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LATE



LATE TESTIMONY

February 28, 2011

Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: SB 1525 – Relating to Utilities – Oppose
CPN Committee – February 28, 2011, Conference Room 229, 10:00AM

Aloha Chair Baker and members of the committee:

On behalf of Oceanic Time Warner Cable (Oceanic), which provides a diverse selection of entertainment, information, and communication services to nearly 350,000 households, schools and businesses and currently employs more than 900 highly-trained individuals, we appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns regarding SB 1525, Relating to Utilities.

This bill would require operators to notify excavators of the vertical depth of their subsurface installations to the extent and degree of accuracy that the information is available in the operator's records. This is something with which we have a serious concern because records are not always accurate, depth may not be as precise due to irregularities in the ground, and we occasionally see shifting of the plant due to natural factors like settlement. Because the One Call Center and operators do not have precise data on the depths of the installations, this becomes a serious safety issue if the excavator is depending only on this information.

The shared concern of all operators in providing depth of facilities is that the excavators would not be as careful when trying to find existing facilities and that liability for damages may pass back to operators.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the chair and members to defer this bill.

Sincerely,

Bob Barlow
President of Oceanic Time Warner Cable