

From: Ella Mae Camacho [<mailto:emcamacho@hawaiiantel.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 4:36 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: OPPOSITION TO SAME SEX MARRIAGE FOR HAWAII

My vote for you as a body of intellectual personnel to serve the majority of the people at the cost of your own personal belief is at stake for future integrity of the people of Hawaii.

If you lifted one hand to the heavens while the other placed upon the Bible, the word of God, when elected taking a **solemn oath**, then your vote is **NO**...however if you decide to do otherwise then you would have blatantly brought mockery unto the God of this land who stated very explicitly in the Bible that same sex is a **SIN**... and no matter how it is color coded, it is still a **SIN**!

So hopefully you will not be part of the slow death of this world; if same sex can procreate without borrowing from anyone's sperm that is God given than this session would not be needed

However same sex components have desecrated procreation and taken upon themselves to be a god, and by allowing this bill to pass, you are accountable for what is to come, for God will not be mocked and His laws are firm and simply stated if you have His spirit within you.

And for those of you who have taken the stand of **NO** to this issue, my gratitude in your forthright responsibility to stand for **TRUTH!** and for those who are toying with **Yes**, nothing wrong with a change of heart.

Do What is Right!

Mahalo!

Ella Camacho

emcamacho@hawaiiantel.net

From: Rosemary Yokota [<mailto:dyokota@hawaii.rr.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 4:47 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Bill SB-1

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

My name is Rosemary Yokota, and I am born and raised in Hawaii. Thank you for allowing me to testify before you. I am strongly oppose to SB1 Bill.

The reason for my concerns is that it will affect my children's, and grandchildren as well as all families in Hawaii who were taught the values of traditional marriage. I am concern about the curriculum that will be force on our teachers to teach information on same sex marriage.

Please vote No.

Thank you,
Rosemary Yokota

-----Original Message-----

From: Debra zeleznik [<mailto:debz@rubberstampplantation.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:00 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Sylvia Luke (our representative) and members of the Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

We are writing in strong support of SB 1.

Prohibiting gay couples from marrying is as patently unfair as restricting marriage for "white folks only." Both are abhorrent, insulting, and generate immediate, visceral antipathy. Why? Because discrimination is wrong, and no thinking person would countenance it.

Discrimination is discrimination. It's still prevalent today in many forms.

SB1 is NOT about families, love, children, our school system, or religion. It's simple a matter of equality: equal rights, equal responsibility, and equal protection under the law. Social justice, if you will.

Passing SB1 is not a choice, it's a mandate.

Pass this bill. We trust you. We appreciate this opportunity to testify, and you--for doing what's right.

Debra S. Zeleznik, and
Mary A. Wilkowski, Esq.

Debra zeleznik
746 Ilaniwai Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

HOUSE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND FINANCE

Hearing Date: October 31, 2013
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: State Capitol Auditorium

To: The Honorable Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair of Judiciary
The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair of Finance

From: Shylar K. Young

Regarding: S.B. 1: RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS - Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the Judiciary and Finance Committees:

My name is Shylar Young and I am 13 years old. My parents are Tambry and Suzanne Young. My moms have been together for 32 years. But because they weren't granted the same benefits that are given to straight married couples, our family had to pay an extra \$1500 to the government this year. That may not seem like a lot to you, but to me that's a lot of money. And if you multiply that by the 4 years that I've been here with my moms fighting for our rights, that's \$6000!

So how does my family paying more to the government, and my moms living happily as a married couple hurt the people who don't support us? I don't think it hurts them at all but it really hurts me and my moms. So what if their kids will have to learn and accept it in school – families like mine are already in our schools and you know what, we all get along.

My moms love each other regardless. Nothing will stop them from loving one another. How does our family's happiness and love affect those who are against us? This shouldn't even be an argument! Marriage is between two people that love each other. It's not something that should be put to a vote. By allowing my moms to be considered married in Hawaii it will only give them what every other straight married couple has. All we ask is to have all the rights, protections and responsibilities that every other straight, married couple has.

When we were up in Massachusetts recently, no one cared. It didn't affect their lives like how some people are saying it would. We met many people that have congratulated my moms for their marriage. They don't care anymore, it's just part of life for them. In fact, a lot of the people we met thought we had marriage already in Hawaii.

Many of the people against marriage equality believe that I will be weird, but how would they know. They don't know me. What they are doing is a type of bullying. Why are grown men and women bullying a 13 year old girl? They do not know me; they just assume that I will be weird. So tell me how weird is it that I am a member of the National Honor Society, have a 4.0 GPA,

and my first film was in the Hawaii International Film Festival and is being considered for the New York Film Festival. Gee how weird is that?

Singers Macklemore and Ryan Lewis said “we live in a world so hateful some would rather die than be who they are.” What this means is because of those who bully gay people and make them feel it’s bad to be gay when it’s not, they feel so much hurt they kill themselves. And do you know what the Bible says, “thou shall not kill”. Therefore if we are considered evil for just loving one another, I wonder how evil they are for making people feel like they need to kill themselves.

I really don’t understand what’s the big deal! And neither do many of my friends. So what if a man and a man love each other, it’s none of any of our business. Right now what it seems to be is that the people going against us are just trying to cause drama. That’s it. There’s no reason how having two people of the same sex love each other should be such a big deal. It’s rude, it’s crazy, and it’s just not necessary for those who oppose same-sex marriage to fear it. It’s none of their business how our family lives. But it is the government’s business to ensure our family is treated the same as all other families and that we are provided equal rights under the law as required by the US Constitution.

And so I ask you to support families like mine and vote to pass this marriage equality bill. Thank you.

Kat Brady
katbrady@hotmail.com



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair
Rep. Sharon Har, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Thursday, October 31, 2013

10:00 a.m.

State Capitol Auditorium

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB1 – MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Har, Nishimoto and Johanson and Members of the Committees,

Mahalo nui for hearing this important measure. I am Kat Brady, a heterosexual woman, Vice President of Citizens for Equal Rights and a strong advocate for justice in Hawai'i and the world.

In his 1967 speech, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, Martin Luther King Jr. said,

*"Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice.
Justice at its best is love correcting everything that stands against love."*

This is your opportunity today. You have the chance to be power at its best. You have the chance to be on the right side of history.

Many decades ago, some legislators, who may have been in the very seat you now occupy, voted for bills on which they may not have personally agreed and yet were able to put their personal feelings aside to work for the greater good. That is an example of power at its best.

We all celebrate and honor families. Strong families build safe neighborhoods and safe neighborhoods become vibrant communities. With the family at the center, it is not appropriate for anyone, except for the individuals involved, to decide who that family is.

This is the time to go back to the future. Protect and defend the Constitution that you swore to uphold and allow people to be who they are with justice, liberty and equal rights for all. The human heart was built for love.

Please pass SB 1 to improve the quality of justice in Hawai'i. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

-----Original Message-----

From: Melissa Wilkie [<mailto:Twisted.vendetta@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:08 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Kauai <3

Melissa Wilkie
p.o. Box 690056
Makaweli, HI 96769

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 30, 2013, 10:30 a.m.

Place: Hawaii State Capitol

Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 Relating to Equality

Dear Chair Rhoads and Luke and Members of the House Judiciary and Finance Committees on Judiciary and Labor:

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1.

Let me tell you why.

My mom chose to be in a relationship with another woman. It has had a lasting effect on my siblings and I for over three decades.

This is how it's affected me during my elementary school days. The reality of my mom's relationship would bring random thoughts of depression that also included the weight of darkness and gloom. I knew in my heart of hearts that my family secret would have its way with me from both angles, my mom was no longer in my life and my peers would eventually find out and rub it in my face. The questions from peers began to come "who's that lady your mom is always with? Where's your dad? How come your mom doesn't live with you?" These questions haunted me as a little girl. Now looking back I realized that no other adult had the courage to confront her or even speak up to tell her that her instant gratification was bringing heart ache and sadness in her kids. The silence was torture. I would think am I the only one who feels that this is wrong?

Intermediate and high school was a whirl wind of suppressing and covering up what was eating me on the inside. Alcoholism, drug abuse, self-abuse, wreck less living was what I found helped me to numb myself from the anger and resentment I had towards my mom for the choices that she made.

The painful result has made its way into my life as a wife and a mother. Now my mom is going through the consequence of a lifestyle as a lesbian. My mom has since ended her relationship with her partner but not without a price to pay. Allowing herself to feel the joy that she is entitled to when spending time with her children and grandchildren does not come so easy. Almost as if she must earn her position as mom and grandma. There aren't enough "I love you" and "I forgive you" that can encourage her being present body and mind with all of us. Even though my mom tries to move forward it's as if she is tormented by the choice she has made for almost half of her life to spend it with another woman.

It is clear from my experience that passing this bill will have disastrous consequences not only for the immediate family involved but also in the long run to the couples choosing to live a lifestyle of homosexuality.

I realize that I have no control over the MANY people choosing a lifestyle of homosexuality but as a mom I CHOOSE to practice self-control when it comes to sexual relation for the good of my children and the little eyes looking up to me as a coach, an aunty, and an educator. I refuse to sit back and allow the SILENCE to once again bring darkness and heart ache to another family. Instead I have recently revisited my dark pass (including my mom in this cause I felt the need to ask her permission to share such a personal story) and to speak up against the thought that this bill would allow what is thought to be something positive and to except it as normal.

Passing this bill without an EQUAL opportunity to place my vote in regards to my opposition tells me only one thing, I have no say, no control and my opinion has no value. I say it is only right to give me, and the residents of Hawaii an opportunity to have a say in order to avoid this pain to repeat itself over again in other families here at my home, where I was born and raised, where the culture and the legacy is worth fighting for Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Lani Kohatsu
Waimanalo, Hawaii, 96795

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.

Kory J Rosette

Aloha,

To the Honorable Chairman, the vice chairman and distinguish panel in greet you in the name of Christ.

My name is Barry K. Naone, JR; I am a fourth generation minister of the Nanakuli Door of Faith Mission, which my family has led for the past 75 years.

I strongly oppose bill SB1 on the basis of my religious beliefs and doctrinal foundations. I also believe that our state government has drifted from the Moral Laws and is cohesively trying to undermine the 1.4 million people of Hawaii to accept and adapt to the changes in civil law where what was once right would now be wrong and what was once wrong will now be right.

If we believe in democracy, on which our nation was founded and our government patterned after, then I humbly ask of you to “Let the People Decide”... Peace be unto you all...

Oct 31, 10:00a

House Judiciary and Finance Committee

Re: Bill #SB1

Hawaii State Capitol

415 S. Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Testimony in Opposition of Proposed Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013

I will be testifying in person

It is estimated that 5% of Hawai'i residents identify themselves as Gay or Lesbian but there are only ½ % of Hawai'i residents who are currently in Civil Unions. Which we would assume means that only 1 in 10 Gay/Lesbians are even interested in getting married. Redefining marriage will not only affect this very minute percentage of our population, but will change society forever for all Hawai'i residents. Changing the definition of marriage is changing the morals of our society. As our school system is the means to educate our children on the laws and morals of our Society, passing this bill will also greatly affect the curriculum taught to all of our children. This is something that should be decided by the people, and not by a handful of politicians. If the majority of our people feel that our children should be taught that having a Gay or Lesbian marriage is an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage, then so be it. But **LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!**

If perhaps the majority of people in Hawai'i do feel that they would like Same-sex marriage to be deemed as an acceptable alternative to heterosexual marriage then it would be important that **sufficient protections are put in place so that the religious rights of our people are not infringed upon.** Religious Freedom is one of the founding principles of our country. It is not uncommon knowledge that the bible teaches that Gay and Lesbian relationships are against the laws of God.

It is not a new radical philosophy but a moral principle that has been in place for thousands of years. It is a principle that even our founding forefathers believed in. Although society is changing, the bible has not changed, and many people still uphold the principles in the bible. It is their religious right to do so. To require any religious leader, organization, small business or individual to provide goods or services that assist or promote the solemnization or celebration of any marriage, or provide counseling or other services that directly facilitate the perpetuation of any marriage that is against their religious beliefs would be infringing on their religious rights.

For these reasons, I humbly request that you **VOTE "No"** to Hawaii Marriage Equality Act of 2013.

Sincerely,
Heidi Kaimikaua Hao
P O BOX 887
Kaunakakai, HI

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Finance

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

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Opposition of SB1

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 issue 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!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Nathan Brown

Honolulu, HI 96825

October 29, 2013

To: The House Judiciary Committee
The House Finance Committee
Hearing Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium

Subject: Strong Opposition to SB1

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

My name is Alyssa Yee, and I am testifying in opposition of the same-sex marriage bill. I am currently a senior in high school and have come to the realization that the passing of this bill will heavily affect my future, as well as the future of my children. I have noted that while the bill may include religious exemptions for ministers and churches that meet the provided criteria, it fails to protect my individual rights as a citizen of faith. Where is the safeguard to my religious freedom, guaranteed by the Constitution? There is none. This bill, in its current state, overrides our First Amendment rights. This places state law above the Constitution. If this bill is passed and I continued to express my religious convictions, I could easily be charged with hate speech.

Secondly, I find it interesting that the institution of marriage pre-dates that of any form of ancient government. How is it that the government can redefine an institution established far before its own existence?

Lastly, I am convinced that a bill bearing such magnitude should be discussed in a regular session, where it can be given the proper amount of time and attention, and ultimately decided by the people. As this bill will directly affect each and every citizen of Hawaii, the people should be given a choice.

I thank each of you for your time and consideration, and this opportunity for my opinion to be shared publicly. The bill, as it stands, should not be passed in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Alyssa K.L. Yee
Waipahu, Hawaii

-----Original Message-----

From: anne@nancykerner.com [<mailto:anne@nancykerner.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:08 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I support SB 1.

I am a woman of faith and have only had boyfriends. Then one day I fell in love with a woman. When our relationship got serious, I decided to tell the people closest to me who are also in the Christian faith. I was shocked and deeply saddened to see their loving gaze quickly turn to hate, a hatred I had never seen before and experience before in their eyes, EVER! It broke my heart.

At that moment I finally understood the discrimination that some LGBT people may go through.

When I attended the Senate hearing this week, I heard people mention that LGBT community who live in Hawaii can marry in another state then return back home here to live. It's interesting to note many people fly here from all over the world to their dream destination in Hawaii to get married, and I, born and raised here, and have Hawaiian blood in my veins, would not be allowed to marry today in my own home land because of the sex of the person I love. This feel very discriminatory and it saddens my heart. I deserve the right to marry in my own home land of Hawaii.

I respect other people's beliefs and religious views, and I look to the government to be treat fairly and equally and be given the same opportunities and benefits as heterosexual couples.

Please pass SB1. Thank you for your time and your service.

Aloha ke akua,
Anne

HI 96707

BettyJeanAnderson

91-1006 Waiko'ihi Street • KaMakana at Hoakalei • Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706

Telephone/Fax (808) 681-3232 • E-mail: ladyvalledor@hawaii.rr.com

Tuesday, October 29, 2013

To: The Hawaii State House, 27th Legislature of 2013
Chairman Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Sharon E. Har
All Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

Re: OPPOSE Senate Bill S.B. 1 – “RELATING TO EQUAL RIGHTS” and all related bills
legitimizing homosexuality or same sex marriage.
Hearing, Thursday, October 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM. in the Auditorium
State Capitol, 415 So. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813

I WISH TO GIVE AN ORAL TESTIMONY IN PERSON.

Greetings. I am BettyJean Anderson, a married voter, mother of three, teacher and Hawaii resident 33 years. Please oppose SB1. This bill is in conflict with the freedom of religion and the right to free speech. People of faith are already experiencing discrimination. Why is the gay community intolerant of Christian doctrine and allowed to accuse us of hate crimes while themselves addressing us as bigots and homophobes?

Psychologist, Dr. W. Peter Blitchington, on sex roles explains the gender difference relating to marriage. The male and female embryo are identical till the 7th week of pregnancy. The hormones: androgens and testosterone for the male, and progesterone and estrogen for the female, wash through the brain and spinal chord of the embryo determining the male and female genders and characteristics which together procreates the human family and the human race through the institution of marriage.

Forcing the Church to accept homosexuality is government setting up the rights of humanistic homosexuals *above* the rights of religious citizens making our rights second-class. How can one argue with “The Law” even when that law is illegitimate in the eyes of God who Himself claims to be the Supreme Law above all laws, God of gods and King of kings. Even Governor Abercrombie told Representative McDermott he expects polygamy suits within a year. Please oppose S.B. 1.

This bill is not truly about equal rights for homosexuals to marry since their rights and benefits are already protected under our domestic partnership and civil unions laws--after all, what's a piece of paper? Can't we create a law to include the benefits homosexuals desire without changing the definition of marriage?

Please read the agenda of the homosexual community; and watch the video of Massachusetts' buyer's remorse when they passed the Same Sex Marriage Act. I also have additional links and resources regarding the harms created from the practice and legalization of homosexuality. Instead, please support and preserve the true institution of marriage by passing HB 5 “Proposing An Amendment To The Hawaii Constitution To Reserve Marriage to Opposite Sex Couples.”

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. BettyJean Anderson
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

LINKS SHOWING HARMFUL EFFECTS OF HOMOSEXUALITY ON SOCIETY

1. **What Same Sex Marriage has done to Massachusetts.** The electronic version has links to state publications, etc. http://www.massresistance.org/docs/marriage/effects_of_ssm_2012/
2. **Comparing the Lifestyles of Homosexual Couples to Married Couples**
<http://www.frc.org/content/comparing-the-lifestyles-of-homosexual-couples-to-married-couples>
3. Center for Disease Control: Homosexuality is most at-risk behavior for contracting HIV
<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/basics/ata glance.html>
4. Redefining the terms “marriage” and “monogamy” by the homosexual community, i.e. “open marriage.”
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/love-without-limits/201309/polyamory-sex-roles-and-the-gender-trap>
5. **Eligibility for donating blood by American Red Cross**
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/eligibility-requirements/eligibility-criteria-alphabetical-listing>
6. **Phil Lees came from Canada to warn Hawaii** about the changes that came about in Canada after same sex marriage was approved there. The first one is from a talk he gave in Honolulu minus the very graphic stuff (that is being shown to the kids).
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZ6E3NP9Jlc>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCmR0F0nzug>
7. **The Gay Manifesto** is below.
8. **Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project** (Massachusetts stats, from GLBT source, on their high rates of domestic violence. Still trying to find "neutral sources on MA").
<http://gmdvp.org/news-events/>
9. **Catholic cite on importance of children having a father and mother.** It cites Rosie O'Donnell's son Parker & him asking for a father.
<http://www.chastity.com/chastity-qa/homosexuality/homosexuality/whats-wrong-with-gay>
10. **Ten very good reasons for Why Not Gay Marriage**
A free e-book from First Assembly of God website. Focus On The Family product.
<http://www.firstaog.com/downloads/whynot.pdf>
11. **Michael Brown did extensive research in his book "A Queer Thing Happened to America"**
Michael Brown Answering Tough Questions that Homosexuals Ask
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3Mtgj5R2Qk>

The Gay Manifesto!

Jamaica Observer
Wednesday, May 23, 2012 | 12:39 PM

Below is the complete text of the Gay Manifesto first Published in Gay Community News, February 15-21, 1987

"We shall sodomize your sons, emblems of your feeble masculinity, of your shallow dreams and vulgar lies. We shall seduce them in your schools, in your dormitories, in your gymnasiums, in your locker rooms, in your sports arenas, in your seminaries, in your youth groups, in your movie theater bathrooms, in your army bunkhouses, in your truck stops, in your all male clubs, in your houses of Congress, wherever men are with men together. Your sons shall become our minions and do our bidding. They will be recast in our image. They will come to crave and adore us.

Women, you cry for freedom. You say you are no longer satisfied with men; they make you unhappy. We, connoisseurs of the masculine face, the masculine physique, shall take your men from you then. We will amuse them; we will instruct them; we will embrace them when they weep. Women, you say you wish to live with each other instead of with men. Then go and be with each other. We shall give your men pleasures they have never known because we are foremost men too, and only one man knows how to truly please another man; only one man can understand the depth and feeling, the mind and body of another man.

All laws banning homosexual activity will be revoked. Instead, legislation shall be passed which engenders love between men.

All homosexuals must stand together as brothers; we must be united artistically, philosophically, socially, politically and financially. We will triumph only when we present a common face to the vicious heterosexual enemy.

If you dare to cry faggot, fairy, queer, at us, we will stab you in your cowardly hearts and defile your dead, puny bodies.

We shall write poems of the love between men; we shall stage plays in which man openly caresses man; we shall make films about the love between heroic men which will replace the cheap, superficial, sentimental, insipid, juvenile, heterosexual infatuations presently dominating your cinema screens. We shall sculpt statues of beautiful young men, of bold athletes which will be placed in your parks, your squares, your plazas. The museums of the world will be filled only with paintings of graceful, naked lads.

Our writers and artists will make love between men fashionable and de rigueur, and we will succeed because we are adept at setting styles. We will eliminate heterosexual liaisons through usage of the devices of wit and ridicule, devices which we are skilled in employing.

We will unmask the powerful homosexuals who masquerade as heterosexuals. You will be shocked and frightened when you find that your presidents and their sons, your industrialists, your senators, your mayors, your generals, your athletes, your film stars, your television personalities, your civic leaders, your priests are not the safe, familiar, bourgeois, heterosexual figures you assumed them to be. We are everywhere; we have infiltrated your

ranks. Be careful when you speak of homosexuals because we are always among you; we may be sitting across the desk from you; we may be sleeping in the same bed with you.

There will be no compromises. We are not middle-class weaklings. Highly intelligent, we are the natural aristocrats of the human race, and steely-minded aristocrats never settle for less. Those who oppose us will be exiled.

We shall raise vast private armies, as Mishima did, to defeat you. We shall conquer the world because warriors inspired by and banded together by homosexual love and honor are invincible as were the ancient Greek soldiers.

The family unit-spawning ground of lies, betrayals, mediocrity, hypocrisy and violence - will be abolished. The family unit, which only dampens imagination and curbs free will, must be eliminated. Perfect boys will be conceived and grown in the genetic laboratory. They will be bonded together in communal setting, under the control and instruction of homosexual savants.

All churches who condemn us will be closed. Our only gods are handsome young men. We adhere to a cult of beauty, moral and esthetic. All that is ugly and vulgar and banal will be annihilated. Since we are alienated from middle-class heterosexual conventions, we are free to live our lives according to the dictates of the pure imagination. For us too much is not enough.

The exquisite society to emerge will be governed by an elite comprised of gay poets. One of the major requirements for a position of power in the new society of homoeroticism will be indulgence in the Greek passion. Any man contaminated with heterosexual lust will be automatically barred from a position of influence. All males who insist on remaining stupidly heterosexual will be tried in homosexual courts of justice and will become invisible men.

We shall rewrite history, history filled and debased with your heterosexual lies and distortions. We shall portray the homosexuality of the great leaders and thinkers who have shaped the world. We will demonstrate that homosexuality and intelligence and imagination are inextricably linked, and that homosexuality is a requirement for true nobility, true beauty in a man.

We shall be victorious because we are fueled with the ferocious bitterness of the oppressed who have been forced to play seemingly bit parts in your dumb, heterosexual shows throughout the ages. We too are capable of firing guns and manning the barricades of the ultimate revolution.

Tremble, hetero swine, when we appear before you without our masks." - END
<http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Full-text-of-the-gay-manifesto->

-----Original Message-----

From: Zulma Aguiar [<mailto:zulmaa@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:09 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Zulma Aguiar
437 Pau Street
#703
Honolulu, HI 96815

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
John Thomas	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Equal rights...what about the right of religious freedom. The moment this bill is passed the churches who do not reconize same sex marriage will be vulnerable to attack by law suits. God created man first and then woman for companionship and to re create. Same sex couples cannot re create. I have a niece who is in a same sex relationship. I called her the other morning to tell her that I still love her even though I cannot codone her relationship. She said she understands and that's why she cannot go to church. I told her I still love her and God loves her even more.

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- Have been arrested more often”

“Children of lesbian mothers:

- Are almost 4 times more likely to be currently on public assistance
- Are an astonishing *10 times more likely to have been “touched sexually by a parent or other adult caregiver.”*
- Are nearly 4 times as likely to have been “physically forced” to have sex against their will”

“Sexuality Differences:

At one time, defenders of homosexual parents not only argued that their children do fine on psychological and developmental measures, but they also said that children of homosexuals "are no more likely to be gay" than children of heterosexuals. That claim will be impossible to maintain in light of this study. It found that children of homosexual fathers are nearly 3 times as likely, and children of lesbian mothers are nearly 4 times as likely, to identify as something other than entirely heterosexual. Children of lesbian mothers are 75% more likely, and children of homosexual fathers are 3 times more likely, to be currently in a same-sex romantic relationship.”

“The same holds true with the number of sexual partners. Both males and females who were raised by both lesbian mothers and homosexual fathers have more *opposite-sex (heterosexual)* partners than children of married biological parents (daughters of homosexual fathers had twice as many). But the differences in *homosexual* conduct are even greater. The daughters of lesbians have *4 times as many female (that is, same-sex) sexual partners* than the daughters of married biological parents, and the daughters of

homosexual fathers have *6 times as many*. Meanwhile, the sons of both lesbian mothers and homosexual fathers have *7 times as many* male (same-sex) sexual partners as sons of married biological parents.”

- <http://www.frc.org/issuebrief/new-study-on-homosexual-parents-tops-all-previous-research>
- [1] Mark Regnerus, “How different are the adult children of parents who have same-sex relationships? Findings from the New Family Structures Study,” *Social Science Research* Vol 41, Issue 4 (July 2012), pp. 752-770; online at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X12000610>

In today’s discussion over the issue of same-sex marriage, anyone in support of traditional marriage as between one man and one woman may be called a bigot, hater, prejudiced, irrational, homophobic, or even a religious nut.

However, in the event that same-sex marriage is established, ramifications to citizens in society who are guided by tradition, conviction, morality, faith, or who simply do not agree with it, will face much more serious consequences than name calling. In fact, they are already happening where same-sex marriage has been made law.

The Catholic Charities adoption services has been driven out of the state of Massachusetts for their unwillingness to go against their beliefs that a marriage with a father and a mother is best for a child and instead approve adoptions to same-sex couples. Experienced foster parents have been disqualified from caring for any foster children simply because they were not willing to accept and teach homosexual and alternate sexual orientations to the children who would be in their care.

<http://www.firstthings.com/article/2011/05/religion-reason-and-same-sex-marriage>

For the sake of children, their futures, and the future of our society that has been founded and constructed on its practice, preserve traditional marriage as between one man and one woman.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:16 PM
To: House Special Session
Cc: bkulbis@reagan.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1 on Oct 31, 2013 10:00AM (In Person)

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: **I oppose changing the definition of marriage to allow same-sex marriage to be legalized in Hawai'i. **This is a major societal change that will have devastating and lasting effects like those in Massachusetts and other states across the country. The people of Hawai'i, the people that pay your salaries, those folks should be making this decision at the ballot box via a Constitutional amendment. It should not be decided by one political party influenced by special interest groups, just because you have the numbers. Failing to allow the people to make this decision is nothing more than soft tyranny, and is a direct attack on our liberty. **Hawai'i has more pressing issues that you as our Legislators should be focused on fixing: the high cost of living, the high fuel costs, the high welfare rate, the high utility costs, the poor performance of our educational system, our runaway unfunded liabilities, our runaway spending, etc.... Issues like these require a special session, not same-sex marriage that should be left to the people to decide.

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
James T Yamada	Cedar Assembly of God	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am resubmitting since I have not rec'd confirmation notice or number that I was expecting. IF you already rec'd my testimony, pls disregard. Testimony:

TESTIMONY FROM SENATE HEARING FOR SB1, 10/28/13 HOUSE HEARING. My name is James T Yamada. I am speaking for my church, Cedar Assembly of God. I AM OPPOSED TO THIS BILL. We believe that the redefining of marriage to allow for same sex couples to marry will result in a continuous downward spiral of values that are critical to the formation of the family. We believe that the LGBT groups as well as groups like GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educational Network) will utilize this new law to overwhelm the First Amendment Religious rights of Christians. It is already happening in Europe, Canada, and in those States where organizations similar to GLSEN have been successful in changing the laws of those Nation/States. It appears that GLSEN is using the Educational System as their entry point to "retrain" the thinking of the school kids, starting at the Elementary grade level. We acknowledge that much damage has been done by society in bullying against LGBT kids, and that is wrong. Yet, it is also wrong to trample the religious rights of Christians. This goes way beyond our facilities. Our church is not our buildings, but our people are the church (biblical). The LGBT strategy effectively qualifies them as an atheistic Religious organization, aka the "Newest Religion" of the day. If the State Legislature passes the bill, it would be essentially establishing and endorsing this "New Religion." Religion as defined in Merriam-Webster's dictionary is: 1/ the belief in a god or in a group of gods. 2/ An organized system of beliefs, ceremonies, and rules used to worship a god or group of gods. 3/ an interest, a belief, or an activity that is very important to a person or group. In the First Amendment, I believe the founding fathers were protecting one group of people from using the Federal and State government to impose their belief system (called religion) on another group. The "pure" idea of religion has evolved over time to the point that the LGBT group with its powerful organizational structure, financing, interest, belief system, and activities is essentially a Religious group based on the First Amendment intended protection. They also have a god, the god of pleasure (as Christians would define the term "god," through the bible). The key thrust of the LGBT group via GLSEN is to promote the religion of the LGBT group. This is in violation of the First Amendment which states that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." In essence this "New Religion" will violate the First Amendment rights of conservative teachers in the schools, and children with a biblical foundation. The teachers will be forced to teach something they don't believe in, that it is acceptable for young men, even young children to marry their best friend of the same sex. If they refuse, they are homophobic. Christians become victims of bullying by the LGBT. Definite violation of our religious rights. The children (boys and girls) will be "brainwashed." "Wouldn't it be

great if you (boy) could marry your best friend (boy)? Try it. Experiment.” The Christians have a strong religious belief that any activity that highlights pleasure needs to be controlled through self control. The New Religion of the LGBT teaches that this activity needs to be explored and enjoyed. GLSEN is attempting to influence the Education system through the bureaucracy (here defined as normal well intentioned people working within the system, in this case the Educational system). The current global strategy of the LGBT group to “retrain” the thinking and perception of the young children will do irreparable harm, in the long run. The children will be exposed to a sexual awakening at too early an age. This exposure to their sexual drive increase the probability that these kids will be influenced by alcohol, drugs, and experiment with all the pleasures of the world. Education then takes a back seat for those crippled by this “enlightenment.” While I would agree that serious consideration should be given regarding the Federal and Health tax benefits for same sex couples in committed relationships, the damage to our next generation will be irreversible. Thank You for this consideration. Pastor Jimmy Yamada Cedar Assembly of God TESTIMONY FROM SENATE HEARING FOR SB1, 10/28/13 HOUSE HEARING. My name is James T Yamada. I am speaking for my church, Cedar Assembly of God. I AM OPPOSED TO THIS BILL. We believe that the redefining of marriage to allow for same sex couples to marry will result in a continuous downward spiral of values that are critical to the formation of the family. We believe that the LGBT groups as well as groups like GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educational Network) will utilize this new law to overwhelm the First Amendment Religious rights of Christians. It is already happening in Europe, Canada, and in those States where organizations similar to GLSEN have been successful in changing the laws of those Nation/States. It appears that GLSEN is using the Educational System as their entry point to “retrain” the thinking of the school kids, starting at the Elementary grade level. We acknowledge that much damage has been done by society in bullying against LGBT kids, and that is wrong. Yet, it is also wrong to trample the religious rights of Christians. This goes way beyond our facilities. Our church is not our buildings, but our people are the church (biblical). The LGBT strategy effectively qualifies them as an atheistic Religious organization, aka the “Newest Religion” of the day. If the State Legislature passes the bill, it would be essentially establishing and endorsing this “New Religion.” Religion as defined in Merriam-Webster’s dictionary is: 1/ the belief in a god or in a group of gods. 2/ An organized system of beliefs, ceremonies, and rules used to worship a god or group of gods. 3/ an interest, a belief, or an activity that is very important to a person or group. In the First Amendment, I believe the founding fathers were protecting one group of people from using the Federal and State government to impose their belief system (called religion) on another group. The “pure” idea of religion has evolved over time to the point that the LGBT group with its powerful organizational structure, financing, interest, belief system, and activities is essentially a Religious group based on the First Amendment intended protection. They also have a god, the god of pleasure (as Christians would define the term “god,” through the bible). The key thrust of the LGBT group via GLSEN is to promote the religion of the LGBT group. This is in violation of the First Amendment which states that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion.” In essence this “New Religion” will violate the First Amendment rights of conservative teachers in the schools, and children with a biblical foundation. The teachers will be

forced to teach something they don't believe in, that it is acceptable for young men, even young children to marry their best friend of the same sex. If they refuse, they are homophobic. Christians become victims of bullying by the LGBT. Definite violation of our religious rights. The children (boys and girls) will be "brainwashed." "Wouldn't it be great if you (boy) could marry your best friend (boy)? Try it. Experiment." The Christians have a strong religious belief that any activity that highlights pleasure needs to be controlled through self control. The New Religion of the LGBT teaches that this activity needs to be explored and enjoyed. GLSEN is attempting to influence the Education system through the bureaucracy (here defined as normal well intentioned people working within the system, in this case the Educational system). The current global strategy of the LGBT group to "retrain" the thinking and perception of the young children will do irreparable harm, in the long run. The children will be exposed to a sexual awakening at too early an age. This exposure to their sexual drive increase the probability that these kids will be influenced by alcohol, drugs, and experiment with all the pleasures of the world. Education then takes a back seat for those crippled by this "enlightenment." While I would agree that serious consideration should be given regarding the Federal and Health tax benefits for same sex couples in committed relationships, the damage to our next generation will be irreversible. Thank You for this consideration. Pastor Jimmy Yamada Cedar Assembly of God

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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 say that I'm against Bill SB1.

I am asking you to "Let the People Decide" on this issue. With the thousands of people who have come out to show you the same view that I have, you continually choose to ignore us & move along with your own agenda. This is wrong. We voted you in to represent us as the people and you're not doing your job; the job that we pay for!

This issue is so important, yet the Governor has chosen to push this through to be decided on in a 5 day period. How can you possibly make a conscientious decision on this? Have you all really thought this entire picture through? I don't think so. What's the rush? How can you possibly rush this decision that will affect the lives of so many people & their futures? If I could fire any of you, I'd start with the Governor.

I truly feel that this bill should be given an honest due process during the regular session where it can be properly & thoroughly examined as all other bills are. We the people who elected you to serve as our voices should have a say in this. You're about to change not only my life but the lives of my children & grandchildren. And believe me if this Bill passes now I'll do everything in my power to assure that many of you are not re-elected... remember, it's only a matter of time that your job will be up for bid again...

Thank you for the opportunity to testify & you all have a Blessed Day.

Bernie Kaho'onei-Pascual
Aiea, Hawaii

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Judiciary Committee and Chair Sylvia Luke, Finance Committee

Re: SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

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

From: E. Funarsochi

City, State: Peart City Id

Subject:

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL,

SB1 Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chair Rhoads & Chair Luke:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this special session and the bill that would legalize same-sex marriage, SB1 Relating to Equal Rights. I oppose the special session because it rushes the democratic process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input in the legislative process.

I oppose this bill because it will infringe upon our freedoms protected under the First Amendment and will have far reaching consequences that nobody seems to be discussing. Whether it is freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill will impact our future and forever change our history, customs, and culture. Finally, we voted on 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: E. Funarsochi

Place on ballot - let people decide

10/30/13

Thank you for your service to the great people of Hawaii. My name is Emily Vincent and I'm 29 years old. I currently work at Castle High School.

You were voted into office to bring forth legislation that reflects the views of your constituents. The people of Hawaii have spoken loud and clear on this issue with the 1998 population vote banning SSM. If your vote has a different outcome, how can you be sure that you have represented the people of Hawaii? How with any conviction or respect for your office can you say that you have done your job? Regardless of opinions on this issue, it can be agreed upon that the people of Hawaii have spoken against SSM. Why would you not allow us to decide once again?

Secondly, this is a monumental decision on a very sensitive subject for all involved. It can have lasting effects on society as we know it. What is the rush? 90% of the world does not recognize SSM. How can you guarantee us that this will benefit society? How can you say it will not affect clergy or churches negatively or say it will benefit businesses, parental rights, children, or education in Hawaii? Has every potential outcome or effect been discussed exhaustively? If a teacher needs parental permission to show a specifically rated film in the classroom and the parents may opt out based on their convictions. Can you guarantee that same parent the same right to opt out of homosexual education for their child? It was not a guarantee for David Parker in Massachusetts who was denied accommodations for opting his 6 year old son out of homosexual education and was subsequently arrested when standing firm in his convictions. Is this what will happen in Hawaii? Bakeries, florists, wedding planners, are they now forced to use their God-given talents to promote SSM? A homosexual can certainly buy a cupcake at a bakery but can they force the baker to make a wedding cake against their convictions? Is the right of a homosexual to get a wedding cake more valuable than the Christian's right to practice their religion? Will this now become the sacrifice of being a business owner or even of simply being employed? Do you know the answers to these questions?

From: Deborah Yacas [<mailto:dyacas@ymail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 2:48 PM

To: JDLTestimony; Judiciary Special Session

Subject: SB1 Testimony - D. Yacas

Aloha, my name is Deborah Yacas and I wish to testify against this special session. I do not understand why such a sensitive topic needs to be decided on so quickly. A matter so important to the lives of many Hawaii citizens' especially for many religious believers should never be made in just a week, not even in a month. I have been learning and hearing so much spectacle on how some voters want this and that, but I don't think, most of what is going on has been thoroughly examined - well not with their hearts anyway... I am a mother of 2 children - a son and a daughter and I am an aunt of many nieces and nephews, and my concern for all of their future, including their safety and personal feelings are just as great as my concerns of how this will affect my Christian families, including our Churches.

I just don't see how this equality subject is sharing in the differences of our future generations. Aren't we as parents, teachers, leaders and mentors supposed to guide and protect our children and instill in them not only traditions, but morals as well?...

I am absolutely not comfortable with a confused child sharing a restroom with my son or daughter... What about their lives? Do they not matter? Have we clearly thought of how this will impact and transform our future generations? What about unisex restrooms, will they be available in our children's schools? If not, will there be any alternatives? Can WE the State of Hawaii afford them? How can we as parents be assured of our child's safety?

By planting these kinds of seeds will only sprout weeds and thorns, and allowing them to grow, will be thick and keep in mind that in harvest there may be plenty...

I will always be a believer of God, He is my redeemer and he loves me so much that he gave me Jesus whom died for my sins, in which when I repent he is forgiving... but it disturbs me to know that Hope will be gone from those who partake in this Law.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for your time and leave you with one final thought; Just as we are to suffer the consequences of mankind laws, so must we suffer the consequences of Gods laws, for it is written in the BIBLE, in the book of Revelations Chapter 22, Verse 13 "I am the Alpha and Omega, The Beginning and The End, The First and The Last". This scripture tells me, that He will prevail and whatever choices we make in our end - His will be the last, therefore leaving our fate to rest in our decisions, why must you be the ones to decide! Are you able to justify your actions to the Almighty God, should this Bill pass? There is so much more to think about, God alone is enough, but including the children - is so much more - WE NEED MORE TIME!!!

Mahalo & God Bless!

Deborah C. Yacas

Erin A K Potter
House Judiciary Committee and House Finance Committee
The Honorable Chairs Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke
Hearing on 31 October, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m.
Senate Bill 1
Opposed
WRITTEN

Dear House Judiciary Committee and House Finance Committee,

I live on Maui and am not able to be there in-person. So please consider this written letter as my plea to you. Please DO NOT approve/pass Senate Bill 1 (same-sex marriage bill). This will have detrimental effects on our community. My Husband and I were planning on trying to start a family. We are having second thoughts as we have heard/read about the abundance of negative effects, on other states, that legalizing same-sex marriage has made. If you pass the bill, I am deeply afraid of the type of community that I would be forced to bring up a child in. Again, I plead that you vote no on Senate Bill 1, and keep marriage sacred.

Sincerely,
Erin A K Potter

Dear Honorable House Judiciary Committee and the House of Finance Committee.

My name is Hitomi Nakaoka and I am a registered voter in the state of Hawaii. I strongly oppose SB1.

I am usually not very active politically but feel so strongly about this issue that I am compelled to write to you. I am very concerned about the state of our society. Recently, I have been gaining information on the effects of the legalization of SSM in places like Canada and Massachusetts. Some things happening there, especially in the education system and health care with the rise in sexually transmitted diseases, are appalling. It made me realize how passing this bill will affect every aspect of our community and will forever change thousands of years of culture, customs and traditions. There is so much that we don't know and am opposed to one of the most controversial social issue in our history is being decided in such a short amount of time. I respectfully ask that you uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process. This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can be properly examined and discussed and heard. I was able to testify at the Senate hearings but there were hundreds of voices that went unheard. So, what's the rush? Once the decision is made, there is no turning back.

With a love of Hawaii and a deep caring for the welfare of children for generations to come, I humbly ask that you vote No to SB1 and allow the people to decide on this issue. Thank you for hearing my voice and my heart.

Sincerely,
Hitomi Nakaoka
1212 Punahou Street, #2905
Honolulu, HI 96826

Committee On Judiciary and Finance

SB1

October 31, 2013 at 10:00 am

Dear Chair Rhoades and Luke, and Members of both the House Committee on Judiciary and Finance,

My name is Winona Fuller and I strongly oppose Bill SB1. My concerns on this bill is about Religious Exemptions. There are 3 conditions that must be met by religious organizations in order to exempt them from legal harassment, should they refuse to make their facilities available to same-sex weddings.

1. The religious facility is regularly used by religious organizations for its religious purposes.
2. The religious organization restricts use of the religious facility exclusively to its members.
3. The religious organization does not operate the religious facility as a for-profit business.

If any of these 3 conditions are not met, then the protection of the section does not cover that religious facility. Condition 2 is the most sickening part because almost all houses of worship that I know of do not restrict their facility (chapel, gyms etc.) exclusively to its members. Most churches welcome visitors not of their faith and therefore this condition voids the entire so called "religious exemptions". This where we draw the line.

Another huge flaw in the religious exemption is that it does not cover religious affiliates of churches such as Catholics Charities and other church owned adoption agencies. Schools owned by a church are not protected such as the Mormon owned BYUH in Laie or the adjacent PCC. These affiliates and their employees should also be covered under the religious exemptions because constitutionally, they also have the right to free exercise of religion and should not be forced to go against their religious beliefs. One of the biggest complaints about this bill is that it is selective in who it grants religious liberty to.

For years and years, church and state has always be separated and is still separated, so why is the state getting involve with religious rights.

I plead with Hawaii Senators and Representatives to let the people decide. This is such controversial issue with heavy consequences. People a a very strong and passionate feelings on both sides.

Again for the record, I strongly oppose Bill SB1.

Mahalo,

Winona Fuller

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

My name is Shelby Pruitt, and I am coming to you as a concerned citizen and resident of the state of Hawai'i. Right now you are on the brink of making the monumental decision that will impact our state for generations. The issue of legalizing same sex marriage is a great one, and deserves much more time and attention than this brief special session can allow. Please respect the people of Hawai'i of all backgrounds and beliefs by considering this issue during the regular session. Thank you for your time and attention.

Shelby Pruitt

Mililani Resident

Opposed to SB-1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

lynn ching
45-633 Haukaekae Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Dear Honorable House Judiciary Committee and the House of Finance Committee.

My name is Hitomi Nakaoka and I am a registered voter in the state of Hawaii. I strongly oppose SB1.

I am usually not very active politically but feel so strongly about this issue that I am compelled to write to you. I am very concerned about the state of our society. Recently, I have been gaining information on the effects of the legalization of SSM in places like Canada and Massachusetts. Some things happening there, especially in the education system and health care with the rise in sexually transmitted diseases, are appalling. It made me realize how passing this bill will affect every aspect of our community and will forever change thousands of years of culture, customs and traditions. There is so much that we don't know and am opposed to one of the most controversial social issue in our history is being decided in such a short amount of time. I respectfully ask that you uphold the principles of democracy and the democratic process. This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can be properly examined and discussed and heard. I was able to testify at the Senate hearings but there were hundreds of voices that went unheard. So, what's the rush? Once the decision is made, there is no turning back.

With a love of Hawaii and a deep caring for the welfare of children for generations to come, I humbly ask that you vote No to SB1 and allow the people to decide on this issue. Thank you for hearing my voice and my heart.

Sincerely,
Hitomi Nakaoka
1212 Punahou Street, #2905
Honolulu, Hi 96826

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Danielle Smith	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am in opposition to the bill because I am FOR equality. The perceived rights given to the LGBT community would not outweigh the loss of religious freedom that would necessarily come from this bill; it is not fairness. Please vote no.

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Ava Kuhn	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: 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. I oppose this bill because the alleged religious protection clauses provide no protection for individuals to exercise their First Amendment rights of speech and religion. 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!

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

Hello. My name is Jared Pruitt. I reside in Mililani, and I vehemently oppose SB 1.

SB 1 is much too vague in its religious exemption language. It leaves room for obligating any religious organization or church to perform a marriage ceremony for any same sex couple. Why are there not specific provisions and protections in the bill that explicitly say churches and religious organizations are not obligated to perform same sex marriages. Instead, SB 1 gives three stipulations that the churches and religious organizations MUST meet in order to be exempt. If a church or religious organization doesn't meet those criteria, it is vulnerable to be forced to perform a same sex marriage under public accommodation law, which would be in direct opposition to the church's or religious organization's faith and beliefs. I believe that legalizing same sex marriage without protecting churches and religious organizations is a direct violation of the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment. A church or religious organization should not be forced by the government or any law it creates to perform any service which violates its tenants of faith and beliefs.

Please, let the people decide on this issue. Let this bill be considered during the regular session next year.

Thank you for your time and for serving the people of Hawaii.

Jared P.K. Pruitt

Mililani, HI, 96789

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Sheryl Matsumoto
44-111 Nanamoana Street
Kaneohe, HI 96744

homosexual fathers have *6 times as many*. Meanwhile, the sons of both lesbian mothers and homosexual fathers have *7 times as many* male (same-sex) sexual partners as sons of married biological parents.”

- <http://www.frc.org/issuebrief/new-study-on-homosexual-parents-tops-all-previous-research>
- [1] Mark Regnerus, “How different are the adult children of parents who have same-sex relationships? Findings from the New Family Structures Study,” *Social Science Research* Vol 41, Issue 4 (July 2012), pp. 752-770; online at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X12000610>

In today's discussion over the issue of same-sex marriage, anyone in support of traditional marriage as between one man and one woman may be called a bigot, hater, prejudiced, irrational, homophobic, or even a religious nut.

However, in the event that same-sex marriage is established, ramifications to citizens in society who are guided by tradition, conviction, morality, faith, or who simply do not agree with it, will face much more serious consequences than name calling. In fact, they are already happening where same-sex marriage has been made law.

The Catholic Charities adoption services has been driven out of the state of Massachusetts for their unwillingness to go against their beliefs that a marriage with a father and a mother is best for a child and instead approve adoptions to same-sex couples. Experienced foster parents have been disqualified from caring for any foster children simply because they were not willing to accept and teach homosexual and alternate sexual orientations to the children who would be in their care.

<http://www.firstthings.com/article/2011/05/religion-reason-and-same-sex-marriage>

For the sake of children, their futures, and the future of our society that has been founded and constructed on its practice, preserve traditional marriage as between one man and one woman.

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Donald Sanders
75-5475 Mamalahoa Hwy
Holualoa, HI 96725

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
MARY JANE ANDRES	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: PRESERVE DEMOCRACY AND LISTEN TO VOICES OF THE PEOPLE OF 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

From: Renee Godoy [<mailto:reneegodoy8@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:23 PM
To: Judiciary Special Session
Subject: written testimony on SB1

Peri Gay Bautista

P.O.B. 5288

Hilo, HI 96720

Karl Rhoads, Chair

Sylvia Luke, Chair

House Judiciary Committee

House Finance Committee

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:

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns about SB1. My name is Peri Gay Bautista. I am 54 years old and a registered voter in Rep. Faye Hanohano's district on the Big Island. I am a mother and a grandmother and employed in the educational system as an educational assistant. I was born and raised in Hawaii and am part Hawaiian.

I have raised my children and help with the care of my grandchildren. I have also assisted with the teachers and worked side by side to help teach students and assist in bringing their academic learning to their best.

I am opposed to SB1. I believe that the passing of this bill will bring confusion into the educational system and especially to elementary age students. I'm afraid that this will negatively affect them well into their adult life.

I would object to and believe that I would be pressured into teaching things that are not consistent with what I believe. I am also concerned that this will be divisive within the school system with teachers divided on what they believe concerning same sex marriage and other sexual preferences.

I urge you to vote against SB1. I think something this important with strong feelings on both sides should be decided by the voters.

Thank you for your service to our community and for giving attention to my concerns.

SINCERELY,

Peri Gay Bautista

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

I am a third year law student at the William S. Richardson School of law. I believe that the right to marry the person of your choice is a fundamental human right. The opposition to this bill is strikingly similar (almost identical) to the arguments used to oppose interracial marriage. Those arguments are now seen as embarrassing, disgusting, and a shameful chapter in American history. I strongly urge you to be on the right side of history - the side of equality.

I firmly believe that the bill is constitutional, and that it protects religious freedom. I also believe that many opponents of this bill are homophobic. Homophobia, like racism, is rapidly becoming less acceptable in daily rhetoric, and in the legal system.

The human and civil rights of everyone simply cannot be decided by the majority of the population. This is because we know that sometimes the majority of the population is wrong. It is wrong to have segregated schools. It is wrong to forbid women from voting. And it is wrong to not allow same-sex marriage.

You have an amazing opportunity this week, an opportunity to actually change the lives of so many people. Same sex couples will finally achieve formal equality, and homophobic members of our community might realize that their fears are unsubstantiated. I urge you from the bottom of my heart to pass this bill.

Mahalo for your time.

From: Jan [<mailto:rawlersof001@hawaii.rr.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 4:59 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Opposition to SB1

To: The House Judiciary Committee
The House Financial Committee
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to SB1. I oppose this bill because I am a Christian and believe that homosexuality is not embraced in the principles and moral values upheld in the Bible, God's Holy Word. According to the scriptures, God ordained that marriage be the union of a man and a woman; any other union is an abomination and is viewed as detestable in God's sight.

We are seeing the moral decay of our society due to many people not adhering to God's laws but rather following the ordinances of "man". If you let the people decide on this law, I dare to say that many would be in opposition to this lifestyle which negatively affects so much of our lives, our families and future generations.

SB1 is an issue, as important as it is, that should not be left up to the legislators to decide. We are a democracy: of the people, for the people, and by the people. I am asking that you uphold the principles of our democracy. LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE ON MARRIAGE!

I will continue to pray for our leaders that you will make decisions that will honor God and perpetuate this land in righteousness.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns regarding SB1.

Janet Y. Rawlerson
94-771 Meahale St.
Waipahu, HI 96797

October 31, 2013

Committee on Judiciary and Committee on Finance
State Capitol

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

Place: Hawaii State Capitol Auditorium

Re: Opposition Testimony to Senate Bill No. 1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the JUD and FIN Committees:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to Senate Bill No. 1.

A legislation of this magnitude should be reviewed in the Regular Legislative Session where there is due process for vetting, and more time given for public testimonies. In a Special Session, the public and voters are not given sufficient time to review the legislation, have dialogue with legislators and others in our communities, and conduct a careful review of literature relating to this subject and its possible impacts to society.

A subject of this magnitude should be put on the ballot in an appropriately worded question to allow the people to decide on the definition or re-definition of marriage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Elaine Brown

_____, a resident of the Island of Oahu

Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819

October 30, 2013

Dear Representative of the People,

Please vote against the SB1 Bill that is going through the legislative process as this letter is written!!

I am totally against it for the following reasons:

1. The people should be able to vote on such an important issue. That is our constitutional right. This loophole is being used against us to allow this bill to be made into law without the majority of the people vote.
2. The bill will begin the certain disintegration of the family here in Hawaii. Hawaii is all about Ohana. The Hawaiian people deserve to keep their cultural center intact, the marriage between a man and woman.
3. The keiki will suffer!!! We don't even know yet the total ramifications of widespread practice of lesbian and homosexual partners raising and rearing children.
4. Our state motto says "*Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono*" - The Life of the Land is Perpetuated in Righteousness. The way this bill is being sneaked into law is definitely not the right way. And to use the verbage of our state motto, it is Unrighteous. We will suffer as a population in this state if we do not do our best to conduct ourselves righteously. You as a congressman will be held accountable for your actions. Our state will suffer.

Thank you for reading my testimonial. I plead with you to cast your vote on what is best for the people of Hawaii. Let the people decide.

Mahalo,



Pamela Akina

56-403 Leleuli St.
Kahului, HI 96731

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Everett Ohta
1114 Punahou Street 4b
Honolulu, HI 96826

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn Althouse [<mailto:dawnalthouse@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:40 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Dawn Althouse
1724 Marques Street Apt A
Honolulu, HI 96822

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

William Darrah
737 Bishop Street
Suite 2820
Honolulu, HI 96813

-----Original Message-----

From: Jan Turner [<mailto:jant725@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:42 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Jan Turner
725A-12th Ave
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Hilary Yaeger
195 Maia Road
Hana, HI 96713

-----Original Message-----

From: Jamie Satterfield [<mailto:Jamienicole808@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:41 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Jamie Satterfield
3356 alani dr
Honolulu, HI 96823

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Kiyo	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Same sex marriage should be put on the next election ballot so the people can decide. Lets practice democracy not dictatorship.

From: Pat . [mailto:patricia_hy@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 5:49 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 RELATING TO EQUALITY

Dear Honorable Representative,

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I oppose there being a Special Session on any same-sex marriage issue.

Same-sex marriage should not be passed in a special session because:

a. Hawaii is the only state rushing into special session as a result of the Supreme Court decision. If the need was truly urgent, then why haven't the other 34 states that do not permit same-sex marriages done so?

b. The people voted on this issue in 1998 - the polls showed that we favor traditional marriage, that is marriage of opposite sex couples only.

c. Our children should be taught by their parents: a Mom and a Dad. They will be a balanced and grown up normally. No more excuses.

Patricia Li
P.O. Box 256654
Honolulu, HI 96825

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

As a clergy person I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

Marriage is a right that everyone should have. As a clergy person I know that I have the religious freedom to marry couples or not based on the values and beliefs of my faith community. Extending the right to marry for same sex couples does not take away or impinge on religious freedom.

As a person of faith I also affirm the separation of church and state and I believe this means no one religion or religious group has the right to dictate their morality onto the state.

I hope you will take the bold step of standing on the side of justice and the freedom to marry for everyone, no matter their sexual orientation.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Rev. Kerry Grogan
610 Ulua St
Kailua, HI 96734

House Judiciary and Finance Committee
Special Session, October 31, 2013

Re: Senate Bill 1 Regarding Marriage

Honorable Members of the Judiciary and Finance Committees:

I raise my voice in opposition to SB 1 for the reasons sated below:

First, what is the crisis that this special session was called to address? Why are we rushing through a bill, the ramifications of which we don't fully comprehend yet? How can the issue of redefining the sacred and long-standing institution of traditional marriage, even the foundation of our society, be decided in a matter of days? This process is unfair and wrong.

Second, I urge you to hold SB 1. The magnitude of redefining marriage will impact the very fabric of our society. Such a radical and drastic change should be entrusted to the people, as many other states have done. A constitutional amendment is the purest way for a society to govern itself.

Third, the religious exemptions in the bill are woefully inadequate. If the bill is going to move forward, it must include broader exemption language to protect the religious liberties and freedoms of religious conscience that are enshrined in the state and federal constitutions. As drafted, SB 1 includes exemptions that are not true exemptions at all. The bill states that clergy cannot be forced to marry same-sex couples and that religious property and facilities don't have to be used for same-sex ceremonies. I don't think anyone expects clergy and the use of their facilities to be forced to perform religious ceremonies that are in direct contradiction to their doctrines and beliefs. And most, if not all, churches are non profit by their very nature.

Churches that own, operate, manage or control other non-profit divisions and affiliates, such as schools, charity groups, social service providers, welfare distribution centers, etc. also need protection under such religious exemptions.

Conscientious objectors who own sole proprietorships or other small businesses cannot lose their rights of religious conscience and freedom simply because they are organized for profit. "For profit" means sustaining a livelihood. Right now, SB 1 affords no protection to a small business owner who refuses to provide services to same-sex couples on grounds that to do so would violate her deeply held religious beliefs.

The rights of parents, students and teachers in a public education setting is not addressed in this bill. What happens if parents refuse to allow their children to be taught moral ideologies that contradict their deeply held religious convictions? Do students have a right to opt out of such

teachings? What about teachers who refuse to teach material that violates their core religious values?

If these and other gaps are not filled with specific, acceptable exemption language, this bill, if it becomes law, will spur litigation for years to come. Please, if this bill is to move forward, consult the exemption language in House Bill 6 and the exemption language of other states' marriage laws that have addressed these issues, such as, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. Broadening the exemptions accordingly would go a long way in balancing constitutionally protected religious liberties with the marriage privileges same-sex advocates seek here.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against SB 1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Eric Beaver', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. Eric Beaver
Hauula Resident

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Diana Leaf
P.O. Box 2316
Kamuela, HI 96743

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Andrea K. Malohi	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I do not agree.

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

-----Original Message-----

From: Keoni Souza [<mailto:Keonisosouza@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:51 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Keoni Souza
1009 kapiolani blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96814

-----Original Message-----

From: Cynthia Ramirez [<mailto:cynthcrna@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:37 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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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.

It makes me so sad to know I have the "right" to marry but my gay and lesbian friends and family cannot in our state. They must go to another state to have their commitment affirmed. It seems to me that prohibition of same-sex marriage is against all that we stand for as people of Hawaii....tolerance, aloha and love of the life we have. Religious reasons for barring this right have no place in our state or country. We are tolerant.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Cynthia Ramirez
447 ILIAINA ST.
KAILUA, HI 96734

10/30/2013

Nancy Tolentino, Phone 808-542-4817

OPPOSE of the same sex marriage in Hawaii

District 28th –Rep. John Mizuno (Kalihi Valley, Kamehameha Heights)

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the Same Sex Marriage in Hawaii because it is at risk in our family life in this fast paced world we live in .These are my personal testimonies on this very important decision that you legislatures have to make for our next generations.

- 1- Life changing: In the beginning God created a man and a woman which produced children to become Family and then they multiply to keep the cycle of life going.
The negative effects and my observation that I have experienced from my grandson's father that was brought up from a lesbian relationship was living in a fatherless home which had behavioral problems such as domestic violence, fights at the High School which lead to youth detention, It was not acknowledged to me of the lesbian relationship so I felt he was ashamed, lack of guidance and direction in life which he has insecurities of himself to excel and complete his high school diploma or G.E.D.
- 2- Health purposes: I work in the medical field and I have heard of people dying of terminal disease such as AIDS which has no cure at this time. A life will be lost because of the consequences of the choices a person decides in their life.

Lastly, let the people of Hawaii decide. As a single parent, I have the right and responsibility to choose for my children in how I want to raise them in this 21st century. I am the role model and I will teach them moral, ethical and spiritual values after all I am their mother who gave birth to them.

I appreciate your time in listening to my important words and I hope you will change your vote to NO! To same sex marriage in Hawaii.

The Life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.

Thank You and God Bless,

Nancy Tolentino, Phone 808-542-4817
tolentino.nancy818@outlook.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Christine Wakuzawa [<mailto:cwakuzawa@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 7:38 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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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.

Christine Wakuzawa
47-105 Nukupuu Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744

October 31, 2013

Committee on Judiciary and Committee on Finance
State Capitol

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

Place: Hawaii State Capitol Auditorium

Re: Opposition Testimony to Senate Bill No. 1, Relating to Equal Rights

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Luke, and Members of the JUD and FIN Committees:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to Senate Bill No. 1.

A legislation of this magnitude should be reviewed in the Regular Legislative Session where there is due process for vetting, and more time given for public testimonies. In a Special Session, the public and voters are not given sufficient time to review the legislation, have dialogue with legislators and others in our communities, and conduct a careful review of literature relating to this subject and its possible impacts to society.

A subject of this magnitude should be put on the ballot in an appropriately worded question to allow the people to decide on the definition or re-definition of marriage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Elaine Brown

_____, a resident of the Island of Oahu

Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Tom LaBelle
1090 Ala Napunani
105
Honolulu, HI 96818

-----Original Message-----

From: Tristan Naranjo [<mailto:senorange@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:10 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Tristan Naranjo
91-1017 Kanela Street
Ewa beach, HI 96706

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Linda Le	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am against this bill because I feel that this takes away religious rights. This bill should have separation of the church and the state. This bill should also be revised again so that it's not fully open to interpretation and that the church which may be targeted like from other countries from lawsuits.

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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, and 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.

I have family members and friends who have been in committed same sex relationships for literally decades. Being able to wed would give them immense joy.

If we want to promote peace, justice and equality in our society, then we should start by encouraging love between couples, regardless of sexual orientation, not discouragement from a loving and committed union.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Monique Weisman
3054 Ala Poha Place #510
Honolulu, HI 96818

From: Kae Toguchi [<mailto:kaetog@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:44 PM
To: Judiciary Special Session
Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Kae Toguchi
94-021 Hukupalemo Pl.
Mililani, HI 96789

-----Original Message-----

From: Alyssa Eng [<mailto:akeng14@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:16 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Alyssa Eng
921 8th Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

This is a question of our values as a state. Our values of equality, aloha, and acceptance.

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.

Evan Weber
1408 Mokolea Dr.
Kailua, HI 96734

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

I fail to see the negative impact of legalizing same sex marriage. I see a positive effect of supporting loving couples that are a part of our society. As a nation, I believe that everyone has certain rights of equality and the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

There should be no discrimination based on sexual orientation.

I do know that I have survived any bullying and self inflicted fear while growing up. My defense was to try to fit in. In one case, I joined in teasing another classmate who had a birth defect that was not visible, but it was known that he had an undescended testicle. I was in high school and didn't make much of it. Two years later while in college, he suffered mental illness and killed himself.

Now if being gay is not visible, but is put down and harassed by self righteous straight folks, then how are we to respond to those youngsters who do not survive the bullying and suffer mental depression or commit suicide? I am appalled at the statistics. "It's extremely distressing to consider that in 2009 suicide is a top-three killer of young people, and it's truly devastating to learn that LGBTQ youth are up to four times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers." - Trevor Project Lifeline, a 24/7 crisis and suicide prevention hotline. Trevor Project is a national organization that tries to teach youth that life will get better. I believe the time for it to get better is now.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully yours,

Dustin Ebesu

Dustin Ebesu
92-573 Akaawa St.
Kapolei, HI 96707

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn poopaahunkin [<mailto:cr0zzroadz@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:52 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Dawn poopaahunkin
46-411 Hololio St
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: shannon mccarthy [<mailto:shannonmccarthy0606@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:43 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: Capitol Auditorium

Re: Strong Support of SB1, Relating to Equal Rights

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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.

shannon mccarthy
46-1009 #20a emepela way
kaneohe, HI 96744

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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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.

Michael Rhodes
2387 S. Kihei Road
Kihei, HI 96753

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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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.

Dottie Brown

HI 96792

-----Original Message-----

From: Julia Dyer [mailto:julia_fahey@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:52 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

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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.

Julia Dyer

45-243 Kulauli St

Kaneohe, HI 96744

Matthew A. Galacia

House Judiciary Committee and House Finance Committee

The Honorable Chairs Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke

Hearing on 31 October, 2013 @ 10 a.m.

Senate Bill 1

OPPOSED

Honorable Chairs Karl Rhoads and Sylvia Luke,

Thank you for your time. In the wake of this historic vote, I wanted to write to you asking that our leaders vote "NO" on Senate Bill 1. As the world continues to change at an alarming pace, it is my belief that marriage be between one man and one woman. Allowing otherwise will bring an entirely new set of circumstances that will affect the responsibility and sole purpose of the church which will impose on such religious rights of the church.

As leaders, it is the responsibility of those who make pertinent and tough decisions to rise above reproach. Sometimes that may call on leaders to go against the norm. It is my prayer that as our leaders in Hawaii convene, I hope that you will look deep inside yourselves and think about the moral implications that this historic event will produce. The future seems like it is on a course for moral depravity and you have the power to influence this change. Marriage is between one man and one woman and as leaders of Hawaii I ask that you please look deep within and see if this is the future that you want for your families to be living in. In the tenure of service as leaders in future retirement, is this something that you will be proud of that will make Hawaii a better place than what you found it. All I am saying is consider the implications of what this issue at hand is going to be bringing to the people of Hawaii and to the life and culture of Hawaii. Leaders lead and consider the people before themselves. That is why I have to say, let the people vote!!!

In all, this is not a civil rights movement or issue. I do believe that it is a moral issue and the churches are the ones that are going to be affected. Therefore, I ask that you vote *against gay marriage*. I thank you for your time and will be praying for all of Hawaii's leaders on this day.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Matthew A. Galacia

-----Original Message-----

From: Janaka Dillon [<mailto:Jdillon007@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:57 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I strongly believe that there isn't a valid reason to not let gay people marry. Bigotry is not a good reason. I can remember the day my wife and I got married, it is still the happiest day of my life. I felt like I just won the lotto. I would like to take a stand for happiness on this issue and say that if you want the freedom to marry the person that makes you happy then go ahead and do it. I support you.

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.

Janaka Dillon
4178-c Bougainville circle
Kapolei, HI 96707

-----Original Message-----

From: vidalb003@hawaii.rr.com [<mailto:vidalb003@hawaii.rr.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:04 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Same Sex Marriage Bill

Aloha State Representatives,

I am writing to you to state my opposition to Senate Bill 1. I believe that marriage should be reserved between a man and a woman. This bill will destroy something really special that has been the foundation of mankind, an institution defined by God of the Holy Bible to be sacred and holy, and has propelled our race to multiply as written in God's Word.

As a firm believer in the Bible, I believe that the passage of this bill will incur the Lord's wrath. There are instances in the Bible where the Lord allowed people to live a sinful lifestyle or allowed them to be disobedient to his will. They suffered greatly as a result of their choices.

Some have called me a prophet of the Lord, but I only see myself as one of many who has visions that God gives me. I have seen the great tsunami that hit Japan in March 2011, three months before it happened. I have seen Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast seven days before it evened formed. And I tell you now, the passage of this bill will cause great suffering to our nation, beginning with California and Hawaii. And it will not end there. This will come to no good.

James 1:17 in the Bible says, ""Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." Numbers 23:8 says, "God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind." And finally, in Malachi 3:6, God says, "I, the Lord, do not change."

We, as mortals, think that God will change his mind to give us what we want. But God created us, gave life to us, is all powerful, all loving, and omnipotent. Why would he change his mind about HIS word when he states himself that he will not change, and HIS word is absolute.

Our nation thrived under laws based on Christian principles for over two hundred years. God has been with us throughout this time, even though some of you may not think so.

So I plead with you to oppose the passage of Senate Bill 1. To pass it will take us on a road filled with potholes too deep and dark to fathom.

Much mahalo for taking the time and effort to read this letter. My prayers and thoughts are with all of you.

Aloha Ke Akua,
Buddy Vidal

Monday, October 28, 2013

Mr. Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

Ms. Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Finance Committee

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:

As a registered voter in the State of Hawaii I would like to thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB-1 at the upcoming Joint House Hearing scheduled for October 31, 2013. The following is an outline of what I will be testifying to:

1. The Same-sex marriage should not be addressed in a special session for the following reasons:
 - A five-day special session is not enough time to discuss the most controversial issues of our time, the amount of time to debate and discuss the issue is far too limited.
 - No amendments to the bill are permitted which circumvents the democratic process.
 - A yes vote during a special session will reflect the will of the governor, the legislators and special interest groups but not necessarily the will of the people of the State of Hawaii.
 - The proposed religious exemption language is rendered invalid because of the public accommodations.
 - The proposed religious exemption does nothing to protect individual business owners, teachers or other citizens right to practice their religious freedom.
 - In 1998 the people of Hawaii voted on this issue and a 70% majority specified that Marriage was defined as
2. Legislators are elected to respect the fundamental Democratic principles provided for in the State of Hawaii and the United States constitutions.
 - The people of the State of Hawaii believe that they addressed the issue of same sex marriage in 1998, if there is concern that the will of the people has change in the past 15 years they should be given the opportunity to vote on the issue again.
 - Marriage is not a civil right and no court, including the Supreme Court, has ever said that it is.

- The governor and legislators are elected to represent the people and as a result should respect the process that allows their voices and opinion the greatest opportunity to be heard.

It is my belief that the current bill and the pursuit of it's passing in a special session called by the Governor circumvents my rights as a citizen, violates my right to religious freedom guaranteed by the first amendment of the US Constitution and jeopardizes social fabric of the State of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Tera Caparida
3009 Ala Makahala Place
Apt 914
Honolulu, HI 96818

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Shayna Carvalho

HI 96817

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Stacey Morimoto	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal. This is unambiguous. When the cacophony of politics, religious fervor, misinformation and personal agendas are silenced this one enduring truth remains. It follows that if all men are created equal than all men are entitled to equal rights. It is truly that simple. I am a tax paying voter and mother in a heterosexual marriage. I feel great shame and sorrow that I have rights benefits and dignities that others in my community do not. For myself, I can not imagine looking in another man's eyes and saying "You are different than me. I have passed judgement upon you and find that you deserve less than what I am entitled too. You are lesser than me." This is the true message of denying anyone the right to marry whom they choose. My son is 14 months old. We do not yet know who he will become. I do know that no matter who that is, I want him to grow up in a world of fairness tolerance and justice where he neither feels a sense of entitlement over others or discrimination and indignity. If we teach our children the words of the Declaration of Independence, ask them to uphold serve and die for our constitution and country's beliefs yet we do not honor the ideas we teach, than we are guilty of the gravest form of hypocrisy. It is our responsibility to create a just world where we ourselves and our children have the same freedom as all others to be who we truly are. Thank you.

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

William Seemann
3247 Herbert St
Honolulu, HI 96815

-----Original Message-----

From: Jackie Pang [<mailto:Jackiempang@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:22 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Jackie Pang
94-805 Lumimao pl.
Waipahu, HI 96797

-----Original Message-----

From: chrismoo@hawaii.edu [<mailto:chrismoo@hawaii.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:22 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

This nation is founded upon deductive logic applied to the self-evident truths of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. All the rights enumerated in our constitution are derived from these basic truths. The laws of our nation uphold, enforce and protect these rights. There is no logical reason to deny anyone, including the right to marry, the rights given to all Americans

Yes, these rights may be denied if forfeited by an aggressive individual or nation for defense of the innocent, criminal justice or just acts in a just war. They may, arguably, be suspended for the greater good. But none of these exceptions apply to the right you are considering today. "Gay Marriage" harms no one. The denial of such marriage protects no one. The denial of such marriages serves no greater good. On the contrary, the acknowledgement of this right serves the greater good in the promotion of equality, justice, and tolerance for all and the celebration of diversity.

Rights are not subject to, nor should they be dependent on tradition, sentiment or majority rule, nor should they be dictated by the interpretations of any particular religious sect. The fact that slavery was a tradition didn't make it moral. The fact that the Bible can be interpreted as condoning slavery is irrelevant in matters of law in a nation dedicated to separation of church and state. The fact that it upset slave owners to have their slaves freed did not make that immoral. The fact that, at one time, a majority believed women incapable of rationality or higher education did not make it true. You know this. You know that our laws specifically prevent us from being subject to the dangerous delusions of those who know no better.

You know that the only logical action for you to take, the only one that is aligned with the rights granted all Americans, the only one that is just and fair, is to pass this law. To do other wise is to bow to the pressure of those, who you well know, offer only false reasoning contrary to the very spirit of our nation and this land.

Chris Ann Moore
Associate Professor of Philosophy
University of Hawaii
Honolulu Community College

HI 96734

Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Finance Committee

RE: Testimony in Opposition to SB1 Relating to Equality

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

I am opposed to this bill because:

It needs to be properly vetted in the appropriate committees: Education, Health and Human Services. Because this bill has such devastating, far-reaching effects it should not be confined to only two committees in five days. That is akin to forcing you make an important personal decision in your life in 5 minutes.

This tells me that, perhaps, regulation and money are considered to be more valuable to you than the Education, Mental and Physical Health of our keiki, Hawaii's children. Do you know that in Massachusetts (where same-sex marriage was legalized 9 years ago) in the last 6 years the number of students engaging in homosexual activity is up by 50% and in 2011, new infections of HIV are at 92.8% (male to male). (Phil Lees stat).

What is the cost to repair the psyche of a child? She learns in school that man to man sex is normal, but comes home to learn from her parents that it is not. What is learned at school must be "unlearned" at home. The result? Confusion, Chaos, and Self-doubt.

This bill does not protect the keiki and one consequence is the usurping of parental rights. No protection for children, parents cannot opt out of specific teaching they consider to be against their beliefs... no protection of religious freedom. No protection for individual freedoms. We are more worried about protecting our children from guns.

Furthermore, the bill does not address the moral and religious beliefs of teachers who would be forced to teach subjects that are contrary, or even repugnant to them. What about school counselors who will be in the same situation?

When the consequences of this bill are manifested in our culture will you be proud that you passed this bill? And when you are out of office can your constituents hold you accountable?

This bill would open the door to dreadful consequences never seen or experienced before in Hawaii's history. It would bring destruction to the spirit of our children, those with tender, trusting hearts. Will our children be sacrificed for a few?

I submit that every bill that comes before you in 2014 and beyond will pale in comparison to the havoc that SB1 will have on every single person living in this state.

You all remember September 11, 2001....The day that America lost its innocence. The destruction of the World Trade Center towers – forever etched in our minds. It was a turning point in US history and we can never go back. It affects every aspect of society and will continue to do so until the end of time. If you pass this bill, this will be Hawaii's 911.

Dear Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

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. Additionally, I am highly recommending that we bring our people back into the very democratic process we all have learned to trust.

This special session prevents Hawaii's people the opportunity of being completely heard, it prevents the people from voting to accept the bill as law [or not] and it basically undermines the democracy I protected for 25 years through my military service. The people of Hawaii can wait 3 months for regular session to truly develop a law that will forever effect our lives.

Why are we rushing due process when we could get it right?

We have 13 other states and Washington DC who already passed same sex marriage laws. None were passed in special session. Hawaii can learn from their successes and shortfalls. Are we doing that?

This special session does NOT afford the appropriate time for you to thoroughly develop a law that will support ALL Hawaii People – while the proposed bill currently caters to only a few.

Our God, our families and our public accommodation owners should NOT be discriminated against in a law that supports same sex marriages.

Please let the people decide.

Thank you for your time, the opportunity to testify and your public service.

Keith R. Kenyon
Kapolei, HI, 96707
Opposition

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31, 2013, 10:00 a.m.
Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition of SB1 WILL TESTIFY IN PERSON

I strongly oppose SB1 for the following reasons:

1) the package and process are very suspicious. If any of us received a package that was duck taped damaged and delivered by an unmarked postal carrier we would NEVER open that package and assume the contents to be dangerous. Likewise we have been hand delivered a bill that has been ducktaped, amended, tweaked AND delivered in a very suspicious PROCESS namely this Special Session and yet we are going to open the contents of the bill without hesitation. **I WOULD URGE YOU TO CONSIDER THE CONTENTS OF THE PACKAGE AND PROCESS AND VOTE NO.**

2) Secondly, I propose that no one in this room is a EXPERT on the issue of same-sex marriage. In scholarly research, you have to conduct a very thorough review of literature and research over years to ever be considered an EXPERT on the issue. Has anyone conducted that thorough review of literature on the implications of this bill? Moreover is the research on the societal long term effects of the bill AVAILABLE? IF NOT....THAN NO ONE is an EXPERT on this bill and merely speculating their opinion. **THIS IS AN UNDENIABLE REASON TO VOTE NO.**

3) Lastly, it is no mistake that the 1st amendment to the constitution written in 1791 protects the freedom of religion, speech, the press, the right to assemble and petition the government. We may disagree on the bill but we all agree that this amendment has made living in America a very pleasurable experience free from oppression. Your responsibility as a government official is to uphold this constitutional amendment. This responsibility doesn't happen when important bills are brought to a vote. It happens in the quiet moments you have in your office and at home when you decide again and again AND AGAIN that you will be the voice for the people. ARE YOU CERTAIN THE MAJORITY OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS WANT THIS BILL? DID YOU GO DOOR AND DO AN ACCURATE COUNT USING A RELIABLE METHOD OF SURVEYING.....WAS THAT REALLY POSSIBLE TO DO UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES?

DON'T BE PERSUADED BY YOUR COLLEAGUES...reflect back on those moments when you decided to BE THE VOICE of the people and **uphold the constitution no matter what the consequences.**

CONSIDERING THAT THE PACKAGE AND PROCESS WERE FAULTY, NO ONE IS A TRUE EXPERT ON THE ISSUE, AND YOUR CONSEQUENTIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO BE THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. THERE IS ONLY ONE THING LEFT FOR YOU TO DO.

VOTE NO. Mahalo!

**Andria Tupola
Wai'anae 96792**

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Nathaniel Breedlove	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: To: The House Judiciary Committee The House Finance Committee
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, October 31st, 2013, 10:00AM Place: Capitol Auditorium
Re: Strong Opposition to SB1 Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair 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 be properly 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. 60% of all testimony submitted regarding SB1 indicated that the public OPPOSES SB1. This is a clear mandate from the people that SB1 should not advance during the special session. I sincerely hope that you will obey that mandate and vote against SB1. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy! Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Nathaniel Breedlove Kahuku HI

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
David Fullmer	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I am a citizen of hawaii and am very concerned about the way this bill was set for a vote without the voice of the people, i believe that the majority of the people of hawaii are opposed to this bill.I strongly disagree with this bill, i believe that marriage is between one man and one women ! Please do not allow this very greivous bill to pass!
Aloha david fullmer

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
lemasani	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: {\rtf1\ansi\ansicpg1252 {\fonttbl{\f0\fswiss\fcharset0 Helvetica;}{\colortbl;\red255\green255\blue255;\red119\green119\blue119;\red255\green255\blue255;}\def\tab720 \pard\pardef\tab720\sl780\partightenfactor0 \f0\fs22 \cf2 \cb3 \expnd0\expndtw0\kerning0 \outl0\strokewidth0 \strokec2 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.\ \ Lemasani Alaiasa Laie, Hawaii }

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Michele Beaudet	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose the same sex marriage act as there are some definite flaws located in the bill. It's needs to be revised. Please let the people have a voice in this.

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I want to let my voice be heard in this matter. The technicalities of this bill appears one-sided, and it favors same sex couples more than the ordinary person. I also believe that this matter needs to be decided by the voice of the people during a regular session instead of it being forced and rushed by those who are trying to hide the real truth of this bill.

If this bill passes, it will not only uproot the traditions that were passed to us by our ancestors, it will also destroy the sanctity of what we hold sacred; marriage of man and woman, the only way that we can multiply and replenish and keep our traditions, beliefs, and sacredness of family.

I am against SB-1, for many reasons, but for the most important of all, to maintain the sanctity and sacredness of this institution of marriage. Let the people decide on this important issue please.

Traditionally yours,

Mika Tufuga-Valai

From: John (Jaime) Harrington, III, M.D. [<mailto:jaime.harrington@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:34 PM
To: Judiciary Special Session
Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 a board-certified pediatric intensivist, in other words, a doctor who takes care of Hawai'i's sickest children from after the newborn period to age 21 years. If a child's heart or lungs stop working, I help put them on a heart-lung bypass machine, a procedure which may allow the non-functioning organs time to heal. To do what I do I graduated from college magna cum laude, graduated from a top ten Ivy League medical school with both honors in research and in the national medical honor society, and spent three years each in two of the nation's finest training hospitals. I've spent the last nine years striving to do my best caring for the children of Hawai'i. Because of my scholarship in medical school I was awarded an international fellowship and spent a year in Rio de Janeiro studying tuberculosis, and there met Alex Ribeiro, the man of my dreams, 17 years ago this December 7th.

My parents were supportive and they provided the initial sponsorship for Alex to study in the United States. In 2004, I followed Alex to Hawai'i where he had come the year before to join the nation's only doctoral program of architecture. Following his graduation, Alex worked for the Bishop Museum, responsible for making the drawings that would turn its Polynesian Hall into the Pacific Hall. On July 10th, 2012, though we had been together almost 15 years, we had no mechanism to keep Alex in the country legally, and so he moved back to Brazil. This summer, following the United States Supreme Court decision that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional, we applied for our fiancé visa which has the requirement of us marrying within 90 days of arrival in the United States.

I relay this personal and detailed background to fulfill my civic duty and provide a first hand account of our experiences because the legislation you are debating directly impacts our lives.

We wish to marry here in Hawai'i, as it is our home. Our friends, family and colleagues want to celebrate with us. Either cost or duration preclude long journeys for many of my family. Marrying in California deprives us of that support during one of life's most significant events.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

John (Jaime) J. Harrington, III, M.D.

John (Jaime) Harrington, III, M.D.

3037 Lincoln Ave
Honolulu, HI 96816

I want to let my voice be heard in this matter. The technicalities of this bill appears one-sided, and it favors same sex couples more than the ordinary person. I also believe that this matter needs to be decided by the voice of the people during a regular session instead of it being forced and rushed by those who are trying to hide the real truth of this bill.

If this bill passes, it will not only uproot the traditions that were passed to us by our ancestors, it will also destroy the sanctity of what we hold sacred; marriage of man and woman, the only way that we can multiply and replenish and keep our traditions, beliefs, and sacredness of family.

I am against SB-1, for many reasons, but for the most important of all, to maintain the sanctity and sacredness of this institution of marriage. Let the people decide on this important issue please.

Traditionally yours,

Mika Tufuga-Valai

From: Susan Arnett [<mailto:slarnett17@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:39 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

My father was born and raised in Alabama during segregation. One of the earliest lessons I ever remember him teaching me was that every person was equal, every person deserved to be treated with respect and every person deserved the same rights as everyone else. That lesson came to mean more and more to me growing up as I realized the background he came from.

One of the best things about growing up in Hawaii was sharing the diverse cultures of my classmates and friends and learning to respect all the differences there are among so many people. In my home especially where we celebrate and respect so many different cultures it has pained me that we deny marriage to a particular class of people. In Hawaii, no one should have to face shame because they are gay or lesbian and, most of all, should not be denied the right to marry.

I support an exemption for religious organizations whose beliefs are opposed to these marriages but the exemption should be based upon the use of their clergy in their facilities. If they rent out their facilities for profit and do not require services by clergy of their faith, then they should not be able to deny the use of their facilities to anyone.

I do not support an exemption for vendors. Just as those people would not have been allowed to deny services to black and white couples in the 1950s and 60s they should not be allowed to discriminate today.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Susan Arnett
Maunaihi Pl
Honolulu, HI 96822

Name: Aimee Ramil Pang

Committees: House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary, Committee on Finance

Hearing: Thursday, October 31, 2013 10:00 AM

Measure: SB1

Testifying: Submitted testimony and in person

Re: Proposed Same-Sex Legislation: Equality or Special Treatment and Confusion

I like to state my support for the extension of “equal rights and benefits” to all individuals and their relationships in keeping with constitutional due process of law and equal protection of the laws; however, not by and through an arbitrary, confusing and unfair legislative act of changing the nature of “marriage”.

Gay marriage is an equal rights issue rather than a marriage issue. That being the case, there is no need to change the nature of marriage by means of an arbitrary, confusing and unfair definition. What is needed is amendment of laws extending certain “rights and benefits” to married couple (man-and-woman unions) in order that the same “rights and benefits” would be available to “certificated” same-sex couple, whatever such relationships might be called (e.g. civil unions; domestic partnership; “groomage” for a man-and-man union; or “brideage” for a woman-and-woman union). What is needed is “certification” to the legitimacy of such same-sex union or relationship.

Changing the nature of marriage by an arbitrary, confusing and unfair definition as proposed by the legislation is extending “special treatment” to same-sex couples. The “special-ness” of such treatment is evident and is highlighted by the need to use such term as “gay” or “same-sex” before “marriage” to identify the proposed, would-be unions. Marriage is marriage, as water is water. Marriage is the legal union between a man and a woman. Water (science tells us) is H₂O, not H₂H or O₂O. The use of the word “gay” or “same-sex” before “marriage” to identify such proposed would-be unions underscores that such relationships are, in some significant ways, other than “marriage”.

“Special treatment” is anathema to “equality”, especially when such “special treatment” proceeds from an arbitrary definition or interpretation of factors and circumstances.

White. Black. Brown. Yellow. Red. Man. Woman. They’re different and unique in a lot of ways. They are regarded with equal dignity before the law. I am Filipino and brown, and it is great that I don’t have to present or “misrepresent” myself as white or Caucasian or whatever, to be regarded with equal dignity as others.

We have to learn and ought to regard same-sex couple with equal dignity before the law, without destroying marriage as the legal union between a man and a woman.

It is the task of government to channel the gay rights movement, as it has done with other movements, into positive and constructive directions for the over-all good of the body politic. Under

our system of government, which treasures diversity, there ought to be room for gay or LGBT people and their relationships to function within our society, state and country, without jeopardizing or destroying marriage as the union between a man and a woman.

Respectfully submitted:

Aimee Ramil Pang

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Harmony Laufou	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: 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! We are "...one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and JUSTICE for all." Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Harmony Laufou La'ie, HI

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Robert Kahawaii Jr.	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I opposed the bill because I want the people to vote. There are many unintended consequences not adequately prepared for by this bill including religious freedoms. Religious freedom is of significant importance for all people to worship however they may please. If this bill does pass, there must be broad protections or exemptions provided for religious institutions , businesses, educators, business owners, and others like found in other jurisdictions. I strongly support the decision to have this bill go through the regular session in order for the voice of the people to be appropriately considered--to vote!--in order to ensure that many concerns along with religious freedoms are preserved.

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

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair 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.

Marriage is an institution that is unique for 1000's of years.
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.

Every culture has had marriage regulations to matter the
This bill should be given due process during the regular session where it can be properly vetted and examined as all other bills. The people who elected you to serve as their voices should have a say in *religious base,* public policy that will forever obliterate thousands of years of indigenous and non-native culture, customs and traditions.

Mothers & Fathers are important for the benefit of children
60% of all testimony submitted regarding SB1 indicated that the public OPPOSES SB1. This is a clear mandate from the people that SB1 should not advance during the special session. I sincerely hope that you will obey that mandate and vote against SB1. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Kathy Kamaue
Name (print): Kathy Kamaue

*91-497 Kuhialoko Str.
Ewa Beach, HI
96706*

[illegible]

Russell Watanabe
98-679 Kapukapu Place
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

House Judiciary and Finance Committee
State of Hawaii House of Representatives

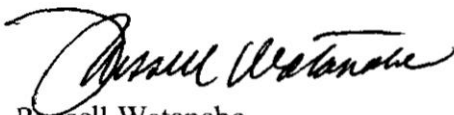
October 30, 2013

Dear Judiciary and Finance Committee Members:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Same-Sex Marriage Bill. I am particularly concerned with Paragraphs 572-T, "Refusal to solemnize a marriage" and 572-G regarding "Religious organizations and facilities; liability exemption under certain circumstances". The first protects individual clergy but not the Church and the second permits the exemption for the use of facilities only in regard to use by Church members. We have many activities where non-member family, friends and interested individuals attend to learn more about our beliefs and to fellowship. The way the language of the Bill is currently written, it does not do enough to protect our current religious liberties. My sincere hope is that the Bill will be defeated. At the very least, the language of the Bill, especially in regard to the paragraphs cited above, should be changed to protect our current religious liberties. I am very concerned about what will soon be taught our children in school regarding the new definition of marriage and the health and same-sex education taught to them. I am concerned that lawsuits will be brought against individuals, businesses and churches and their related organizations such as church-sponsored schools if they refuse to support same-sex marriage on the basis of religious conscience.

I am also very concerned that a matter of this importance with its consequences, intended or not, to our society and the future of our precious posterity be rushed through without proper and sufficient public debate. This matter should be brought to the people for a vote and not left to the few legislators of Hawaii's essentially one-party system whose members are under political pressure to tow the party line.

Thank you,



Russell Watanabe
Email: russell@watanabefloral.com

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

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

I am writing to voice my opposition to Bill SB1. *PLEASE ALLOW me to Testify. The Senate considered my voice NOT WORTHY to be heard BECAUSE*
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 be properly 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.

60% of all testimony submitted regarding SB1 indicated that the public OPPOSES SB1. This is a clear mandate from the people that SB1 should not advance during the special session. I sincerely hope that you will obey that mandate and vote against SB1. Your "yes" vote in special session is clearly a NO vote to democracy!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Name (print):

H. WAILANA KAMACU, Jr.

91-457 Kihialoko St.

ELWA BEACH, HI

907 96706

907 96706

I DIDNT MAKE THE TIME CUT-OFF to GET A TICKET.

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
BarbaraJean P. Kahawaii	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I AM OPPOSED TO SB1 BECAUSE I FEEL THAT THIS MATTER IS BEING RUSH AND OUT OF SINC WITH THE REGULAR SCHEDULED SESSION. LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON THE MATTER.

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SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Sheris Alaiasa	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: 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. Sheris Alaiasa Laie,Hawaii As a citizen and a religious person, I am very concerned about our religious freedom. In my opinion, I don't think its fair to both sides of this situation. I am very worried that if this bill is confirmed for homosexuals to marry, us members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints won't be able to do the things sacred to us. Basically what I'm saying is that its going to create chaos in our practices. In the law of Chastity, there's a law where a man and a woman that is to marry can be sealed in the Temple, but if it were 2 of the same genders we arent allowed to seal them, and if the bishop refuses because of this law, they can sue us in claims of discrimination. Im very scared of discrimination because everything we believe doesnt support this act. I hope I am making sense about this, but please think about our religious rights, because right now I am very scared that I won't be able to marry in the Temple if we arent suppose to marry homosexuals.

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10/30/13

Tesimony against SB1

My name is Grace Young, a citizen of the United States and a resident of Hawaii. My Senate legislator is Donna Kim and my house legislator is Joseph Souki.

As a Christian, a wife, a mother, and a citizen, I strongly oppose SB1 because it will jeopardize:

- the dignity of marriage as a union of one man and one woman, as created by God
- the freedom of conscience and religion
- the future of my children and the next generation
- the welfare of my state and my country

Thank you for reading my testimony.

God bless you!

Sincerely yours

Grace Young

From: Melanie Park [<mailto:Nalugirl08@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 9:42 PM
To: Judiciary Special Session
Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

On a personal level. This matter is very close to home. Together my partner and I have raised a beautifully intelligent child. We are like any family. Our house is full of laughter, we spend weekends at our daughters sporting events, dance and piano recitals, we enjoy family trips and dinners, we snuggle each other to sleep. I want to be able to be married and although our daughter knows our love for each other it would be even better if we were married. I know that you will make the right decision with regards to equality for all.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Melanie Park
Box 4836
Kaneohe, HI 96744

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

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

Comments: 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 strong opposition to Bill SB1. I am asking that you allow the people to decide on the issue of marriage, by putting a vote to the public. This is such an important issue that we, as a state should seriously be given consideration. I feel SB1 would infringe on my rights as a citizen. As a teacher, I am opposed to being forced to teach details about alternate lifestyle sexual practices without any possibility of objection, for example a discussion of the risks involved. Instead, I believe that the people should be given the opportunity to give their input by voting on this issue. 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. We need to have more discussion. I 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 discussed and examined as with all other bills. The impact of this legislation is far reaching and will affect all citizens of Hawaii. Instead of legislating what is best for us, we, the people, should decide on how to define our culture, customs, and traditions. Your "yes" vote on SB1 is clearly a NO vote to democracy! Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Ralph Yasuhara Mililani, HI 96789

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Cathy Wisniewski

From: "Don Wisniewski" <wisniewsd001@hawaii.rr.com>
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 10:21 PM
To: "Cathy Wisniewski" <holland@hawaii.rr.com>
Subject: Fw: Same sex marriage testimony in opposition

From: [Don Wisniewski](#)
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 10:17 PM
To: JUDSStestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: Same sex marriage testimony in opposition

To whom it may concern,

I thank you for taking the time to hear my voice concerning" same sex marriage".As a concerned citizen I am opposed to this bill as it is written as it will take away my freedom of religion in addition to that of the church in order to give another group "rights" that trump mine.I am a disabled veteran who has served this country to guarantee that I will be free to worship God the way that He commands me to.I also served for those who do not believe in the God I believe in to be free to do so.I believe the same things that the Founding Fathers of this great country believed in including the same God whose Word permeates through the documents they created to guarantee the freedoms and rights we still enjoy here but will not if this bill and others like it are made into law as has happened elsewhere.It is my belief that no law can be crafted that would take away or erode any right that I am guaranteed under the Constitution.It is my position that you the representatives of the PEOPLE should LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE.This issue is way to important to try to rush through a special session.God loves everyone of you in this room as do I.Thank you and God bless you!

Don Wisniewski

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Robert M.Y. Q. Kahawaii	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose SB1, if this bill does pass, there must be broad protections or exemptions provided for religious institutions, businesses, educators, business owners, and others like found in other jurisdictions.

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To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

As we all know, the world is constantly changing and evolving at a quickened pace, particularly the last couple of decades, and opponents of marriage for same sex marriage appear to be threatened by that change. I believe this is a completely irrational fear on their part---fueled by the worry they experience pondering a subject they know little about.

Their fear seems completely irrational to me. How can it possibly matter to them who I, as a gay man, choose to marry? It's inconceivable to me that my potential, hypothetical marriage to another man could affect them personally.

This entire issue of marriage equality is, of course, first and foremost about equal rights and fairness for all families. But I believe that in a few years, most people are going to look back upon this time and shake their heads, contemplating what these marriage opponents were thinking. Two or three decades in the future, what will this vote reflect about you as members of this committee? Your legacy as legislators is important. Please vote to ensure families parented by LGBT parents (and their children!) are treated fairly and equally by supporting this long-overdue bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. .

Michael Moore
Kailua Kona

Michael Moore
77-447 Ho'omaluhia Pl
KAILUA KONA, HI 96740

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Hayden Kahawaii	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oppose this bill. However, if this bill does end up passing then there must be some limitations on it. This can ensure the protection of certain organizations who are against the bill because it may conflict with their beliefs.

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Name: Richard T. Irons

To: House Judiciary Committee & House Finance Committee

Date & Time of Hearing: Thursday, October 31st at 10 am

Re: Strong OPPOSITION to SB1, relating to "Equal Rights"

(Check one) ☐ I will ☒ I will not be testifying in person.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SPECIAL SESSION AND SB1, RELATING TO "EQUAL RIGHTS"

Also known as the same sex "marriage" bill

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Luke:

As a concerned citizen, I am submitting testimony against this Special Session and the proposed bill that IF passed would legalize same sex "marriage," SB1, relating to Equal Rights. I oppose the Special Session because it rushes the democratic process and does not give we, the people, sufficient input in the legislative process.

I oppose this bill because it will infringe upon our freedoms protected under the First Amendment and will have far reaching consequences that nobody seems to be discussing. Whether it is the freedom of speech, education or employment, this bill IF passed would impact our future and forever change our history, customs and culture. Finally, we voted on a Constitutional Amendment in 1998 giving the legislature the power to reserve marriage to opposite-sex couples **only**. 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, SB1.

Signature Richard T. Irons Date 10/30/13

Email (optional) ironsr001@hawaii.rr.com Phone number 808-626-5673

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 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.

Heather Metzler
91-1186 Kuano'o. Street
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

SB1

Submitted on: 10/30/2013

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: **I oppose changing the definition of marriage to allow same-sex marriage to be legalized in Hawai'i. **This is a major societal change that will have devastating and lasting effects like those in Massachusetts and other states across the country. The people of Hawai'i, the people that pay your salaries, those folks should be making this decision at the ballot box via a Constitutional amendment. It should not be decided by one political party influenced by special interest groups, just because you have the numbers. Failing to allow the people to make this decision is nothing more than soft tyranny, and is a direct attack on our liberty. **Hawai'i has more pressing issues that you as our Legislators should be focused on fixing: the high cost of living, the high fuel costs, the high welfare rate, the high utility costs, the poor performance of our educational system, our runaway unfunded liabilities, our runaway spending, etc.... Issues like these require a special session, not same-sex marriage that should be left to the people to decide.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testifying in Person
Wendell Lum	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: We are all sinners according to the Bible. The more sins we add and if we do not repent for our sins you will go to hell. God's free gift to go to heaven is when you repent all your sins from the past, current, and future. In other words change direction now or soon.

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From: Letta@Hawaii.rr.com [<mailto:Letta@Hawaii.rr.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 10:03 PM

To: Judiciary Special Session

Subject: Strong support for SB1

To: House Committees on Judiciary and Labor 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 Committees on Judiciary and Finance,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1.

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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.

October 31, 2013

To: Honorable Chair and Representatives

I stand against Senate Bill 1.

I do not want this bill to pass, please allow the people of Hawaii to vote on the issue of marriage.

I maybe too young to vote, but this is my future...and this is why I am testifying.

People who are in support of this bill have their future...but my future is at stake here.

Please, let my parents decide for my future through voting.

At least I know that my parent's motives are not for capital gain, but for my protection.

Please, protect the children of Hawaii.

Thank you for my future,

– Student