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Chamber of
Sustainable
Commerce
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI
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Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

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

RE: **HB2802 HD1** Proposing ConAm to Remove Discrimination - **Support**

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.