

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

BRIAN SCHATZ LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE Regular Session of 2012

AND

Date: March 16, 2012 Time: 1:15 p.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON
HB 2325 HD2- RELATING TO BROADBAND
By Donn Yabusaki, Cable Television Administrator
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

TO THE HONORABLE CAROL FUKUNAGA AND ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

The Department appreciates the opportunity to express its support for the general intent of H.B. No. 2325 HD2, which is to accelerate the deployment of broadband infrastructure throughout the State.

However, because of the broad implications of the deemed automatic approval forty-five days after submission of an application for broadband related permits, the Department defers to the appropriate departments and agencies on the impact of this bill.

KEALI`I S. LOPEZ



TESTIMONY ON HB 2325. HD2 RELATING TO BROADBAND

Committee on Economic Development and Technology Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday, March 16, 2012 1:15 p.m. Conf. Rm. 016

Testimony by Jean Aoki, LWV Legislative Committee member,

Chair Fukunaga, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, members of EDT and CPN,

While we have no expertise in permitting laws, we look with askance at allowing applications for any projects funded by taxpayers to be deemed approved without any action by those in position to make the judgments if action is not taken withing a giv

HB 2325, HD2 is more disturbing because it allows applications for broadband related permits to be deemed approved if no action is taken within what seems like a very brief amount of time, especially since the permits are for actions like "installation, improvement, construction, or development of infrastructure relating to broadband service or broadband technology including the interconnection of telecommunications cables, cable installation, tower construction, undersea boring, or the landing of an undersea cable.

Then there is the provision that "No action shall be prosecuted or maintained against the State, its officials, or employees on account of actions taken in reviewing, approving modifying, or disapproving a permit application." While it is true that many a project is delayed because of seemingly unnecessary court challenges, wouldn't this provision plus the allowance of approval of permits without any action remove all accountability on the part of government and not allow public input in activities that impact the natural or urban environments.

Please give this bill serious thought before approving it.

Thank you for allowing us to testify on this bill.

fukunaga2 - Ashley-Jane

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 9:18 AM

To: EDTTestimony Cc: Robynp@hawaii.edu

Subject: Testimony for HB2325 on 3/16/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDT/CPN 3/16/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2325

Conference room: 016

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Robyn Petterson

Organization: Individual E-mail: Robynp@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/16/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

I appreciate the effort to increase economic gain for our state, however I oppose this bill. Taking environmental review out of decision making threatens the welfare of our natural ecosystems. Please keep our rules on place to protect Hawaii.

Robyn Petterson