## HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

HGEA

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# The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii Hawaii State House of Representatives

#### Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

#### Committee on Judiciary

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association – HGEA/AFSCME, Local 152
February 14, 2008

### LATE TESTIMONY

#### H.B. 2302, HD1 – RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY

H.B. 2302, HD1 would (1) permit the Registrar of the Bureau of Conveyances to accept electronic documents with electronic signature for recording, and (2) require the Judiciary to study the impact of electronic recording on the adjudication of land court applications and determine the permissible uses for electronic recording.

While we can support the general intent of the proposed legislation, the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO provides the following comments.

We agree that technological changes and innovations have created many opportunities to become more efficient in communication and the way government conducts business. There is no doubt that the use of electronic communications to conduct transactions in any work operation has the potential to increase the efficiency of the current operations. However, if the infrastructure and appropriate staffing to effectively implement such a system is not in place or not prepared, efficiency can actually decrease and the impact on the work unit and staff can be devastating.

If it hasn't already been done, we would recommend that the department clearly determine the infrastructure and staffing needs required to implement such a system before permitting the registrar to accept electronic documents with electronic signature for recording.

We are in agreement that a study should also be done to examine the effect electronic recording may have on the adjudication of land court applications, and permissible uses for electronic recording. However, we believe this study should also be done before the

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registrar is permitted to implement a system to accept such electronic documents with electronic signatures for recording.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on H.B. 2302, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura

**Deputy Executive Director**