



A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

E-Mail to: espero1@capitol.hawaii.gov
Regarding: Senate Committee on HSP/JDL Hearing
Hearing on: February 12, 2008 @ 9:00 a.m. in room 016.

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Date: February 11, 2008

To: Senate Committee on Human Services & Public Housing
Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor
Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable Clayton Hee, Vice Chair

From: Kelly M. Rosati, JD
Executive Director, Hawaii Family Forum
Lobbyist, Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii

Re: Support for SB 2086 Relating to Child Welfare

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services & Public Housing and the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I am Kelly Rosati, **representing both the Hawaii Family Forum and the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.**

Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii. The Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 210,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

We support SB 2086 which authorizes the department of human services to engage the services of a qualified individual or organization to investigate the whereabouts of missing and exploited children. In addition, the bill requires the department of human services to convene a task force to coordinate the development of a state corps of retired federal, state, and local law enforcement professionals who are willing to volunteer their expertise in investigating missing, abducted, and exploited children.

Both Hawaii Family Forum and Hawaii Catholic Conference support legislation that ultimately aids in the protection of missing, abducted or exploited minors.

We urge the committee to pass SB 2086. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.