Hawaii Legislative Council Members

Joell Edwards Wainiha Country Market Hanalei

Russell Ruderman Island Naturals Hilo/Kona

Dr. Andrew Johnson Niko Niko Family Dentistry Honolulu

> Robert H. Pahia Hawaii Taro Farm Wailuku

> > Maile Meyer Na Mea Hawaii Honolulu

Tina Wildberger Kihei Ice Kihei

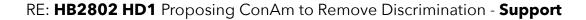
L. Malu Shizue Miki Abundant Life Natural Foods Hilo

Kim Coco Iwamoto Enlightened Energy Honolulu

> Chamber of Sustainable Commerce P.O. Box 22394 Honolulu, HI 96823

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 10:10 AM, Room 016



Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and Committee Members,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce represents over 100 small businesses across the State that strive for a triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity; we know Hawaii can strengthen its economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment.

For this reason, we support HB2802, that proposes a constitutional amendment to remove the legislature's authority to limit marriage to opposite-sex couples. People in same-gender relationships own businesses, they and their families are consumers, active participants in our communities and protective stewards of our environment; they deserve the same protections, benefits and responsibilities that opposite-gender couples have in ALL interactions with the State.

Targeted, unconstitutional discrimination on the basis of sex should never have been enshrined in the Hawaii Constitution in 1998. More than a quarter of a century later, it is time to remove the hatchet of bigotry from the heart of a document that was intended to protect rights and liberties.

