

DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11TH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Phone: (808) 768-8480 • Fax: (808) 768-4567
Web site: www.honolulu.gov

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



LORI M.K. KAHIKINA, P.E.
DIRECTOR

CHRIS TAKASHIGE, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 27, 2012

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2553 HD2 SD1 Relating to Building Design for Persons with Disabilities

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) respectfully **opposes** SB 2553 HD2 SD1, which proposes to charge fees for review of plans by the Disability Communication Access Board (DCAB).

The proposed fees would cost DDC an estimated average of at least \$350,000 per year. This estimate is based on the fee structure proposed in the bill and on DDC's projects over the past three fiscal years. This additional cost to taxpayers would reduce the number of capital improvement projects that DDC would be able to construct each year, such as improvements to roads, parks, sewer systems, and other public facilities.


It is our understanding that DCAB is currently funded from the State general fund. This is appropriate, as DCAB review of our project plans is not optional, but is legally required by Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 103-50. DDC requires design compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable, and pays our staff, design consultants, and construction contractors to comply with the requirements. The proposed fees would effectively create an additional and substantial tax on the City's capital improvement projects and negatively impact our capital improvement program by increasing project costs.

Paying the proposed fees for a legally mandated DCAB review of our plans would be detrimental to DDC's mission of executing our many capital improvement projects as expeditiously and efficiently as possible. For this reason, we respectfully **oppose** SB 2553 HD2 SD1.

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Members
March 27, 2012
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,


Lori M. K. Kahikina, P.E.
Director

LK/WB:lm

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: greg@ccs-hawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2553 on 3/29/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 7:58:50 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/29/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2553

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Greg Thielen
Organization: Complete Construction Services
E-mail: greg@ccs-hawaii.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:
Enough with the fees already!