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CATHY L. TAKASE  
ACTING DIRECTOR

To: House Committee on Judiciary

From: Cathy L. Takase, Acting Director

Hearing: February 1, 2011, 2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 325

Re: Testimony on H.B. 549  
Relating to Public Agency Meetings

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. No. 549.

OIP believes that this bill would result in easier access for the public to board notices and agendas under the Sunshine Law and in more efficient government. The bill would substitute electronic filings on the state calendar maintained on the designated central state Internet website for filings in hard copy with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. This would allow easy access for the public by Internet for all board meeting notices required under the Sunshine Law. It would create greater government efficiency by eliminating staff time spent and resources used to receive and post hard copies or in rejecting untimely filed notices, all of which would be performed electronically.

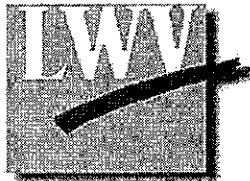
Under the Governor's Executive Memorandum No. 08-06, state boards are currently directed to post their regular meeting notices on the state calendar.

Thus, this bill would also eliminate the current duplicate filings by these boards on the state calendar and in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

OIP believes that the statute as amended has adequate safeguards to protect access by members of the public who do not have Internet access. Physical notices would still be required to be posted at the board's office and at the site of the meeting whenever feasible. Further, boards would still be required to mail copies of notices to persons who request notification in such form.

OIP further believes that the proposed amendment has adequate safeguards to protect access in the event of an interruption in Internet service. In addition to notices available in the board's office and at the meeting site whenever feasible, notices filed when the electronic system is not in service would be available in OIP's office because boards would be required to file their notices with OIP when electronic posting is unavailable. OIP would then be responsible for the electronic posting as soon as Internet service is restored.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HAWAII

## TESTIMONY ON HB 549 RELATING TO PUBLIC AGENCY MEETINGS

Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Tuesday, February 1, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 325

Testifier: JoAnn Maruoka

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, members of the Judiciary Committee,

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii agrees with the intent of HB 549. We are not concerned that notices of public agency meetings will no longer be filed and posted in the lieutenant governor's office; rather, they will be filed and posted, according to the conditions and standards laid out. For state boards, this means on the central State of Hawaii Internet website. For county boards, this means in the appropriate county clerk's office. Wherever posted, consistency is vital.

However, we do strongly urge that every effort be made to widely notify the public of the change and where they can find public agency meeting notices. This is especially critical before the first meeting of a new body (commission, board, etc.). It is very important that clear, understandable information be given to ensure and enhance our citizens' access to government.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

**Testimony for HB549 on 2/1/2011 2:00:00 PM**

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Sunday, January 30, 2011 3:39 PM

**To:** JUDtestimony

**Cc:** mmmmahalo2000@aol.com

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Testimony for JUD 2/1/2011 2:00:00 PM HB549

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Mike Moran

Organization: Individual

Address: Kihei,Hi 96753

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Submitted on: 1/30/2011

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members,

Please support and pass this bill through your committee. We need to protect our marine resources for numerous reasons, including preserving our dwindling coral reefs, which these fish protect. In the words of a kapuna, "no fish, no culture." Also, from a strictly financial prospective, as we let the coral reef system deteriorate, so goes much of our visitor industry. Mahalo.

Mike Moran