



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC SAFETY
ON
March 18, 2010

H.C.R. 281, H.R. 203

REQUESTING AN AUDIT OF THE WIRELESS ENHANCED 911 FUND.

Chair Hanohano and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.C.R. 281, H.R. 203.

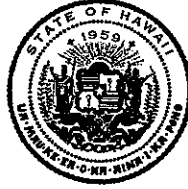
The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes H.C.R. NO. 281, H.R. 203.

DAGS opposes this concurrent resolution because the audit by an independent third party that it calls for would include a survey of the status of and available funding for any projects that have been undertaken or planned during the previous year by public safety answering points. This will create an undue burden in two areas. First, the cost of the Wireless Enhanced 911 fund will increase because the audit scope will expand beyond the normal financial scope. This will encompass additional audit hours. Secondly, because the auditors or independent third party will render an opinion on the accuracy of the survey, time will need to be spent with the public safety answering points to ascertain the validity of the survey and other project data. With furloughs beginning

July 1, 2010 at the City and County of Honolulu and other counties considering it, this audit time will be a burden for the public safety answering points and other county departments.

We support the intent of this concurrent resolution, which is to provide timely and accurate information annually to the legislature on the status of the projects undertaken and to determine the availability of funding for them. An alternative method for achieving this concurrent resolution's intent is to amend it to remove the requirement that the data be audited by an independent third party and to, instead, allow the Wireless Enhanced 911 Board to report this information as part of its annual report.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



LATE TESTIMONY

The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 18, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Faye Hanohano, Chair of Public Safety Committee
Representative Henry Aquino, Vice-Chair of Public Safety Committee

FROM: Senator Michelle N. Kidani

RE: HCR281 & HR203

I would like to thank you for scheduling HCR281 & HR203 requesting an audit of the Wireless Enhanced 911 fund.

During my tour of Hawaii's 911 facilities I learned that Hawaii is one of 6 states in the country that does not have a single entity for the coordination of enhanced 911 services. This is a major concern to me as it would be for all of us in the Legislature. After some inquiry I have found that funding was the issue.

I have attached for your information the testimony that was given on HB1014 from Comptroller Russ Saito. Although it is not testimony for these resolutions, I feel that he points out major reasons that we should not wait to upgrade our 911 services.

All other bills that address this issue is not viable at this time, therefore, I urge you to pass these resolutions.

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair of Education and Housing

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 203
415 Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808)586-7100 Fax: (808)586-7109 E-mail: senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov