



# Citizens for Equal Rights

*"We Believe in Equal Rights For All"*

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Citizens for Equal Rights Invites Community to Support HB444**

HONOLULU—Citizens for Equal Rights (CFER) is inviting people to include themselves in a photo booklet of supporters of civil unions and H.B. 444. The booklet will be given to state House members next week to show mainstream community support for passage of civil unions legislation this session.

"Citizens for Equal Rights was formed last month to solicit general public support for House Bill 444," said CFER president Rachel Orange. "We believe the booklet will show broad community support for civil unions. Through it, we hope to bolster the confidence of House members who have previously voted for H.B. 444."

"We believe it's important to show mainstream community support for civil unions until we get a bill passed," said Orange.

"CFER stands for positive change. It's a simple stand for equality," said Kat Brady, the group's vice president. "We believe the photo booklet is an opportunity for people in the community to show their support for equal rights, while respecting the sincerely held beliefs of those who oppose civil unions."

"CFER believes in equal rights for all, including for gay and lesbian couples," said Brady. "In Hawai'i, those who came before us took bold steps towards passing on a legacy of equal rights and opportunity for all. Passing H.B. 444 will build on that legacy. This booklet will help House members feel confident of community support for the bill."

Those who plan to lobby legislators are expected to use the booklet as evidence of community support to ask House members to vote on H.B. 444 before the session adjourns.

CFER invites anyone who wants to be included in the equal rights booklet to email their name, photo, and affiliation to [equality808@gmail.com](mailto:equality808@gmail.com). CFER plans to group the photos by community categories such as realtors, lawyers, paddlers, faith groups etc.

For more information, the public should send an email to [equality808@gmail.com](mailto:equality808@gmail.com), or go online at [www.tinyurl.com/equality4808](http://www.tinyurl.com/equality4808).

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