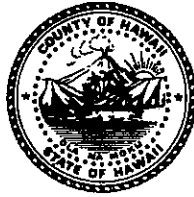


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LATE TESTIMONY

February 10, 2012

To: Representative Keith-Agaran, Chair
And Members of the House Judiciary Committee

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB2597**, RELATING TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

Aloha Representative Keith Agaran and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Please support the passage of HB2597, the OIP Legislative Proposal #2 regarding the Sunshine Bill. It is imperative that the Sunshine Law be updated in order to take into consideration today's most widely used means of communication. Over the past few years, social media has taken over as the main platform where public communication is taking place. In order to promote transparency, the Sunshine Law needs to be brought up to date so as to not to hinder County's legislators ability to communicate with constituents.

As the Hawaii County Councilmember for the largest council district in the state, by land size, I ask for your support of HB2597. District 6 is a mostly rural area and many of my constituents reside in remote areas, making communication difficult. While home internet access for many residents is limited, modern cell phone technology has allowed me to further reach my constituency through the use of social media.

While HB2597 does not address all of the issues regarding transparency and permitted interactions regarding the use of social media, it is a good start. I am pleased that OIP is submitting these changes and is understanding of the need to update this law to address today's communication environment.

Lastly, I support OIP's efforts to revise allowable permitted interactions to be more realistic and reasonable.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the testimony before you. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at hccdistrict6@gmail.com or (808) 961-8536.

Many mahalos for your time and attention to this matter,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brittany Smart".

BRITTANY SMART