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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
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TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
ON
March 30, 2010
H.C.R. No. 312

REQUESTING ALL BRANCHES OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND ALL AGENCIES OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE GOVERNMENT RECORDS AVAILABLE IN DIGITIZED FORM READABLE BY SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND TO PROVIDE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC WITH THE SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE NECESSARY TO DIGITIZE AND READ PUBLIC RECORDS.

Chair Karamatsu and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.C.R. No. 312.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) does not support this resolution. The ability to achieve the objective identified by this resolution will require funding that the State does not have. It is true that much of the publicly available materials are either JPEG, TIFF or PDF format. This is typically done for security reasons. Many of the documents, including those on the Legislative tracking site originate as word processing documents --- but to assure inadvertent modifications by a party that is not the owner the documents are published in PDF type formatting.

One thing that could be done to mitigate the problem is to train staff on the variations of PDF documents and ensure that we utilize the digitally readable and machine searchable versions of PDF for public documents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 30, 2010

The Honorable Jon Riki Karamatsu, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Karamatsu and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HCR 312-- REQUESTING ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT AND ALL AGENCIES OF COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE GOVERNMENT RECORDS AVAILABLE IN DIGITIZED FORM READABLE BY SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND TO PROVIDE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC WITH THE SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE NECESSARY TO DIGITIZE AND READ PUBLIC RECORDS

The position and views expressed in this testimony do not represent nor reflect the position and views of the Department of Health (DOH).

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **SUPPORTS THE INTENT OF HCR 312**. We applaud the Legislature's initiative to promote accessibility of State and County Government records to be available and in readable format for individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

In review of the concurrent resolution, we find that language is very broad and all encompassing. Based on the title and the BE IT RESOLVED section on page 2, lines 29-36, it seems that all branches of State Government and all agencies of County Government will provide public employees and the public with the software and hardware necessary to digitize and read government records. Is it the intent to actually provide public employees and the public with the software and hardware, or provide them through public access computers? We suggest that language be included to clarify this area. With regard to public employees, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I has provisions for public employees to request for reasonable accommodations in their work place.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit written testimony supporting the intent of HCR 312.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Waynette K.Y. Cabral in black ink.

Waynette K.Y. Cabral
Executive Administrator

Handwritten signature of Rosie Rowe in black ink.

Rosie Rowe
Chair