



A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

E-Mail to: Testimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Regarding: Senate Committee on EDU Hearing
Hearing on: February 11, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM BOARD

Francis Oda
President

Austin Imamura
Vice-President

Gill Berger
Secretary

Brogan, Mary Lou
D'Olier, H. Mitchell
Pace, Dr. Nancy
Papandrew, Tom
Paty, William
Pflueger, Nancy
Tsujiimura, R. Brian
Young, Sandra

HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE BOARD

Most Reverend Clarence Silva
Bishop of Honolulu

Alexander, Very Rev. Marc
Andrade, Eva
Chung, Sr. Earnest
Coleman, David
Downes, Patrick
Himenes, Dr. Carmen
Ignacio, Carol
Pilar, Prudencio
Larson, Betty Lou
Rauckhorst, Jerome
Tong, Myron
Yoshimitsu, Walter

Date: February 7, 2008

To: Senate Committee on Education
Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair
Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

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

Re: **Opposition to SB 2775 Relating to Education**

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services & Public Housing, 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.

Our organizations oppose this measure believing it to be an unwise course of action. Section 1 of SB 2775 is inaccurate in its description of the current Board of Education policy regarding sex education. The current policy #2110 is abstinence-based, not abstinence only as is described in SB 2775, Section 1. Under the current BOE policy, many Hawaii students have had the benefit of the highly successful, federally-funded abstinence program offered by Catholic Charities, called Try Wait.

With all the difficulties facing public schools in Hawaii, we believe it would be terrible public policy to legislate additional graduation requirements related to contraceptive and condom education. Please oppose SB 2775.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.