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Date: April 1, 2019

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

From: Justin Murakami, Manager, Prevention Education and Public Policy
The Sex Abuse Treatment Center
A Program of Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

RE: Testimony in Strong Support of S.C.R. 8 and S.R. 4
URGING THE HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL TO CONDUCT A STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL
ABUSE OF MINORS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII BY CLERGY OF THE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) strongly supports S.C.R. 8 and S.R. 4.

Child sexual abuse has severe and devastating physical, emotional, social, and financial consequences for victims, their families, and their communities, which can last throughout a victim's lifetime.

In Hawaii, more than half of the victims who receive services at local sexual assault centers were younger than age 18 at the time they experienced abuse. Moreover, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey outcomes for 2013, 2015, and 2017 indicate that children and youth in Hawaii experience lifetime and past-year sexual violence at higher rates than their mainland peers.

The findings in civil and criminal cases and reports across the United States, including in Hawaii, indicate that the Roman Catholic Church engaged in a decades-long pattern of moving clergy who sexually abused children within and between state jurisdictions; failed to disclose documentation and other evidence of child sexual abuse to criminal justice and civil authorities; and suppressed, dismissed, or otherwise mishandled complaints using internal systems controlled by the Church itself.

The effect has been to ensure that survivors and their loved ones were silenced, isolated, and rendered unable to take advantage of the range of options available for healing and seeking justice, while the public and our elected officials and executive agencies were impeded from gaining a clear, complete understanding of the extent of the abuse, obstructing efforts to respond proportionately and appropriately.

In August 2018, Pennsylvania's Attorney General published a grand jury report detailing the abuse of more than 1,000 children by approximately 300 priests, including at least one priest who was relocated from Pennsylvania to Hawaii and later admitted abusing at least 30 children in the diocese in Erie, Pennsylvania, and then in the diocese in Hawaii.

As a direct result of the Pennsylvania grand jury report, 16 Attorney Generals across the United States have initiated their own investigations, including in Illinois, which issued its initial report in December 2018 that revealed 500 priests in that state who were accused of child sexual abuse and who had not previously been disclosed by the church.

As stated by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, "The priority has always been in protecting priests and protecting church assets. Time and time again, the church says, 'Well this all took place years and years ago.' *But it's a crisis in the present for all the people who have had to live with it* (emphasis added)."

Hawaii's experience with this crisis, to date, justifies a statewide investigation. According to America: The Jesuit Review magazine, there are 66 Catholic parishes and nearly 300,000 Catholics in the State of Hawaii. A 2018 report by Jeff Anderson and Associates PA and the Law Office of Mark Gallagher, Clerical Sexual Abuse in the Diocese of Honolulu, identified at least 58 Catholic clergy members who allegedly committed child sexual abuse in Hawaii. However, without a formal, statewide investigation, the extent of abuse here, as in Pennsylvania and Illinois, may never be known.

We also respectfully note that in Hawaii there may be a substantial number of cases that are within criminal and civil statutes of limitation. Statutes of limitation can be tolled under specific circumstances, such as when offenders are not physically present in the state, and in Hawaii these cases may also be subject to our current window period statutes that allow otherwise expired civil cases to be brought in court.

Therefore, we ask that the Committee please pass S.C.R. 8 and S.R. 4, requesting that the Hawaii State Department of the Attorney General initiate a statewide investigation of sexual abuse by members of the Catholic clergy in Hawaii.



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March 29, 2019

The Honorable Dela Cruz, Chair with Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

RE: HSCR 8 AG Investigation of HNL Roman Catholic Church STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

Thank you for hearing SCR 8.

Rainbow Family 808 has long supported the Survivors of Sexual Abuse, especially the abuse and rape of children by the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church and any organization that commits crimes against the children of Hawai'i.

The news story, "Another former Hawaii priest named in massive sex abuse release," from Hawai'i News Now, Oct. 18, 2018 reflects the mode of operation in the Roman Catholic Church. The Washington Diocese Report is a follow-up of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Investigation of that state's roman catholic church. The October 2018 news story focuses on the **Washington Diocese with it's 30 accused priests**. This news story is a copy of what happens in Dioceses across the country that routinely transfer accused clergy of sexual abuse from one parish to another, one diocese to another, and one state to another. The dioceses hid, protected the accused clergy and thus, condoned their crimes that should be held accountable as accomplices in these crimes. No one is above the law.

Ironically, this 10-18-18-news story labels the 30 priests as massive whereas, the July 2018 Report from the Jeff Anderson, Mark Gallagher Offices that list **58 Accused clergy in the Honolulu Diocese**. These facts used to break my heart, hurt me as a betrayal from the church of my youth. I've grown up, think for myself and believe the adults who have shared their horrific circumstances of rape at the hands of roman catholic priests, brothers, bishops, and higher-ranking clergy. No one is above the law and need for the sake of our little ones, our families and our society to be held accountable.

Read more on another former Hawaii priest named in massive sex abuse release
at <http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2018/10/16/another-former-hawaii-priest-named-massive-sex-abuse-release/>

More recently, another state considered to be conservative, West Virginia, was quoted in the New York Times, 3/19/19 "W. Virginia Attorney General files Bombshell lawsuit claiming Catholic Diocese and former bishop knowingly employed pedophiles." This article is a cookie cutter of decades of violations happening in the Honolulu Catholic Diocese as documented in the fore mentioned Report from Jeff Anderson and Mark Gallagher Offices, "Clerical Sexual Abuse in the Diocese of Honolulu." July 13, 2018 www.andersonadvocates.com/Documents/posts/hawaiiireport.pdf.

This follows the article "Pope Francis refuses resignation of French cardinal convicted of cover-up" from Crux 3/19/19. This is opposite from the recent Papal Summit report where the Pope advised the clergy to report sex crimes. Service care providers, social workers, teachers, coaches, doctors, lawyers and other public service workers are mandated by law to report all forms of abuse and neglect. The roman catholic church is in the process of violating the standard protocol for the safety of our children. As such they are protecting the clergy at the detriment of our children and women.

Personally, I worked for the Honolulu Diocese in 1990-91 next door to Father Art O'Brien who was convicted of the sexual assault of a minor on Maui. The church referred to his lawsuit as "No Contest because he didn't want a trial to hurt the children." Thus, the average catholic didn't consider he was guilty. His sentence was set aside because at the time he had no previous records. He was given five years probation and no contact with children which included no assignments in a parish setting. He was assigned on weekends to different parishes in violation to this sentence. One weekend he was assigned to the Resurrection of Our Lord parish that we were attending at the time.

This led me to call the Maui Prosecutors Office to ask that his Probation Counselor check on him being in our parish. I was told by Prosecutor Simone Polak, the prosecutor of record according to the newspaper article that if I didn't leave my name, others would think the complaint was from someone with an axe to grind. That night I discussed this predicament facing me. My husband, Mike said it was up to me after I explained that it would be a sin of omission if I didn't leave my name for the



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record, should any child be assaulted. It weighed heavily on me that night. I called back to Prosecutor Polak and gave my name with the condition that it be kept private.

The following December 1993, my husband and I were cut from the Diaconate Program because they were afraid that if Mike were ordained, the parishioners would lose their faith but they wanted us to continue our mission to the parish. I walked away knowing that I did what I could to protect the children of Oah`u. To this day, I never heard of another assaulted child at the hands of O'Brien. I will never know because of the secrecy of the roman catholic church. O'Brien died later in West Palm Beach, Florida.

According to a recent article, before coming to Hawaii, O'Brien left a church/school parish in Bowie, MD where he was accused of molesting a student; transfer to Daphne, AL, transferred to Hawai'i under Bishop Joseph Ferrario. My sources say that there were 10 other minors raped on Maui but the families all accepted \$10,000.00 for therapy. Unfortunately, they had no idea if there were specialists on Maui or how much the settlement would last. This has to stop!

Now the people of Hawai`i need what Pennsylvania and 15+ other states have and are investigating. Please pass SCR 8 as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration for the benefit of the children of today and yesterday.

Mahalo for your support"

Sincerely,

**Carolyn Martinez Golojuch
President and Co-Founder
Rainbow Family 808**



March 29, 2019

Senate's Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Monday, April 1, 2019 – 10:20 a.m.

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Concurrent Resolution 8**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and fellow committee members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT for Senate Concurrent Resolution 8 on behalf of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. SCR 8 urges THE HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CONDUCT A STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII BY CLERGY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Hawai'i is no way inoculated to the ramped sexual abuse of minors by Roman Catholic Priests, even nuns in some cases, that has ravaged the continent in Boston (as depicted in the award-winning movie "Spotlight"), Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Louisville, Oregon, San Diego, Los Angeles, Denver and the list goes on and on and on.

In July 2018 Jeff Anderson & Associates PA released a report entitled "Clerical Sexual Abuse in the Diocese of Honolulu. This report detailed a number of accused clergy in Dioceses of Honolulu, dating all the way back to 1959, and it also showed the methodical way the Dioceses of Honolulu protected the abusers. All the while putting tens of thousands of keiki at risk over the years and in the process allowed the systematic raping of untold number of survivors. <https://www.andersonadvocates.com/Documents/posts/Hawaii%20Report.pdf>

"Quite simply, the unique geography, location and isolation of the Hawaiian Islands created an environment that protected child sexual abusers allowing them to flourish at the expense of the children," the report says.

According to the report Hawai'i became "dumping ground for troubled clerics from the mainland," another reason, besides our location:

"... the late Joseph Ferrario, who served as a Sulpician priest in the diocese beginning in 1957 and as bishop from 1982 to 1993, was an abuser himself. 'He had been a problem for a number of years, and yet he was elevated to the position of bishop,' Gallagher said, adding that 'nothing significant was ever done' about the reports because of the culture of secrecy in the church."

All these reasons are why SCR 8 is so necessary – the darkness that the Dioceses of Honolulu allowed to envelope our islands is beyond heart wrenching to say the least. Only light can drive out darkness and the investigation that SCR 8 calls for is the exact light that the survivors of clergy sex abuse deserve and all of Hawai'i needs to help drive out this darkness.

LGBT Caucus Testimony is Strong Support of
Senate Concurrent Resolution 9

A quote from an article that was written to cover the release of the report by the National Catholic Reporter sums it all up:

“The church was more concerned about its own reputation than protecting children, the report says; leadership failed to act when abuse was reported, and cases of abuse were treated as matters of church jurisdiction, rather than crimes.”

The LGBT Caucus asks that you pass this Resolution out and support in it until the Attorney General's Report is released.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 11:13:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Kay	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

If this investigation is to be funded by taxpayer dollars, then I urge you to **oppose** this resolution. While I am no fan of the RCC, I believe that further investigations by the State would be a waste of time, resources and money. Further pursuits of the alleged allegations would just be a witch hunt.

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 2:49:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Younghi Overly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/30/2019 6:43:39 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 8:39:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SC8. This investigation is long past due. Please pass SCR8. Thank you.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 7:20:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Robinson-Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 6:25:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chris johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii Lawmakers and Attorney General..!

Thank you so much for allowing testimony and a hearing on this important issue.

In the Book THE RITE OF SODOMY by Randi Engel, there is a chapter that documents the abuse of David Figueroa (a boy who at age 5 began being raped by Catholic priests in Hawaii and who went on to be raped by Hawaii Bishop Ferrario). David was a son of Bishop Ferrarios housekeeper .

Bishop Ferrario went on to be honored and buried with dignity and praise.

David went on to be a prostitute and die of HIV aids, homeless and destitute.

When David and his mother went to Bishop Ferrario and the Hawaii Catholic church to try to get financial help for Daviids care, Bishop Ferrario and the Hawaii Catholic church hid behind the STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS on child sex abuse as their reason for not helping.

I read historical papers about how Hawaii legislators were outraged by the Bishop and church stance on Statute of limitations. Back then the legislators tried to change the law but were not successful.

The past 7 years Hawaii Legislators have been successful.. but David Figueroa has not benefited from the changes.

I believe that victims like him and others who were raped by priests who committed suicide, should benefit from the Window laws..

The Catholic Church repeatedly sends its lobby in to all the hearings on SOL reform to try to bully and stop us from changing the laws that protect them and their rapists.. and the use lies and deception to try to do it.. And they do the same nationally and globally.

It's this atrocity of what happened to David Figueroa and nis mother that has driven me to fight for Hawaii and other States Sol reform..

Please allow an investigation..

Mahalo,

Respectfully,

christine johnson Retired RN.. advocate and activist for Statute of limitation child sex abuse retroactive civil and criminal laws and advocate for maternal child health.

SCR-8

Submitted on: 3/29/2019 2:06:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Logue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Of all legislation introduced this session that is geared towards "protecting our keiki" this is by far the most important one. We should not allow any institution to get away with crimes, especially crimes against our keiki.

SCR-8

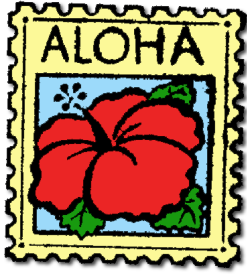
Submitted on: 3/29/2019 5:26:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support



Holly J. Huber

hollyjhuber@gmail.com

LATE

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing on April 1, 2019 @ 10:20 AM in Conference Room 211

SCR 8 URGING A STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR CLERGY SEX ABUSE

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

March 31, 2019

Aloha Senators:

Mahalo for hearing SCR 8 urging the Hawaii State Department of the Attorney General to conduct a statewide investigation of sexual abuse of minors in the State of Hawaii by clergy of the Roman Catholic Church.

I urge you to **VOTE IN FAVOR** of this much-needed investigation. It is your responsibility to protect our keiki.

For many years, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Honolulu has shuffled pedophile priests from church to church, from state to state.

This is not just unethical; it is criminal behavior.

The Hawaii Attorney General must investigate the offenders and the church leaders who protected and enabled them.

The church needs to be held accountable. And the State of Hawaii needs to fund this important investigation.

Please vote "YES" on SCR 8; it's time for the truth to come out.

Sincerely,

Holly J. Huber

LATE

SCR-8

Submitted on: 4/1/2019 4:46:18 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2019 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S Freed	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members,

I fully support this measure. It's about time that the Catholic Church be held accountable for it's cover up of sexual violence against women and children by members of their clergy.

Please pass this measure.

Ann S. Freed, Co-Chair, Hawaii Women's Coalition