



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LATE

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of Barry Fukunaga
Chief of Staff—Office of the Governor

Before the

House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, March 26, 2008
11:00 AM

SB 868 SD2

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 868 Senate Draft 2. The Lingle-Aiona Administration does not support this bill as its purpose and motivation are unclear.

Current policy does not restrict boards and commissions from communicating with the Legislature. In fact, our boards routinely submit testimony to committees and actively participate in the legislative process.

There are over 160 boards and commissions in this State with over 1,300 members. Given the magnitude of these numbers, it is both practical and efficient to coordinate communication with the Legislature through the appropriate department. This does not mean that the opinions and perspectives of board members are in any way censored or repressed. Individuals selected to serve on these boards are highly respected in their fields and represent the diversity of our state. It is for this reason members have been selected to serve—we value their input.

The introduction of this bill insinuates that the current method of communication is deficient. This is not the case.

I respectfully request that you hold this bill.

FINTestimony

From: kuulei [kuuleikiliona@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 8:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 868 SD2

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 868 SD2

TO: Committee on Finance, Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

LATE

FROM: Ku'ulei Kilion, private citizen
kuuleikiliona@hawaii.rr.com

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Committee Members,

I am not in favor of Senate Bill 868, SD2. I currently sit on a state board and a state council. After reading the context of this measure, I am convinced that the state boards and commissions members will be nothing more than puppets for the department or division that they serve under.

I feel it is important for the various boards and commissions be more independent from the department directors and the governor so that they can be of *better service* to the departments. This measure is a move in the wrong direction by making the boards and commission members into puppets.

Please vote NO to SB 868 SD2.

MAHALO for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Ku'ulei Kilion