

**LATE**

Representative John Mizuno, Chair  
Committee on Health and Human Services  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Insert Hearing Date

Re: Support for HB 1740, Relating to Information Access-Newsline

Dear Representative John Mizuno and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services

My name is Nani Fife, and I am a user of Newsline, because I cannot read print due to my disability. I have used Newsline services since 1993 and access the following publications to get information about current events: Star Advertiser and many other newspapers. If Newsline is not funded, I will not have access to the information I need to be aware of what is happening in the local community or at a national level. I am President of the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii (NFBH), a mother, a grandmother and I work full time for the City & County of Honolulu. I am also a strong advocate for the blind of Hawaii. My experience with Newsline has been positive providing me valuable information in my daily busy personal and professional life.

The National Federation of the Blind has designed this revolutionary system to receive digital transmissions from newspapers on the morning of publication, convert this information into computer-generated synthetic speech, and transmit the information to a Local Service Center (LSC) which blind persons can call on touch tone phones.

Many of our blind members use this service on a daily basis and without the funding for the Newsline services many blind individuals will lose their independence and the right to information.

In conclusion, I am respectfully asking your support for HB 1740.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Nani Fife, President of the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii**  
**nanifife@aol.com**

**morikawa2 - Grant**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 8:46 AM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Cc:** robertscottwall@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB1740 on 1/31/2012 10:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Testimony for HLT/HUS 1/31/2012 10:00:00 AM HB1740

Conference room: 329  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Scott Wall  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [robertscottwall@yahoo.com](mailto:robertscottwall@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 1/31/2012

Comments: