



**LATE**

**BY FAX: 586-6001**

Committee: Committee on Finance  
 Hearing Date/Time: Friday, February 22, 2008, 10:00 a.m.  
 Place: Room 308  
 Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Opposition to HB 2956, Relating to Hunting

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") writes in opposition to HB 2956.

The Administrative Procedure Act is designed to provide Hawaii's residents with notice and an opportunity to be heard, as guaranteed by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. This bill attempts to circumvent that process and will erode Hawaii residents' right to participate in the public hearing process. It also vitiates the transparency needed to ensure government accountability. There is no legitimate reason to cut the public out of this process, and there is every reason to maintain the process as is.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 40 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Temple  
 Staff Attorney  
 ACLU of Hawaii

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