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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Thursday, February 21, 2008
2:00 p.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON H.B. 2473, H.D.1 – RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY

TO THE HONORABLE MARCUS R. OSHIRO, CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Clyde S. Sonobe, and I am the Administrator of the Cable Television Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”) as well as a member of the Hawaii broadband task force. The Department supports the intent of this measure so long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

The broadband task force determined that it could best achieve its mission by establishing different working groups composed of task force members and others from the community with specific expertise. In December 2007, the task force submitted its report to the Legislature outlining its work in 2007 and setting forth a summary work plan for 2008.

Over the course of the next year, the task force will be working to develop a set of recommendations that will be submitted to the Legislature prior to the 2009 Legislative Session. The Department will continue to participate in the work of the task force given that advanced communications services are vital to all of Hawaii’s residents and businesses throughout the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on this measure.