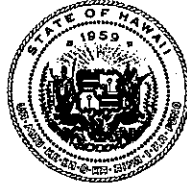


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 8, 2011

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1342

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS

We support the intent of this bill but with concerns.

This bill proposes to exempt the installation, improvement, construction, or development of infrastructure relating to broadband service or broadband technology. We would recommend adding the requirement that any work within the Highways Division right-of-way still requires the entity to obtain the Highway Permit under Section 264-6, HRS. This would provide the Highways Division to not only track the additional infrastructure in our right-of-way, but to also review the traffic control plans for the installation.

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND BUSINESS

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Isaac W. Choy, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 8, 2011 / 8:00 AM Conference Room 312

Testimony IN SUPPORT of HB1342 RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

My name is Jay April, I am President and CEO of Akaku: Maui Community Television. As a community anchor institution that has been providing state of the art communications and media training to Maui residents for nearly twenty years and as a recent recipient of \$132,000 in federal stimulus funds to bring broadband adoption skills to Hawaii's youth in rural areas of Maui Nui, Akaku: Maui Community Television, strongly endorses HB1342.

Availability of ubiquitous and affordable broadband has become essential to the nation's economic prosperity, national security, and the personal success of its residents. In addition to private sector commercial providers, more than 400 communities across this nation have begun to develop community based broadband options allowing municipal broadband networks to blossom around the country. HB1342 will help streamline delivery of broadband services for everyone and will provide the added benefit of removing barriers to healthy broadband competition with incumbent telephone and cable companies.

HB1342 combined with complimentary state broadband planning and a recently announced federal reform and re-direct of Universal Service Funds to broadband development in rural areas could foster a rural broadband strategy that could:

1. Include implementation of equitable wireless and wire line broadband media access for isolated communities.
2. Engage Akaku as a "shovel ready" community anchor training institution in remote island locations as a partner with libraries and schools.
3. Provide broadband infrastructure, priority support and community technology training where service is substandard or unavailable; and,
4. Provide media literacy and access to media tools to existing non-profit organizations serving indigenous populations in remote rural areas.

While we have much more to do before we can accomplish all the worthy goals of this broadband initiative, HB1342 is an important first step in making sure the infrastructure can be put in place to bring all Hawaii residents into a digitally inclusive future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today.

From: Michelle Ogawa [moanamarie73@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 7:05 PM
To: ERBtestimony
Subject: LATE TESTIMONY - Support HB 1621 RELATING TO DOGS

To: Representative Representative Angus McKelvey (Chair) Committee Members of Economic Revitalization & Business
Regarding:

Regulation of Large Scale Breeding Operations (House Bill 1621)

I am writing in hopes you will consider House Bill 1621 very strongly. I hope your consideration will result in passing House Bill 1621. It is time someone stand up to the large scale breeding operations and disable current practices that are allowed to go on. I am asking you to please serve as a voice for the animals subject to horrific and miserable living conditions in puppy mills. You have the power to limit and potentially stop the poor treatment of animals in puppy mills. Please do what is right and work towards passing House Bill 1621.

Sincerely,

Michelle Vest

253-592-1501

RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

HAWAIIAN TELCOM

February 8, 2011

Chair McKelvey and members of the House Economic Revitalization and Business Committee:

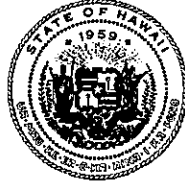
Hawaiian Telcom supports HB 1342 - "RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS."

Hawaiian Telcom appreciates the work of the Legislature and the Permits Work Group for spearheading efforts to advance the deployment of our state's broadband infrastructure by streamlining the governmental permit process. Our company wholeheartedly supports exempting broadband infrastructure improvements from state or county permit requirements for five years and encourages the committee to consider making such a change permanent.

Advanced broadband services are essential infrastructure for an innovation economy and a knowledge society in the 21st century. As we are all aware, broadband deployment drives opportunities for business, education, and healthcare. One national study estimated the positive economic impact of advanced broadband in Hawaii at \$578 million per year. Passage of this aggressive and forward-looking measure will be a positive step in aligning Hawaii's policy objectives with governmental regulations that encourage rather than discourage greater investment in broadband infrastructure.

For all of the reasons set forth above, Hawaiian Telcom supports HB
1342.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



LATE

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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KEALI' I S. LOPEZ
INTERIM DIRECTOR
EVERETT S. KANESHIGE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Date: February 8, 2011
Time: 8:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON H.B. No. 1342 -- RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS MCKELVEY, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEES:

My name is Glen Chock, and I am the Acting Cable Television Administrator, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the "Department"). I am testifying in support of the intent of H.B. 1342.

Under Act 199, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2010, the Department's Cable Television Division ("CATV") was required to convene a work group to discuss and develop procedures to streamline the State and County permitting process for broadband services. CATV's then Cable Administrator chaired the work group meetings and the work group met four times in 2010. By inviting private wired and wireless broadband providers to share their experiences, the work group gained an overview appreciation of the many permitting and approval obstacles at the State and County levels that impede the expeditious deployment of broadband infrastructure. The work group then turned more specifically to the challenges faced by telecommunications providers when they attempt to attach new fiber cables to existing utility poles. The work group, to the best of our knowledge, did not come up with any procedures to streamline the permitting process.

H.B. 1342 exempts broadband providers when installing, improving, constructing or developing infrastructure relating to broadband service or broadband technology from county and state permitting and approval requirements. The Department supports the

intent of this measure since it would temporarily remove one of the biggest obstacles hindering further deployment of broadband service to all parts of the State. However, the Department is concerned that there may be unintended consequences as a result of the blanket exemption on State and county permitting requirements and that the bill be amended to accommodate limited exceptions.

H.B. 1342 also eliminates the requirement that a person or utility upgrade or replace an existing utility pole when using that pole to install new or improved existing telecommunications cables when the weight load on the pole is not increased. Again, the Department believes that this is the right step forward and will greatly assist broadband providers as they attempt to advance broadband services in the State. The Department is also concerned here that there may be unforeseen consequences as a result of the elimination of the pole replacement requirement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. No. 1342. I will be happy to answer any questions that members of the Committee may have.