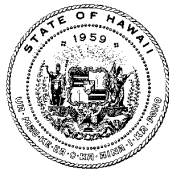


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GOVERNOR



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RICHARD BURNS
STATE LIBRARIAN

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor**

**Wednesday, February 22, 2012
State Capitol, Room 016**

SB 2234 – Relating to Electronic Information

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) supports SB 2234.

For the past several years, our libraries have seen increasing numbers of people turning to their libraries for the e-government, workforce development, education and health information they need. We anticipate this bill will dramatically increase the number visits and requests for assistance we receive from citizens across the state, and we look forward to providing the key communications linkages between government organizations and the people of Hawaii

This bill will create opportunities to open channels of communication between our citizens and the legislature, government departments, agencies and institutions at all levels. It will also have a significant workload and financial impact on HSPLS and our daily operations, as we anticipate many more people will be coming to our libraries to access, view and print this information. This will impact our reference

staff, as they help patrons search for, locate and make use of the information they require, and there will be additional costs associated with printing the documents retrieved, including paper, printer supplies and wear and tear on equipment.

To help us take full advantage of our libraries' critical position in the government to citizen's communication link, we would require additional funding of approximately \$250,000 to install dedicated computers and printers for accessing government information in our libraries. These dedicated computers would allow streaming video of legislative proceedings, provide access to the documents and information targeted in these bills, provide links to government at all levels, and open the doors to government information for citizens across the state. If this funding were appropriated and released to HSPLS by next FY 2013, we could implement these dedicated terminals and printers in our libraries statewide, probably before the beginning of the next legislative session.

We look forward to working with the legislature to create new pathways for constituents to remain aware of and engaged in their government.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.