



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Wednesday, April 10, 2013
2:10 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 199 AND HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 160, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY: HAWAII DIVISION, TO DEVELOP DRAFT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS IN HAWAII.

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Lynn Bhanot, and I am the Executive Officer of the Marriage and Family Therapists Program ("Program"), Professional and Vocational Licensing Division ("PVLD") of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 199 and House Resolution No. 160.

The Program appreciates the efforts of the Legislature to allow the two (2) agencies to work collaboratively to develop draft legislation establishing, implementing, and monitoring continuing education requirements for all licensed marriage and family therapists in Hawaii. The Program would like to urge the Committees to include a provision that the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy: Hawaii Division, shall complete the PVLD's Continuing Professional Education Guidelines Checklist ("Checklist"). The completion of the checklist will assist with (1) demonstration of a need to impose such a requirement, (2) identification of the objective(s) that mandatory continuing education is meant to address, (3) a review of existing mechanisms or methods and a finding that mandatory continuing education is the best method to achieve the objective(s) identified in (2) above; (4) verification that continuing education courses meeting the objective(s) are readily available and accessible to the person; (5) evidence that the fiscal impact on the professional will not be adverse; and (6) confirmation that resources are available for the regulatory agency to implement the continuing education program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Concurrent Resolution No. 199 and House Resolution No. 160.

April 8, 2013

TO: Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair
Representative Della Au Belatti
Representative Tom Brower
Representative Rida T. R. Cabanilla
Representative Romy M. Cachola
Representative Mele Carroll
Representative Cindy Evans
Representative Sharon E. Har
Representative Ken Ito
Representative Chris Lee
Representative Clift Tsuji
Representative Ryan I. Yamane
Representative Bob McDermott
Representative Cynthia Thielen

April 10, 2013 2:10pm Conference Room 325

FROM: S. Joy Quick, MA, MFT, CSAPA; AAMFT Hawaii Division President-Elect

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists
(HSCR 1358/ - **SUPPORT**
HSCR 1357)

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I am Joy Quick. I am a Hawaii licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 (HSCR 1358/HSCR 1357) Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

I strongly support this resolution for the following reasons:

- Continuing education increases the knowledge base and competency levels of marriage and family therapy professionals.

- Continuing education requirements ensure that licensed marriage and family therapists have access to best practices and innovations in the field of marriage and family therapy and can continue to provide quality services to an array of clients.
- Continuing education opportunities will continue to be available statewide via in-person webinars, and teleconferences by approved providers.
- All states, except Michigan, New York, and Hawaii, have continuing education requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists and currently NY has a bill pending to require CE. CE is a national standard. We marriage and family therapists want to be recognized as meeting that standard.
- Marriage and Family Therapists provide critical services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clientele.
- Consumer Protection: Requiring continuing education courses for marriage and family therapists who are renewing their licenses will give assurance to Hawaii's consumers that marriage and family therapists are current with the latest developments in their field.

I urge your favorable consideration of HCR 199/HR 160 (HSCR 1358/HSCR 1357). Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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FROM: Sharon R. Liden, Ph.D., MFT; AAMFT Hawaii Division President

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FROM: Janet Covington, LMHC, NCC, MFT-Intern

INFO: April 10, 2013, 2:10pm, Conference Room 325

RE: 199/ HR 160 (HSCR 1358/ HSCR 1357) Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists -- **SUPPORT**

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

My name is Janet Covington and I am a Hawaii licensed Mental Health Counselor, National Certified Counselor and post-graduate intern preparing to take the Marriage and Family Therapist exam. I strongly support HCR 199 and HR 160 (HSCR 1358/HSCR 1357) Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists.

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April 10, 2013 2:10pm Conference Room 325

FROM: Mark Matsushita, MA, MFT, CSAC; AAMFT Hawaii Division Treasurer

RE: HCR 199/ HR 160 Relating to Continuing Education for Marriage and Family Therapists
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kawakami2 - Rise

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2013 3:04 AM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: dmelloj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HR160 on Apr 10, 2013 14:10PM*

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

HR160

Submitted on: 4/8/2013

Testimony for CPC on Apr 10, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jared Dmello	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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