



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

April 7, 2009

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senate Bill 1183, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 – Relating to Discriminatory Practices

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) is a statewide board with seventeen (17) members appointed by the Governor, thirteen (13) of whom are persons with disabilities or family members. The Board's mission is to advocate and promote full inclusion, independence, equal access, and quality of life for persons with disabilities in society. This testimony represents a position voted upon by the Legislative Committee of the Board.

DCAB supports the intent of Senate Bill 1183, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 which conforms State law to the recently passed ADA Amendments Act (signed September 25, 2008 by President Bush). DCAB also supported the changes in the federal law. DCAB has no objection to House Draft 1 that includes recommendations from the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission to define certain terms in administrative rules in lieu of the statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES W. FLEMING
Chairperson

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director