

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

Fax to Senate Sgt-At-Arms at 586-6659
Regarding: Senate HSP/CPH Committee
Hearing on: March 19, 2007 @ 9:30 a.m. in room 016
Copies Necessary: 50 copies

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Date: March 15, 2007

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

Senate Committee on Commerce Protection & Affordable Housing
The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable David Ige, Vice Chair

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

Re: **Support for HB 469 HD1 Relating to Real Property Transactions**

Honorable Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services & Public Housing and the Senate Committee on Commerce Protection & Affordable 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 Hawaii Catholic Conference is the public policy voice for the Roman Catholic Church in Hawaii, which under the leadership of Bishop Larry Silva, represents over 230,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

Because of our commitment to Hawaii's families, we strongly favor measures, such as HB 469 HD 1, designed to better protect victims of domestic violence.

HB 469 HD 1 would prohibit discrimination in real property transactions on the basis of one's status as a victim of domestic violence. This measure is particularly important as victims of domestic violence often need to find new housing in order to escape their abusers.

A victim who has harnessed the strength to leave an abuser and change her environment deserves the full protection of the law as she seeks new housing, often for her and her children. Discrimination on the basis of her status as a domestic violence victim and survivor is unjust and should be proscribed.

We urge your strong support for HB 469 HD1. Mahalo for your kind consideration.