teach things that pertain to a different lifestyle(Homosexual). Make the right decision for the future of our land!! Mahalo

To: House of Representative

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear House Committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage, as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people.

The people of Hawaii should not be forced to decide between Constitutional 1st rights versus any possibility of being sued for desiring to uphold beliefs including those concerning marriage. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

We live in the land of the free. We as a people have fought for our freedom, and for the ability to choose. Give us the privilege to vote, and the democracy we have fought for and deserve.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided in an inadequate period of a week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic due process by allowing it to go through a regular session where it can be thoroughly vetted and examined as all critical bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate hundreds of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy! I oppose this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Victoria Current

Honolulu, HI 96816

Phyllis Young
909 Kahauloa Place
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-6694/808-389-6694

Representative Karl Rhoades, Chair House Judiciary Committee
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair House Finance Committee

Dear Honorable Chairs Rhoades and Luke,

Re: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

My name is Phyllis Young and I am deeply opposed to SB 1.

There were over 1600 people who submitted their testimonies to the Senate asking for time to speak. Many were not allowed to speak because they were too late in getting a ticket. Of those who could speak, testimony time was cut from 2 minutes to 1 minute. The proportion of those opposed to the SB 1 allowing SSM was overwhelmingly opposed both in written and oral testimony. Why were these people not afforded their right to give their personal testimony. Rush, rush, rush! For what—and for whose purpose?

What is very troubling to me is that we are told by law that we have the right to speak our defense re proposed bills but in practice, the legislators in the Senate did not listen to us. They did not consider the facts that there were far more people expressing their opposition to this bill than those for it. They did not pay attention to the fact that there were almost 10,000 people who showed up to demonstrate their unity to oppose SB 1 on Monday afternoon. And most of all, they are not calling to mind that they represent the people and not themselves!!

It actually haunts me that the same tune is being passed down from the larger Democratic Party to those here in Hawaii: Government knows best because the people are too stupid to know what is right for us, right for our state, right for our country! Heaven forbid that any Democrat should vote by their informed God-given conscience to vote against the Party Platform!

You have heard the facts...facts that should cause a "wake-up" call to every soul. The facts tell us that in states that have allowed SSM to be legalized, as well as in Canada, the LGBT community - even though a minority group-- have successfully stripped the rights of parents, churches, and small businesses who want to exercise their Constitutional rights. Religious Freedom and Freedom of Speech are being stomped upon by the legalization of SSM. If you don't know about this, shame on you for not having done your homework. Shame on you for not attending informational forums that were available to you to get facts from all sides.

Please do acknowledge the fact that there is a large population of gays and lesbians who are extremely militant. This group of LGBT are at war with those who claim that marriage is only

between a man and a woman. Know that this goal of legalizing same-sex marriage is but a stepping stone to further their plan. They are at war with the churches and the faithful church-going people who still stand on the Word of God and its authority. This militant LGBT group is bright and they have charted their course well. They have already planted their seeds in our schools. They desire to capture the children of today and of future generations to shape their minds, attitudes and beliefs beginning at the early age of Kindergarten, increasing their dogma as children advance in age. Their very words in the "Little Black Book" published in Massachusetts say that this is a wonderful time to be gay because anything goes and there is no limit to the fun one can have with gay sex. They teach that the bible is irrelevant in this age. We have been told that in Canada teacher and students of faith are to park their faith at the school door.

Finally, in spite of what the Governor and the attorney general may tell you, churches are not protected by this bill. As long as there is a public accommodation clause in it, NO ONE is exempt. You need to know this!! Please show me a church that does not open its doors to non-parishioners. Count the many churches that open its doors to the youth to use their school gymns, allow AA groups to gather for their very important weekly meetings. How many churches on this island participate in the Family Promise program that houses and feeds families giving them a hand up? This bill would also target Catholic Charities and other religious groups as well.

I urge you not to rush this extremely important issue at this special session. Vote "no" and let the people decide!

I wish to testify in person on SB1 and my opposition to it.

It is certainly clear that the voters of Hawaii did not intend to recognize homosexual unions as equal to heterosexual marriages, so I resent the legislature and the Governor assuming that they know better than the voters.

I respectfully disagree with the position that this bill is about equality and that opposition to it is "unenlightened." This bill as written gives a small minority group rights that deny the freedom of speech and freedom of religion rights that the much larger majority. There are not sufficient protections in this bill for religious schools, religious organizations, and individuals who wish to exercise their freedom of religion and serve/support/associate with those that share those views. I do not agree that my tax dollars need to support choices that individuals make that are contrary to my personal religious beliefs and contrary to God's Law. I reach out in love to those who disagree with me. I do not condemn them, but cannot support our society condoning their choices and saying that they are OK. I believe that would be a disservice to them.

I am not a lifelong Hawaiian. To some, that lessens my opinion and the validity of my argument for what's right for Hawaii. But I chose to come here. I was very excited for the opportunity to live here. I think coming into this Blessed land gives a perspective that living here your whole life doesn't offer. That doesn't make it better, but it makes it just as valid. It breaks my heart to see Hawaii so divided over an issue that never should have gone to a special session in the first place. The people have already spoken. Listen to them. Or ask them again, if you like. But don't vote this misguided legislation into law.

To: House of Representatives Committee
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

Dear House of Representatives Committee:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people.

The people of Hawaii should not be forced to decide between Constitutional 1st Amendment freedom of religion rights versus any possibility of being sued for desiring to uphold beliefs including those concerning marriage. I strongly support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided in an inadequate period of a week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic due process by allowing it to go through a regular session where it can be thoroughly vetted and examined as all critical bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate hundreds of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thanks again for the opportunity to testify.

James Lui
Honolulu, HI 96822

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Les Yanagi	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair House Committee on Judiciary The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair House Committee on Finance SB1: The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. I will be present to personally deliver my testimony Hearing Location: Auditorium, Hawaii State Capitol; 415 South Beretania Street; Honolulu, HI 96813 Re: In Opposition to SB 1, The Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013 Dear House Committee on Judiciary and House Committee on Finance, I am opposed to SB 1, the Marriage Equality Act of 2013, because the bill does not adequately protect religious liberty. The Senate bill does not fully protect religious institutions and clergy

- 1) Many churches have nonprofit institutions such as schools and colleges that help them carry out their religious missions. The Senate bill covers only "religious organizations" and not organizations such as these. Unlike protections that are found in other states that have legalized same-sex marriage, this bill does not protect these institutions that play such a vital educational role for churches.
- 2) The Senate bill protects churches from having to hold same-sex marriage celebrations on its properties and places of worship provided that it doesn't offer marriage celebrations to the general public for a profit. The does not go far enough. Unlike protections found in other states, the Senate bill does not protect churches from having to hold same-sex wedding receptions and other related gatherings or from having to provide services in connection with same-sex marriages such as marriage preparation and counseling.
- 3) Many churches fund important programs such as youth ministries and feeding the hungry by charging fees for the use of their facilities for weddings. This Senate bill does not protect churches that provide these vital and worthwhile programs.
- 4) Clergy and churches will not be protected under this Senate bill to be able to speak freely about same-sex marriage without the threat of lawsuits for such speech being labeled as hate speech. The Senate bill does not protect individuals and small business owners from being forced to support and participate in same-sex wedding ceremonies

- 1) The Senate bill does not protect people who are in professions that provide services for weddings such as photographers, wedding planners, florists, food caterers and bakers from being forced to attend and participate in same-sex marriage celebrations against their religious beliefs.
- 2) The Senate bill does not protect bed and breakfast owners who are asked to host same-sex wedding ceremonies and refuse to do so because of their religious beliefs.
- 3) The Senate bill does not protect judges who are asked to officiate at same-sex marriage ceremonies against their religious beliefs. The Senate bill does not protect school teachers The Senate bill does not protect school teachers from being forced to teach courses that support and promote same-sex marriage against their religious beliefs. The Senate bill does not protect parents and their children The Senate bill does not protect parents who want to be notified and remove their children from school classrooms when courses that support and promote same-sex marriage are being taught against their religious beliefs. In the same manner, their children, who also

have religious beliefs, will also not be protected under this bill for refusing to attend classroom lessons and read from textbooks and other instructional material that support and promote same-sex marriage and minimize the importance of marriage between a man and a woman. If this same-sex marriage bill is passed, there will be unintended consequences for our state and society as a whole. Pandora's box will be opened and it will encourage people in other types of relationships to also want the legal right to marry. Are you prepared to also allow people who believe in polygamy, polyamory, incest, pedophilia and bestiality to also marry? If an emotion, love, is the only criteria necessary for people to marry, there are no limits to the possible combinations and configurations of relationships that will have to be legalized on the grounds of marriage equality and equality in sexual orientation. This will literally be the end of the institution of marriage as we know it. For these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on SB 1. Please don't allow something of such great importance and magnitude to Hawaii and society as a whole to be decided by members of the Legislature within the span of just a few days. We the people thought our voices were heard loud and clear when we voted for a constitutional amendment back in 1998. We want our voices to be heard once again. We are a nation and a state of the people, by the people and for the people. Let the people decide on this issue. Thank you for your time and for your attention on this bill. Sincerely, Les Yanagi Registered Hawaii Voter

To: The House Judiciary Committee

The House Finance Committee

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Opposition to SB1

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of both the House Committees on Judiciary and Finance:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

I am asking you to allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage as I believe the legislature is going against the will of the people. I support equality for all including the rights of conscience and religious freedom, which I ask you to respect as our elected leaders.

I am opposed to the most contentious social issue in our history being decided virtually in one week and ask that you please uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process which are being disregarded in this special session.

This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can properly be vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in public policy that will forever obliterate thousand of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Adam Au

Committee on Judiciary and Committee on Finance

Chair Karl Rhoads, Chair Sylvia Luke and Members

Testimony for SB1, Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 am

(For in person testimony.)

OPPOSE the bill. FOR a Constitutional Amendment.

The following excerpts from the Senate Journal clearly show that the State Constitution was held in high regard. The remarks clearly show that the senators were aware that an affirmative ***vote by the people*** was to limit marriage to opposite sex couples.

As you will see by reviewing what was said on the Senate floor, the Constitutional Amendment was proclaimed as the vehicle to limit marriage to opposite sex couples. The people voted with that in mind. Now, if that is what was proclaimed and if that is what the voters understood, it is not right to ***circumvent*** the vote by legislative action. **Did the legislature raise this issue to the constitutional level for a reason? Will this current legislature honor what is on the legislative record?**

Excerpts from the Senate Journal, Friday April 18, 1997 just prior to the vote for the Constitutional Amendment Relating to Marriage on HB117,SD1, CD1 (Emphasis added.)

Senator Matsunaga-

"Essentially, it accomplishes what we sought to achieve last year. That is, marriage licenses will be limited to opposite sex couples, but coupled with the passage of HB No. 118, CD1, nontraditional couples will be provided access to substantially similar economic marital rights and benefits."

"The **people of Hawaii** will have an opportunity to definitively express their will on the issuance of marriage licenses. **As legislators we are bound to acknowledge their power and abide by their will.**"

Senator Sakamoto-

"...I support this because it gives the **voters** what they wanted and what they have been asking for, and yes, for years, to decide for themselves what marriage means in Hawaii."

Senator Chumbley-

"I support this proposed constitutional amendment, Mr President, because I **support and believe in the right of the citizens of Hawaii to define their own constitution.** I also trust that, upon full and fair debate, our citizens, over time, will do the right thing.

"The amendment before us today is as finely tailored as we could accomplish. The **people will decide** on the simple issue of whether marriage should be limited to couples of the opposite sex-- the courts are not insulted, equal protection is not conditioned, and no religious or social dogma is adopted. Instead, an affirmative expression of our understanding of marriage is incorporated in the supreme law of the land.

"Mr President, as a Legislator, I took an oath to uphold the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, a document which I hold dear as a lawmaker and as a citizen. The preamble to our constitution states, 'We reaffirm our belief in a government of the people, by the people and for the people, and with and

understanding and compassionate heart towards all peoples of the earth, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution of the State of Hawaii.' "

Senator McCartney-

"So that the record is clear, granting similar rights and benefits does not mean granting same sex marriage as some have alluded to in an effort to confuse the public. Our compromise package simply gives us the legal and constitutional abilities to limit marriage to man and woman and ensures that those who cannot be married under the law are afforded certain rights and benefits."

Ayes, 25. Noes, none.

In summary, the legislature needs to acknowledge that the voters did amend the constitution with the intent to limit marriage to couples of the opposite sex. The current legislature needs to honor the legislative record, the people's votes, and the Hawaii State Constitution.

I am not in support of this bill.

Mahalo,

Norman Sakamoto

Shawn A. Luiz
Attorney at Law
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1520
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel. (808) 538-0500 Fax (808) 538-0600 E-mail: attorneyluiz@msn.com

October 31, 2013

Via Email

Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
SB1- Relating To Equal Rights
Thursday, October 31, 2013
10:00 a.m.

Dear Honorable Chair Rhoads and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

For almost sixteen years I have practiced law in the federal and State Courts of Hawaii. Some of these cases involved federal and state civil rights. I believe the Hawaii State Legislature should be made aware of the following empirical evidence prior to voting on this issue.

The Ramifications of Same-sex "Marriage" are aptly demonstrated through the observed impact upon Massachusetts.

The impact in Massachusetts since the courts granted gays the right to marry has been:

I. Training Video Teaching Gay Pride in Schools

A training video created by Women's Educational Media for teachers shows what you can expect in our Hawaii elementary schools if gay marriage is created by the State. It included statements such as, "Waiting to teach children to accept differences of all kinds until middle school or high school is too late." In one segment, teachers discuss teaching homosexuality to children even if parents have moral objections to it, concluding that it had to be taught regardless of parental objections. In particular, note the attitudes being instilled in young minds that any opposition to gay marriage or homosexuality is mean and hateful and the use of peer pressure to enforce that prejudice.

II. Legal Actions against Parents

The Massachusetts courts have also held that the schools have no requirement to notify parents when teaching about homosexuality even in Kindergarten.

U.S. District Judge Mark L. Wolf dismissed a civil rights lawsuit brought by David Parker, ordering that it is reasonable; indeed there is an obligation, for public schools to teach young children to accept and endorse

homosexuality. Wolf essentially adopted the reasoning in a brief submitted by a number of homosexual-advocacy groups, who said "the rights of religious freedom and parental control over the upbringing of children would undermine teaching and learning."

III. Attack on Religious Adoption Agencies

Gay activists' efforts have forced the Catholic Charities of Boston, begun in 1903, to cease its adoption services rather than comply with state law requiring placement of children with homosexual couples.

IV. Tolerance Not the Objective of the Gay Lobby

The foregoing examples aptly illustrate the activist Gay Lobby's legal agenda is not mutual tolerance but use of the power of state to force their views upon everyone else.

While decrying hate speech, they are teaching it to young impressionable children in the schools, teaching them that anyone who believes that homosexuality is wrong is an ignorant bigot.

The Gay Lobby wants to silence all disagreement and attempts to do so by twisting words and terms. Christians are called hypocrites. Those with traditional morals or religious beliefs are called homophobic. Disagreement is called hate. Honest opponents are called bigots, hypocrites and forces of darkness. Teaching homosexuality to young children is called preparing them to become engaged and productive citizens. See *Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, 565 U.S. ___ (2012), a United States Supreme Court case in which the Court unanimously ruled that federal discrimination laws do not apply to religious organizations' selection of religious leaders. The Court noted that tolerance is a two way street.

V. The First Amendment is an individual right that applies to individuals, not just Churches

In what may be the most recent decision concerning whether one surrenders free exercise rights because one's engages in business activity, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, sitting *en banc*, recently ruled that laws protecting religious freedom apply equally to businesses and their owners. *Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. v. Sebelius*, 723 F.3d 1114 (10th Cir. 2013) (en banc). The *Hobby Lobby* case arose as one of the many challenges to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("ACA")'s requirement that certain businesses must offer their employees health insurance that includes coverage for contraceptives and abortifacients. *Id.* at 1122-23. The owners of Hobby Lobby, the Green family, are Christians who make decisions for their business according to the dictates of their faith. *Id.* at 1122. "[O]ne aspect of the Greens' religious commitment is a belief that human life begins when sperm fertilizes an egg. In addition, the Greens believe it is immoral for them to facilitate any act that causes the death of a human embryo." *Id.* Consequently, the Greens and their business, Hobby Lobby, objected to offering abortifacient coverage. *Id.* at 1125. Hobby Lobby and its owners faced the terrible choice of violating their faith or paying massive taxes imposed on businesses that refused to obey the dictates of the ACA. *Id.*

The district court ruled that businesses are not entitled to protection under the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which protects free exercise rights. *Id.* at 1128. On June 27, 2013, the 10th Circuit Court overturned that ruling, finding that Hobby Lobby not only has free exercise rights, but those rights were burdened by the ACA's abortifacient requirement. *Id.* The court held that "because the contraceptive-coverage

requirement places substantial pressure on Hobby Lobby and Mardel [another business owned by the Green family] to violate their sincere religious beliefs, their exercise of religion is substantially burdened[.]” *Id.* at 1137-38.

The *Hobby Lobby* court rightly decided that business owners should not have to be forced to choose between engaging in business and following their faith.

VI. The Legal Impact locally

Several cases have been brought against Churches here in Hawaii for refusing to rent their property for same-sex celebrations. The same happened in New Jersey, Massachusetts and California. I am counsel of record together with Jim Hochberg, Joe LaRue and Joe Infranco of Alliance Defending Freedom (*pro hac vice*) in *Cervelli vs. Aloha Bed & Breakfast, CAAP-13-0000806*. The case is currently pending before the Intermediate Court of Appeals, State of Hawaii regarding First Amendment matters with religious freedom and the Hawaii Public Accommodations Law. See also the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal’s recent decision in *Fair Housing Council of San Fernando Valley v. Roommate.com, LLC*, 666 F.3d 1216 (9th Cir. 2012). The Ninth Circuit held that applying nondiscrimination laws to homeowners inviting roommates into their private homes would raise severe intimate associational concerns. *Id.* at 1222. To avoid these constitutional concerns, the Ninth Circuit interpreted the FHA so that it did not apply to private homeowners sharing space with others in their own homes. *Id.* at 1222. This followed the “well-established principle that statutes will be interpreted to avoid constitutional difficulties.” *Id.* (citing *Frisby v. Schultz*, 487 U.S. 474, 483 (1988)).

VII. Summation

From the actual history of the legally enforced implementation of gay rights in the schools and courts, they use the law and the courts to threaten and harass anyone who disagrees with their views and to shut down freedom of speech and to deny parents the right to control the moral teaching of their children. The Gay Lobby’s view of tolerance is one sided, using the force of law to promote their views while exercising that same force to limit the freedom of those who disagree with them.

Also, peculiar language is found in the SB1 regarding whether Churches rent their property out for marriages for a profit. As you are well aware, Churches are tax-exempt under federal law. The Statute appears to give the HCRC authority to investigate already exempt non-profit entities to determine if they are making a profit regarding marriages which makes no sense at all.

As a civil rights practitioner, it is apparent the end result: this resulting one sided use of the power of the state to force their views upon everyone else will to only lead to intolerance for everyone else’s views on the matter. Such is the case in any system elevating one group at the expense of another. Throughout history we have seen what happens when one group’s rights is abdicated to appease another group. The House Committee should discern this strategy and table SB 1.

Very Truly Yours,

/s/ Shawn A. Luiz

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
paul chapman	wednesday night witness	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Representing the Wednesday Night Witness, an independent Christian organization committed to the upholding of the gospel of Jesus Christ, living out biblical truths and values in our daily lives and the open discussion of our roles in public lives, firmly and rightly opposes the passage of this or any bill offering to 'normalize' the destructive homosexual style of life. The faithful In Jesus Christ will be caricatured as bigots and hate mongers for expressing their dearly held belief that unrepentant sinful men will face judgment from a righteous and holy God. In fact we are disciples sharing the TRUE LOVE of God dying daily to present the truth that will save their souls.

My name is Kent West and I am 49 years old. My partner and I just celebrated our 22nd anniversary of being together. That is 22 years that we as a couple have been denied access to 1,000+ benefits and privileges, including protections under the law, that are currently exclusive to traditionally married couples.

My partner and I are American citizens, born and raised in the "good ole U.S. of A." We both have been working since the age of 15, and we continue working to this day as productive and contributing working class American citizens earning our hard earned paychecks, as well as paying our fair share of taxes. Of our combined 68 years of being in the workforce, the taxes we have paid have contributed to the coffers of both the State and Federal Governments, and yet we are denied equal access to 1,000+ benefits, privileges and protections of marriage that our tax dollars fund on both the State and Federal level.

As a direct and immediate result of the opposition to Marriage Equality, American born citizens are being denied the right to equality every day. The very rights defined by the forefathers of the United States of America: ...that all men/women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

The rhetoric from the opposition to Marriage Equality is that this is an all-out effort to redefine the 'Institution' of marriage. It should be unequivocally clear and understood that this is in no way an effort to redefine marriage. This is simply and exclusively about equality and equal access to 1,000+ marriage benefits, privileges and protections that are provided by both the State and Federal government.

The rhetoric from the opposition to Marriage Equality is to 'Let the People vote'. Historically American voters have proven themselves repeatedly inconsistent in voting on Civil Rights Issues, especially ones that are as sensitive as this. Ultimately it has been the Government that has had to make the final decision. This is fact.

The rhetoric from the opposition to Marriage Equality is that they don't wish to have this 'forced into their lives', yet their current opposition to me and my partner marrying is forced into our lives every single day whether we like it or not.

Let me ask the opposition and the voters this. How does you marrying the person that you love, directly or indirectly impact the quality of me and my families life? How does me marrying the person that I love, directly or indirectly impact the quality of life for you and your family? The answer is it doesn't. However, the oppositions current stance on me marrying the person that I love directly and indirectly impacts the quality of my life, my partner's life and our families lives, every single day.

Do you know how it feels to NOT have equal rights, as promised under the law, as American born citizens? My partner and I do. Do any of you know how it feels to fear not being able to be there for your loved one in the event they are incapacitated? My partner and I do. Do any of you know how it feels to fear losing everything you and your loved one has built together in the event of a death? My partner and I do. Do any of you know how it feels to feel like you don't count or matter or like you are a non-citizen? My partner and I do. Do any of you know how it feels to be excluded? My partner and I do. We experience all of this every minute of every day of our lives

as a direct result of individuals like those who are opposed to Marriage Equality. To them I say, put yourself in our shoes and spend just 1 day living in our fears and see how it makes you feel.

It is time that we stop living in fear. Hate is not a family value. Love is.

Being gay or straight is not something that someone just decides to be. Everybody is born just the way our Creator has made us. To NOT move Marriage Equality forward would send the message that it is okay to continue to perpetuate hate, intolerance, bigotry, judgment, exclusion, non-acceptance and to self loathe who you are not only as an individual but also the community and your fellow citizen.

Hawaii and the Aloha spirit have been part of me and my partner's lives for 22 years, ever since we first came to the islands in 1991. We traveled to and from Hawaii for 12 years, knowing that one day we would be kama'aina. We have been kama'aina and taxpayers for over 10 years now, lovingly embraced, accepted and hanai'ed by a multitude of amazing and beautiful people, except by those who oppose Marriage Equality.

It has always been a priority for both of us to foster, embody and practice Aloha daily in our lives.

What is Aloha?

A-Akahai, meaning kindness to be expressed with tenderness

L-Lôkahi, meaning unity, to be expressed with harmony

O-`Olu`olu, meaning agreeable, to be expressed with pleasantness

H-Ha`aha`a, meaning humility, to be expressed with modesty

A-Ahonui, meaning patience, to be expressed with perseverance

This is why we live in Hawaii. This is why we live in the Aloha state.

It is time for each one of us individually, as well as everyone here collectively, to remember what being in Hawaii and what being Aloha is about. Aloha is about community. Community is Common-Unity. Aloha is about ohana. Ohana is family. Aloha is about inclusion, not exclusion. Aloha is about diversity, not intolerance, nor bigotry, nor hatred. My charge to all of you here today is to embody and begin practicing from this moment forward, the meaning of Aloha. Our charge from our universal Creator is to love one another.

Moving Marriage Equality forward in Hawaii nei is the pono thing to do. Marriage Equality is not about redefining or renaming the institution of marriage. It is simply about equal access to 1,000+ benefits, privileges and protections that become available to couples when they take vows to be partners in life.

Now is the time for Hawaii to demonstrate to the world what Aloha really means by passing Marriage Equality for everyone.

, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room Auditorium

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Yasuhara Patti	Individual	Oppose	Yes

I AM
~~NOT~~
A ROMAN
CATHOLIC



MY BISHOP
HAS BEEN LEADING
HIS FLOCK
ASTRAY

(BY HIS
IDEOLOGY)

The IDEOLOGICAL CHRISTIAN
IS THIS MOB SCENE!

JESUS WAS A VICTIM OF JUST SUCH A
SCENE.

THESE THOUSANDS WHO COME TO DECRY
JUST THIS AGENDA BEFORE US.
ARE LIKE ~~TO~~ THE Mobs AT THE
CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS.

WHY? HE WAS DIFFERENT THAN THOSE
WHO CALLED FOR HIS DEATH.

THE FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST - THE DISCIPLES
HID FROM THIS SCENE - SKIRTING AND
HIDING IN THE CROWDS FEARING THEY
YOU WOULD SUFFER THE SAME FATE.
WE WILL NO LONGER HIDE FROM THE
JUSTICE THAT IS RIGHTFULLY OURS
YOUR GAY BROTHERS AND SISTERS HAVE BEEN
DENIED, CALLED "UNCLE TOM" FAR TO LONG
IN THIS WORLD. (THINK) YOU FOLLOWERS
OF CHRIST BEFORE YOU CONDEMN JUSTICE
FOR ALL
PEOPLE

I respectfully disagree with the special session on redefining marriage. I cannot imagine the pressure placed upon my legislation, to have to take a side in this highly charged event. However, it was called, and I would like to state my opposition to SB-1.

The majority vote (lawful and constitutional) determined the definition of marriage for the state of Hawaii as between one man and one woman.

In the case of benefits, why are we not petitioning Congress to change how they distribute federal benefits and allow for taxation that is more balanced and fair, regardless of one's marital or relational status, instead of redefining marriage? For many citizens, marriage is sacred as between one man and one woman. For others, it is only equal to approve same sex marriage. In light of this fact, it seems the best decision is to let the people decide.

Pertaining to civil rights, I believe our sexual orientation is a choice, even if we feel it is our only one. I absolutely respect each individual's right to choose their sexual orientation, lifestyle or religion, but how do we say that orientation is the same as race, in regards to civil rights, when a person can change this aspect of their lives? How do we say only sanctioned clergy or a religious organization, and then under extremely limited exemptions, do not have to perform or service same sex ceremonies/civil union ceremonies? This is not constitutional because the Constitution does not define freedom of speech and religion, nor the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in this manner.

Unfortunately, a number of businessmen and women, military, clergy ,educators and students who disagree with or do not endorse same sex marriage or homosexuality, have already had their rights violated in this matter, from the executive, legislative or judicial branches of various states. This is not equality, regardless of one's status or beliefs. The House should not approve SB1.

Respectfully,

Dee Ann Louis