

**A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT**

Regarding: House JUD Committee  
Hearing on: February 27, 2007 @ 5:00 p.m. in room 325

**Date:** February 27, 2007

**To:** House Committee on Judiciary  
Rep. Tommy Waters, Chair  
Rep. Blake Oshiro, Vice Chair

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

**Re:** **STRONG OPPOSITION TO HB 908 Relating to Civil Unions (CU)  
REVISED (Section Added to previously submitted testimony)**

**Technical Problems & More Unanswered Specific Questions Identified By Section**

1. Part 1 Section 1 (1) What is the purpose of this restriction?
2. Part 1 Section 1 (2) Do you really mean to allow 16 & 17 year olds to enter into civil unions, even with parental consent?
3. Part 1 Section 4. To what is this referring? What relationships are we legally sanctioning that don't fit these categories but may be substantially similar?
4. Part 1 Section 6. Why is marriage mentioned with civil unions in this section? Why will the Department of Health be hiring more civil and exempt employees to dispense licenses?
5. Part 1 Sections 11&12. What are the purposes of these apparently conflicting sections?
6. Part II — Why are Sections 21 and 22 Necessary under current law?
7. Is the rebuttable presumption in Section 21 the same as exists in marriage? If not, why not?
8. How does Section 22 affect legal current protections for children?
9. What, if any, provisions in Part II are different from currently available contractual and property arrangements?
10. How are apparently conflicting Sections 23 and 24 to be construed?
11. How does Section 26 interplay with Section 21 as they appear to practically present a conflict?
12. How can one party bind the other's property without assent if the property is presumptively separate property?
13. Part III ought, at a minimum, specifically enumerate the HRS sections affected and generally referenced in Section 31 as the original reciprocal beneficiaries act did.
14. How do proponents intend to handle RBs. Can those eligible for CUs continue to be eligible for RBs?