

A JOINT LEGISLATIVE EFFORT

Fax to House Sgt. At Arms: 586-6501
Regarding: House CPC/JUD Hearing
Hearing on: February 8, 2007 @1:45 p.m.
Copies Necessary: 50 copies

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Date: February 6, 2007

To: House Committee on Consumer Protection & Housing
The Honorable Robert Herkes, Chair
The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Vice Chair

House Committee on Judiciary
The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
The Honorable Blake Oshiro, 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 Relating to Real Property Transactions**

Honorable Chair and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Housing and House Committee on Judiciary, 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 230,000 Catholics in Hawaii.

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

HB 469 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. Mahalo for your kind consideration.