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Feb. 21, 2011

Chairman Gilbert Keith-Agaran
House Judiciary Committee

*Sent via email to repkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov and
JUDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov*

Re: hearing on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 in House Judiciary committee

Dear Chairman Agaran and committee members:

Hawaii Reporter, a 9-year-old daily news journal based at the Hawaii state capitol, is in support of HB 1376 and HB 194, which makes permanent the state shield law scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2011.

Hawaii Reporter has benefited from this legislation after subpoenas were issued to our news organization in a civil case related to the 2006 breach of the Ka Loko Dam on Kauai. The law protected Hawaii Reporter's sources, notes and other relevant information and prevented a litigant from using his subpoenas to intimidate sources and journalists involved in documenting the cause of the breach.

The legislation encourages a free press in Hawaii. In addition, Hawaii can be proud that this legislation has served as a model for other states.

Thank you for holding this hearing. Please lift the sunset date and let the law stand.

Sincerely,

Malia Zimmerman
Editor
Hawaii Reporter
Malia@hawaiireporter.com
(808) 306-3161