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TESTIMONY OF THE ESCROW ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII CONCERNING HB 2302, UNIFORM REAL PROPERTY ELECTRONIC RECORDING ACT; and CONCERNING HB 3172, RELATING TO ELECTRONIC FILING IN THE BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGISTRAR,

The Escrow Association of Hawaii supports HB 2302, Uniform Real Property Electronic Recording Act and HB 3172, Relating to Electronic filing in the Bureau of Conveyances and the Office of the Assistant Registrar.

Currently only original documents containing original signatures and notary acknowledgments/jurats are allowed to be recorded/filed.

HB 2302 allows for the Bureau of Conveyances and the Office of the Assistant Registrar to accept electronic signatures on documents for recording. However, it also includes language to requiring amendment to Chapters 501 and 502 HRS, which is not required in HB 3172.

We feel that passage of HB 3172, will allow the Bureau of Conveyances and the Office of the Assistant Registrar, to accept the recordation of electronic documents and archiving the documents digitally would do away with duplication of duties at the Bureau. IHB 3172 does not require an amendment to Chapters 501 and 502 HRS.

It is our Association's strong recommendation that HB 2302 be passed with amendments and that HB 3172 be passed as written.

Respectfully submitted,

ESCROW ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

By: Denise Kaehu Its President