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February 25, 2020

To: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair,
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, and
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2020
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: H.B. No. 2057 HD1 RELATING TO PROOF OF DOMESTIC
OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS**

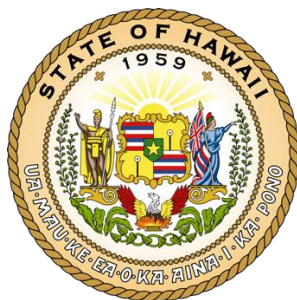
I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB2057 HD1 proposes to amend section 383-7.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and 383-30.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) by amending the language to redefine the types of documents acceptable as proof of domestic violence or sexual violence victim status.

II. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

DLIR supports the intent of the bill which is to ensure consistency in the types of documents accepted as proof of domestic or sexual violence victim status. The DLIR notes that the language in the measure does not raise any issues with Federal Unemployment Law.

The DLIR notes that by practice the department employs a great amount of discretion in favor if an individual asserts domestic or sexual violence victim status.



‘O kēia ‘ōlelo hō’ike no ke
Komikina Kūlana Olakino o Nā Wāhine

Testimony on behalf of the
Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women
Khara Jabola-Carolus, Executive Director

Prepared for the H. Cmtee. on Judiciary

Comments on HB2057 HD1
February 25, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 325

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Honorable Members,

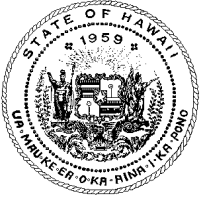
The Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women supports HB2057 HD1, which would make consistent the types of documents accepted as proof of domestic or sexual violence victim status.

This measure is an important step to remove barriers to benefits and escape for victims of gender-based violence. One of the biggest challenges for someone who has just experienced a domestic violence situation or sexual assault can be navigating the disjointed requirements to show proof of victim status in order to access safety. This measure would create uniformity across statutes and allow victims to more easily leave a dangerous situation.

Accordingly, the Commission requests that the Committee pass HB2057 HD1.

Sincerely,

Khara Jabola-Carolus



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 • PHONE: 586-8636 • FAX: 586-8655 • TDD: 568-8692

February 25, 2020
Rm. 325, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.B. No.2057, H.D. 1

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

The HCRC supports H.B. No. 2057, H.D. 1.

H.B. No. 2057, H.D. 1, if enacted, will make consistent the types of documents accepted as proof of domestic or sexual violence victim status.

Victims of domestic or sexual violence are a protected class pursuant to HRS § 378-2. The HCRC supports the proposed amendment of HRS § 378-2 in Section 3 of the bill to make this statute consistent with other Hawai‘i statutes.

HB-2057-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2020 3:45:47 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/25/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



To: Chair Lee San Buenaventura
Vice Chair San Buenaventura
Fr: Nanci Kreidman, MA,
Chief Executive Officer
Re: HB 2057 HD1; Support

Aloha. And thank you for placing this Bill on your agenda for consideration. The laws this Legislature has passed in the best interests of victims who are burdened with many challenges –existing all at once– makes the lack of uniformity for proving one's victims status an additional burden.

This Bill is really just a housekeeping measure, to make standard the requirements needed by victims to utilize laws that were designed and passed for their well-being, healing and stabilization.

Whether it is terminating a cellphone contract, a rental lease or obtaining unemployment support, it would make infinite sense for a victim to collect and submit the same set of documents that would ease the way forward.

Please consider the simple act of making legislative changes to language in the sections included in this Bill, which will, in effect, be making changes for someone's life. We do hope for favorable action on HB 2057 HD1. Thank you.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION CENTER
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 3198, HONOLULU, HI 96801-3198
LEGAL HELPLINE: (808) 531-3771
TOLL-FREE NEIGHBOR ISLAND HELPLINE: (800) 690-6200
WEBSITE: WWW.DOMESTICVIOLENCEACTIONCENTER.ORG
EMAIL: DVAC@STOPTHEVIOLENCE.ORG

HB-2057-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2020 4:13:48 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/25/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Hawaii Women's Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2057-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 7:32:32 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/25/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Younghi Overly	aaup of hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2057-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 7:32:32 AM

Testimony for JUD on 2/25/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Younghi Overly	aaup of hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2057-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 1:09:27 PM

Testimony for JUD on 2/25/2020 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: