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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

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TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT
ON
February 5, 2008

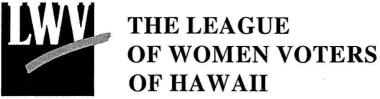
H.B. 3313

RELATING TO THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Chair Magaoay, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 3313.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) appreciates the intent of H.B. 3313 and requests that any appropriations that result from the bill not take away from any administrative budget items. DAGS also suggests that the scope of work for the bill requires modification if it is to achieve its purpose. Improving access to public hearings will require much more than simply improving the wiring in public rooms. Video, audio, and other distribution systems require equipment that must be designed for interoperability and control, as well as wiring throughout the building. Unfortunately, this may drive the cost beyond what is anticipated.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



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Testimony on H.B. 3313 Relating to the State Capitol Building

Committee on Legislative Management Tuesday, February 5, 2008 2 p.m. Conference Room 423

Testifier: JoAnn Maruoka, Legislative Team member, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Magaoay, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members,

The League of Women Voters wholeheartedly supports H.B. 3313 to provide adequate funding to wire all state capitol conference rooms used for public hearings, the capitol auditorium, and both chambers, to increase digital access and to improve safety and ease of use by the public. Quite simply, this is a good-sense action to smartly move forward in improving public access capabilities and facilitating citizen participation. Hard wiring the state capitol avoids the costs of manual installation of wiring by a contractor; avoids the safety hazards of temporary wiring; and brings the capabilities of this important facility to 21st century standards.

Not only does this make good business sense as a sound investment that will avoid the costs in money and time of the current manual installations by a contractor, it will help enhance government operational capabilities and very importantly, facilitate citizen participation. It's an effective way to protect the citizen's right to know and to facilitate citizen participation in government decision making.

We urge the passage of H.B. 3313 to appropriate the necessary funding. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.