



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

House Committee on Finance

State Capitol, Room 308

SB2994 S.D. 2, H.D.1 - Relating to State Libraries

The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) agrees with the intent of HB2511 – Relating to Libraries, to provide the opportunity for every individual and every entity to support their public library at their local community level. This bill will also allow nonprofit corporations whose sole purpose is to support and benefit a specific public library, to use public library system facilities and grounds. HSPLS is extremely fortunate that we have had so much broad-based community support for our libraries statewide, and we definitely want to find ways to encourage and increase this support.

The bill does not address the concerns of the Maui Friends of the Library, which provides support for multiple HSPLS branches as well as other Maui County libraries, and we are also concerned about how this bill will affect our long-standing relationship with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii. This bill may result in increased workload for our fiscal office, and further stretch our limited resources (both personnel and funding) in order to properly implement and monitor these new contracts, licenses, and activities while tracking and accounting for these newly created Library special fund accounts. Because the effective date of this bill is July

1, 2050, I am confident that we can work with the Board of Education, Friends of the Library of Hawaii, other community support groups, the Legislature, etc. to develop a reasonable plan to address these concerns. While we support the intent of this bill, we have reservations about the bill in its current form.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Jeannine Johnson

5648 Pia Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Phone: 373-2874 (h) / 691-7261 (w)

Email: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com

March 27, 2012

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Re: SB2994 SD2 HD1 Relating to State Libraries

Hrg: Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 5:30 pm in Conf. Room 308

Aloha mai,

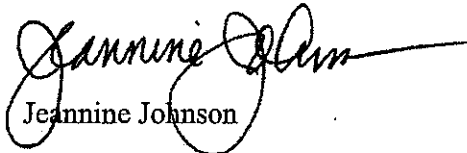
I strongly support SB2994 SD2 HD1 which permits the Hawai'i State Public Library System to allow nonprofit corporations whose sole purpose is to support and benefit a specific library branch use of public library system facilities and grounds and repeals the Hawai'i state library foundation trust fund.

I was born and raised in Niu Valley in East Honolulu and spent many hours inside the 'Āina Haina Library growing up since it opened in 1962. It is a wonderful library, full of light, books, periodicals and audiovisuals. The Friends of 'Āina Haina Library have been around almost as long and have held very popular books sales every year that benefits the Library.

I am dismayed that a terrific organization such as the Friends of 'Āina Haina Library, which has been supporting the 'Āina Haina Library for decades, is not able to continue its sales because it is not an affiliate of the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i. I am on the Board of several non-profits, some with 501(c)(3) designation and some not. I understand the duties of accountability, care and responsibility of maintaining a tax exempt status. How can it be that a 501(c)(3) organization such as the Friends of 'Āina Haina Library could be prevented from the stewardship it has generously provided for five decades in the best interest of its community?

Please kōkua and support SB2994 SD2 HD1 so that those who are in a community, know the community and volunteer for that community can continue to do good work for their community.

'O au iho nō me ka mahalo,



Jeannine Johnson

March 28, 2012

TO: House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

From: Sally Little

RE: SB 2994 SD2, HD1 (HSCR 1238-12) Relating to State Libraries

Position: Oppose

First of all I wish to thank the House Committee Chair and Vice Chair and Members of the House Committee on Education and the House Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Finance for working diligently with the Friends of the Branch Libraries, respectively; the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, the State Librarian, and all of us who are working in the best interest of supporting our Public Library System.

The key issue remains whether a Friend's of a Library group, specifically the Aina Haina Friends, should seek a statutory resolution to a concern regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State Librarian and the Friends of the Library of Hawaii. This MOU allows only those Friends groups affiliated with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii to conduct fundraising events, ie book sales, on Library property. This MOU was approved by the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

The resolution of an issue with an MOU seems to be best achieved through mediation with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, the State Librarian, and the Friends of the Aina Haina Library. Another appropriate remedy would be to seek an exemption to the MOU supported by the Attorney General that would contractually allow the Aina Haina Friends to form a direct relationship with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii.

The present system has worked satisfactorily with the other **thirty-three** Friends of the Libraries who have affiliated with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii. There are presently **two** Friends groups who will become affiliates of the Friends of the Library of Hawaii after the Board of Directors approve them on March 30, 2012, and **four** other groups are pending affiliation. None of these Friends groups have submitted testimony in favor of this bill.

Again, I so appreciate your willingness to seek an equitable resolution to this concern. I urge you to oppose this legislation.

TO: Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Education Committee

FROM: Lenore Johnson

DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2994, SD2, HD1 – Relating to State Libraries

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my thoughts on SB2994, SD2, HD1. My name is Lenore Johnson and I am the president of the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library, where I have been a volunteer for about 45 years.

I marvel at how our rudimentary book sales that we conducted in the “olden days” have continued to transform year after year into grand community events. The money we raise goes to funding our favorite neighborhood library, and in the past two years we have been able to provide \$25,000 for books, children’s programs, office furniture, and to fulfill other needs.

While our Friends group truly enjoys volunteering at the Aina Haina Library, it has been an arduous journey for us since the summer of 2010, when we were informed by the Big Friends that our annual book sales were illegal because we were not one of their affiliates. So our organization greatly appreciates the countless hours of work that have gone into putting together this legislation that will allow qualified 501(C)(3) groups like ours to help fund the libraries here in our Islands.

For almost half a century, the Big Friends had always given us the choice of whether or not we wanted to become one of their Affiliates. But suddenly, in 2010, that option was gone. While we suggested various solutions for our situation, all the State Librarian could say to us was, “Sorry, it’s the law.” The Opinion from the Department of the Attorney General regarding our case pointed to HRS 312-3.8, and again, it was the law.

So for now we have closed down our daily, weekly, and annual book sales to comply with the law. A law that doesn’t make any sense to me when one organization is given exclusive rights to sell books on State property, and here we are, doing the same thing albeit on a smaller scale, and our book sales are deemed illegal.

But it is wonderful to know that there are legislators here today, who want to do what is right, which is to amend the law to allow every library friends group in Hawaii the freedom to choose whether it will remain autonomous or whether it will join the Big Friends.

I respectfully ask that you cast your vote in support of SB2994, SD2, HD1. Thank you.

Lenore Johnson
Honolulu, HI

To: Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the House Finance Committee

From: Glen P. Young

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 5:30 p.m.

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2994, SD2 HD1 - Relating to State Libraries

I am a patron of Aina Haina Public Library and am writing in support of SB 2994, SD2 HD1.

With a weak economy and severe budget cuts across the board, it is even more important to embrace those volunteers and organizations who choose to support our public library system. The Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library are one of those volunteer groups who choose to serve the community by supporting their neighborhood library.

It was disheartening to see that the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library recently had to close down their fundraising efforts within the library because they chose to function independently from the Friends of the Library of Hawaii ("Big Friends"). The Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library have been diligently serving their community as a non-affiliate for many decades, and this freedom of choice should be their given right to exercise. SB 2994, SD2 HD1 not only seeks to preserve their freedom of choice, but also affords other qualified groups this equal opportunity to help support a library of their choosing.

Thank you and please vote in favor of SB 2994, SD2 HD1 as it serves to help support our Hawaii State Public Library System, our community, and our ohana.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen P. Young
Honolulu, HI 96813

To: Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

From: Byrde Cestare, Executive Director, Friends of the Library of Hawai'i

Measure: SB2994, SD2, HD1

Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2012
5:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library of Hawaii would like to thank Representative Roy Takumi, Chair of the House Education Committee, and the members of that committee for considering our opposition to Senate Bill 2994, SD2. We appreciate the thoughtful amendments that were made to that draft and generally support it. We still have some areas of concern that we would appreciate having addressed:

1. Need to exclude "sale of books, booksales, and bookstores" from enterprise activities to clarify that money raised by FLH Affiliates on library property stays with that Friends group to be used for their library branch.
2. Donations/bequests made to a Friends Affiliate should also stay with that group.
3. Need to include Affiliates who cover more than one library.
4. Repeals HLF/FLH Library Trust fund. Is that constitutional?
5. Clarify what funds go into the libraries special fund and why that fund is needed.

This bill primarily affects the local fundraising and support provided by FLH Affiliates. The FLH Affiliate Program has been in operation since 1991 providing resources to our Affiliates. It also provides monitoring and accountability to HSPLS. We respectfully request that any changes to the law which affect this local, grassroots effort of library support be carefully considered so that there are no unintended consequences.

If changes to the law are necessary to make accommodation for other groups, we would like to suggest that all stakeholders be involved in the process of writing legislation that will address all parties concerned. If the true intention is to revise the law so that it better serves the Hawaii Public Library System and honors all those volunteers who donate their time and hard work in support of that system on a local level, I respectfully ask that this bill be held.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns regarding SB2994, SD2, HD1.

From: Nainoa Mau, Affiliates Coordinator, Friends of the Library of Hawai'i

To: House Finance Committee

Chair Representative Marcus R. Oshiro

Vice Chair Representative Marilyn B. Lee

Measure: SB 2994, HD1

Hearing: Thursday, March 28, 2012 - 5:30 p.m., Conference Room 308

I am opposed to SB 2994, HD1. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. This bill is relating to libraries, and more specifically the non-profit support of libraries. Friends of the Library of Hawai'i (FLH) has supported literacy and education in Hawai'i for over 130 years, including raising funds and securing donations to build the first library in Hawai'i, the Hawai'i State Library in 1913. Over the last 100 years, the HSPLS has grown to 50 libraries throughout the state. The mission of FLH has also grown into that of a statewide entity, supporting all 50 Hawai'i State Public Libraries.

The mission of Friends of the Library of Hawai'i is to support and promote the statewide public library system, including assisting in maintaining free public libraries; securing materials beyond the scope of the normal state budget; advocating for libraries; accepting gifts to and for the library system; and to promote the extension of library services throughout the State of Hawai'i. We believe that is the role of the non-profit in the non-profit - government relationship and it has worked for the libraries for 100 years as far as we know.

Friends of the Library of Hawai'i (FLH) created an Affiliate Program to promote a network of local Friends at the branch libraries, similar to what exists in other states, over twenty years ago. The program was created to ensure that each branch had a local support group, a local Friend. The network allowed for greater cooperation, flow of ideas, and overall greater support. The goal of the program was not simply the existence of the group, but also the success of each group in creating and gathering local support specifically for their branch librar(ies). To this end, FLH channels resources to these individual groups. Groups receive support from an Affiliates Coordinator with FLH, at an Affiliates Conference, access to Affiliate Matching-Grants, 501(c)(3) status under the FLH group exemption, and most importantly, assistance with Federal and State filings that ensure that affiliates are and continue to exist as legal entities in their community, supporting their library. **At no time does FLH try to diminish the support or take funds away from any Friends group, Affiliate or not.**

Local support is crucial to the health and support of a statewide system. Especially in these tough economic times, local Friends groups are needed more than ever to ensure that their communities changing and increasing needs are served. They do this by:

- raising funds for programs and speakers;
- for specific additions to book & media collections;
- for librarian training (conferences);
- for small improvements at their branch(es), etc.

All programs at Hawai'i public libraries are funded by Friends groups and their sponsors.

Much more than fundraising, local Friends are community advocates and help to make the library more visible and relevant to their community. **Local friends are VOLUNTEERS, who take of their time and give their efforts to support a government agency for the benefit of their entire community!**

In the House Draft 1 version of this bill, we see an effort by the House Education Committee to solve the issue for which the bill introduced. In short, the issue was how to allow a group not affiliated with FLH to operate at a library facility. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the House Education Committee in working to solve that problem with minimal disruption to the current system, understanding the needs of all parties.

The continuing areas of question relate to the language of the bill and ongoing questions being asked by interested parties. The language of the current bill does allow most FLH Affiliates to continue to operate, but it does not accommodate those that operate at more than one library branch. There are 3 groups that do so. This can easily be resolved. The much bigger question is - Does language of booksales or even "sale of books" limit the fundraising options of any Friends group? Friends groups are very active. There is no "cookie cutter" approach to these groups. Each is doing a fantastic job supporting their library(ies) but they are doing so a variety of ways. This relates back to the community aspect of Friends groups, where each is responding to their individual community needs and working with their local community members and groups. They do not only conduct book sales to raise money and they do not only sell books!

In addition, from an FLH standpoint, there are still major questions about the statewide contracts. These include, who will negotiate those contracts? Will the contracts be negotiated on a statewide or local level? Is there HSPLS staff to accomplish these tasks, and if not, is there funding for additional staff? Down 124 positions, HSPLS may not be able to handle this added responsibility.

There are also questions regarding the use of those funds. The funds are currently used for large grants. Right now, around \$90,000 of Foundation Trust monies were to be used to as a grant match with the Gates Foundation for computer terminals, software, and IT improvements at 40 branch libraries totaling over \$800,000 in improvements. HSPLS, without the ability to use and/or ease of access to those funds, may not have been able to match this grant and in the end may not have received it! These are important upgrades and additions to library technology, where we see access to technology as one of the greatest draws for patrons to the libraries.

FLH has been exploring all options that could allow non-affiliated groups to operate. We currently feel that there are solutions that do not involve legislation. Two of the main points of question in the current House draft are listed below.

1. In changes to H.R.S. 312-3.8, the continued use of the language working to exempt booksales as a concession continues to be very unclear. Even using "sale-of-books" has been questioned by some as being too specific. A better understanding of what all Friends are doing and how the law can work for everyone needs to be taken into account.
2. The Foundation trust fund is used as a grant-matching fund. To put it into the "special fund" may severely limit its effectiveness in this capacity, leaving many opportunities unavailable. This is a question for the legislature and HSPLS to answer. How does this money best serve the public libraries?

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony and clarify my opposition to SB 2994, HD1. We still have many questions and FLH is very appreciative of the thought and time the House members are putting into this issue. We look forward to continued discussion and an outcome that will work best for all Friends, HSPLS, and for the communities they serve.

I am opposed to SB 2994, HD1.

Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Finance Committee

Re: Finance Committee Hearing on SB 2994, SD2, HD1-Relating to State Libraries
Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 308

Thank you for scheduling this hearing. My name is Mary Chung and I am asking for your support of SB2994, SD2, HD1. I am a volunteer with the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library, an organization that has been selling books to support our library for almost 50 years. Because the current statute does not allow a non-affiliate of Big Friends to sell books on state library property, we have closed our book sales at the Aina Haina Library. Our organization is a small one, and our volunteers are mostly retired senior citizens. Locating another sale site and moving heavy boxes of books to a location off the library property is not a viable solution for us.

In previous senate hearings, it was stated that the legislative intent in 2001 was not to create a privileged status for one non-profit group but to promote private-public partnerships to support our libraries. Please correct the exclusivity that allows only one non-profit organization in the entire state the exclusive right to any enterprise activity on state library property. I also hope that this Committee will retain incentives for volunteers to support their libraries while developing more effective oversight of enterprise activity.

Our closed book sale makes little sense during this period of budget constraints. It negatively impacts our library and community. This is a bill that does not seek funding from the state, but allows qualified non-profit organizations such as ours to continue to support our respective libraries. Please support SB2994, SD2, HD1.

Thank you.

Mary Chung
Honolulu 96821

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the House Finance Committee

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 5:30 p.m.

Re: Testimony in Support of SB2994, SD2 HD1 - Relating to State Libraries

My name is Jerri Young, and I'm a volunteer with the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library. Thank you for the opportunity to write in Support of SB2994, SD2 HD1.

The Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library is a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation recognized by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. All monies raised through our book sales, for almost 50 years now, have been used exclusively to support the Aina Haina Library. In the last 6 years alone we have given over \$57,000 to the Aina Haina Public Library for the purchase of books, media, many programs for the community, library supplies and equipment.

In 2010, a Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up between the State Librarian and the Friends of the Library of Hawaii ("Big Friends"), stating that the Big Friends and its affiliates have the Exclusive Right to any enterprise activity intended to generate revenues on Public Libraries property. The Big Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, not a branch or section within the Department of Education, and yet were given the Exclusive Right to hold sales on library property. What this means for our Aina Haina Friends group, as an example, is our book sales at the library are now being called **illegal**, unless we become an affiliate with the Big Friends. We submit to you that it is not just or proper for any one group to be afforded this special privilege. So now after almost 50 years of successfully supporting our library, we have had to close down our ongoing sale, and can no longer hold our weekly sales or annual sale on library property, unless we sign up as an affiliate with the Big Friends.

We have learned that the 2010 MOU was based on an interpretation of State law, HRS 312-3.8, that one entity alone, "the friends of the library of Hawaii," has the exclusive use and rights of entry for the use of public library system facilities and grounds. Through the Senate Education Committee hearing recently, we have also learned that the original legislative intent of this State statute in 2001 was not to create a special privilege and exclusive-use right to one organization, but rather to encourage private-public partnerships to benefit our libraries.

SB2994, SD2 HD1, is an important bill because it will allow other qualified library friends nonprofit corporations -- and not only the Big Friends and their affiliates -- to have an equal opportunity to contribute and participate in supporting their library by holding book sales on State property. I respectfully request your vote in Support of SB2994, SD2 HD1. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Jerri Young
Honolulu, HI 96825

March 28, 2012

Representative Marcus Oshiro
Chair, House Finance Committee

Re: SB 2994, SD2, HD1

Dear Chairman Oshiro & Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Kathleen Choy. I am a lifetime member of the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i and a volunteer at the annual book sale held at McKinley High School. My written testimony is presented as an individual and not as a spokesperson for Friends of the Library of Hawai'i ("FLH"). As a member of the FLH, I strongly believe in the goal of preserving and protecting a free public library system throughout our state.

I speak against the passage of SB 2994, SD2, HD1.

In June 2005, the Hawaii Library Foundation merged with the FLH. The Hawaii Library Foundation ("Foundation") as a part of the merger specifically transferred to FLH in accordance with Section 312-3.7, HRS, the Foundation's separate trust fund also known as the "Hawaii State Library Foundation Trust Fund" as is set out in Section 312-3.7, HRS.

Once the merger was completed, FLH assumed the Foundation's previous work of negotiating contracts for copy machines and pay phones for all 50 libraries throughout the State of Hawaii. The current contract for copy machines terminates in June 2012. By working with just one vendor to service all 50 libraries, the FLH was able to negotiate favorable terms for the public and the Hawaii State Public Library System ("HSPLS") by reducing costs as well as to generate a profit that is maintained solely for use by the HSPLS. Any contract negotiated by FLH must be approved by the State Librarian and is reviewed by the Attorney General's office.

The profit generated from the copier contract and pay phones is designated for use upon request by the State Librarian for HSPLS's programs. These funds have been used in the past to pay for a self-check kiosk for the Kapolei and Hilo Public Libraries.

FLH charges no fee to HSPLS for this service. FLH Board members spend countless hours meeting with vendors, negotiating a contract with a vendor, following up on repairs or servicing of these machines. All of the net funds collected by FLH are used solely to pay for services for HSPLS.

SB 2994, SD2, HD1 purports to allow the FLH or any non-profit corporation whose sole purpose is the support of a public library to be issued licenses, revocable permits, concessions, or rights of entry for each of the 50 public libraries throughout the

State of Hawaii and provides that the state librarian in consultation with each head librarian of the HSPLS approve of each such individual contract.

Is it the Legislature's intention to have the head librarian of each branch now spend his or her time doing tasks that are currently being successfully done for free by FLH?

Is it the further the intention of the Legislature to require the deposit all of the funds raised from these licenses into the libraries special fund and thereby preclude the use of these funds for matching grants that benefit the HSPLS?

SB 2994, SD2, HD1 further proposes to amend Section 312-3.8, HRS, with a new subparagraph (d) to state that any sale of books on the grounds of any state public library facility is not a concession. It is unclear to me that this amendment would assure that the funds raised from the sale of books on public library grounds would be exempted from the requirement that such funds be deposited into the libraries special fund. If all such funds will be required to be deposited into the libraries special fund and not maintained by the volunteers who raised these funds to benefit their specific local community library, then the volunteers will likely stop their activities.

Although the House Education Committee has made many welcome amendments to the Senate's version of SB 2994, the bill still has many flaws which may result in unintended consequences. I therefore urge this Committee to hold this bill and take the time before the next legislative session convenes to organize a task force to include representatives from all of the stakeholders who support the public library system and to thoughtfully propose amendments to this statute that can accomplish what is the intended goal of supporting a free public library system.

Thank you for allowing me to present my written testimony in opposition to SB 2994, SD2, HD1.

To: Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice-Chair
Members of the House Finance Committee
From: Lisa Yoshimura
Date: March 29, 2012

Re: Testimony in Support of SB2994, SD2, HD1 Relating to State Libraries

Representative Marcus Oshiro, Representative Marilyn Lee, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for hearing SB2994, SD2 HD1. My name is Lisa Yoshimura.

I strongly support SB2994, SD2 HD1 because this Bill gives all registered 501(c)3 Friends of the Library the equal right to sell books on State property for the purpose of supporting their designated library.

The current practice of allowing the Friends of the Library of Hawaii (Big Friends) the exclusive right to sell books on State property, while denying this same right to other 501(c)3 library Friends who are not Big Friends Affiliates is clearly discriminatory. This is not the American Way.

For decades our libraries have relied on the book sale revenue from Friends organizations, like the Aina Haina Friends, to fund resources and services for patrons, both young and old. I join countless taxpayers across our State who share the sentiment that it is senseless and irresponsible for our State to lose this much needed financial support simply because a Friends group is not a Big Friends Affiliate.

I strongly urge you to support equality among all 501(c)3 Friends of the Library by voting Yes to SB2994, SD2 HD1. Thank you.

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michelle Young
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mmwyoung@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

I oppose SB2994 because it may create chaos and additional administrative burden upon the Hawaii State Public Library System staff if there are multiple groups wishing to sell books for and otherwise support the libraries.

It sounds like this bill was created because one group was upset with the current arrangements and refused to negotiate with the State Librarian and/or the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i. It would be a shame to upend the whole system because of one group's complaints.

Thank you for considering this testimony. Please vote no on SB2994.

Michelle Young

TO: Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the House Finance Committee
RE: House Finance Committee Testimony in SUPPORT OF SB2994, SD2, HD1 - Relating to
State Libraries
DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308 State Capitol

Good afternoon, Representative Oshiro, Representative Lee, and members of the House Finance Committee. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB2994, SD2, HD1. My name is Sharon Nagasako and I am a volunteer with the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library, which is a 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization.

This past Saturday, March 24th, I came across an article in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser titled, "Federal spending cuts could cost isles about \$45 million." The article mentions two members of the House of Representatives who are on the Finance Committee, first quoting Rep. Isaac Choy as saying, "As state lawmakers we have a big question. It's guaranteed the federal government is going to be cutting funds. What programs will the state have to step in and fund or fill in the gaps?" The article continues, saying, "His colleague on the House Finance Committee, Rep. Ty Cullen, noted that the House has already been taking a conservative approach to balancing the budget to be prepared when the cuts come. 'We're watching every penny we spend,' Cullen said."

I am here today to let you know that while we cannot solve all of Hawaii's budget problems, groups like the Aina Haina Friends can help to fill in the gaps in our state's public libraries. Over the past six years, with money raised through our used book sales, our all-volunteer group was able to give over \$57,000 to the Aina Haina Library which was used to purchase books, media, and equipment, to fund library programs for the community, and other expenses that the State government could not pay for.

Unfortunately, in July 2010, we were informed by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii (Big Friends) that our successful book sales that had been helping to fund the Aina Haina Library for almost 50 years, were labeled "ILLEGAL." During the past 1½ years that we have been attempting to correct this situation, we discovered that there are only two ways which will allow us to sell books legally on State property. One would be for the Aina Haina Friends to become a Big Friends affiliate, because the Big Friends has on its side both a law, HRS 312-3.8, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Librarian giving it **exclusive rights** to sell books on State grounds.

However, during the Senate Education Committee hearing for this bill held on February 15th, I was surprised to learn that it is likely that "the original intent of the existing law was **not to create exclusive-use privileges** but rather to encourage greater private-public partnerships to benefit the Hawaii State Library System." (SB2994 SD1, SSCR2325) Many people wonder why the Big Friends were given exclusive rights and other smaller friends groups are not afforded the same privilege to help fund their neighborhood public libraries.

Sharon Nagasako
Testimony Finance Committee
3/29/2012
Page 2

The other way that would allow qualified library friends organizations to sell books on State property would be to amend the law. The Aina Haina Friends have been harshly criticized for turning to the Legislature for help, claiming that we should have taken up the offer of a revised MOU/Exemption that the State Librarian offered us last month. However, at the EDU Committee hearing on March 21st, Senator Jill Tokuda read a letter from the State Attorney General's office which was written in response to her inquiry of whether such agreements can be made. The answer was that the State Librarian under current laws **cannot** "...legally enter into a memorandum of understanding, revised memorandum of understanding, or other similar agreement, authorizing, via a "grandfather" clause or otherwise, the Friends of Aina Haina Library or any other 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation to use public library system facilities and/or ground for fundraising or other activities."

The bottom line is that unless the current statute is changed, the Aina Haina Friends and other entities like ours cannot hold book sales on State property, and I hope you can see why our group had to approach the Legislature for help.

As I mentioned earlier, the Aina Haina Friends are all volunteers. No one receives a salary but we all love what we are doing and are blessed with what money cannot buy. Such things as watching young children and parents leave the library with smiling faces and armloads of books, seeing people from the community enjoy library programs ranging from health care tips to creating nifty crafts, enjoying musical performances from different genres, and the list goes on. Knowing that our efforts have made a difference at our neighborhood library is priceless!

Your vote in support of SB2994, SD2, HD1 today will help us, as well as other qualified 501(c)(3) library groups, to work towards "filling in the gaps" in Hawaii's budgetary needs.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sharon Nagasako
Honolulu, HI

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 7:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: maddux@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Maddux
Organization: Friends of the North Kohala Library
E-mail: maddux@aloha.net
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

We support the position of the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and are in opposition to this bill. More time must be spent with all concerned parties before making substantive changes to current law.

Much effort has gone into making all our current relationships (FLH, HSPLS, Hawaii Attorney General, DCCA, etc.) legal and transparent. This bill only muddies the waters and could deal a catastrophic blow to the state wide Friends of the Library.

Thank you for your efforts in making sure there are no unintended consequences.

Mike Maddux
President
Friends of the North Kohala Library

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 7:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ayniblock@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ann Niblock
Organization: Friends of the Library - Kahuku
E-mail: ayniblock@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

The implications to changes proposed are not clearly understood. There needs to be more dialog and discussion. At this point the status quo is better than a quick fix.

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 5:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fkishimori@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Faye Kishimori
Organization: Friends of Kailua Library
E-mail: fkishimori@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

I am opposed to SB2994 because I feel it requires deeper consideration to the existing non-profit groups that are capably and effectively fulfilling their current commitment to their libraries. Having a committee handle the distribution of funds raised by these groups will simply slow down solving problems that are presently being efficiently and timely. I also feel that if there are groups that do not wish to join the "Big Friends", they should be allowed to do so without disruption to the current status enjoyed by the "Big Friends". Should the State Government be truly interested in the rights and desires of its people, they could sit down and re-do this bill so that it will be less impactful to the present programs now in place. It should be noted that the monies now being handled by the Friends of the Kailua Library is highly visible to any government that would care to check. At the same time the MOU to the "Big Friends" should be renewed and reworded so that it could allow interested and approved non-profit group to operate at their library. Thank you for considering my testimony and appreciate the time and effort that has been spent on this particular bill.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kalena.hayden@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Karen Hayden
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kalena.hayden@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2994. There is no reason to spend our ever-dwindling state funds on establishing and running a subaccount, when there is already an excellent system in place that is completely transparent. Because the system in place is supported by the Friends of Kailua Library, it does not cost the state anything. That cannot be said if this bill passes and a "special" fund with subaccounts must be maintained. Direct the taxpayers money toward issues that are needed, not toward issues that are already taken care of at absolutely no expense to the state. Please vote NO on SB2994.

Maalo,

Karen Hayden

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jacksonhaydenpb@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Jack Hayden
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jacksonhaydenpb@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

I oppose SB 2994 and hope that you vote NO on it.

It attempts to "fix something that is NOT broken." If passed, its effects will HINDER or STOP local volunteer support of local libraries.

I am Jackson Hayden, Treasurer of the Friends of Kailua Library. Last fiscal year we funded over \$57,000 of support to Kailua Library. This money provided new equipment, facilities maintenance support, children's reading programs, adult reading programs and acquisition of media, books and subscriptions for the Library.

Our records are impeccable and available for review at any time. Not only are our records completely accurate and transparent, the keeping of them does not cost the state anything! That cannot be said if local control of our funds is caught up in bureaucracy.

SB2994 is a BAD idea whose time should have never come. Please vote NO on SB2994.

Jackson Hayden, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: moorep001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melinda Moore
Organization: Individual
E-mail: moorep001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

I wish it to be noted that I am deeply opposed to this bill. I am a resident of Kaneohe, represented by Ken Ito in the House and Clayton Hee in the Senate.

Melinda K. Moore
46065 Makena Place
Kaneohe

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 3:57 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pmeerians@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Patti Meerians
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pmeerians@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. It is a bill that is unnecessary and the libraries will suffer if it not opposed. There is a good system of checks and balances in place with the Friends of Kailua Library. Their accounts are open for review at any time - all done at no drain on the state's budget because the FKL pays for it. Vote NO on this bill and keep the monies local and accessible.

Patti Meerians, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 2:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pattieb@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pattie Black
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pattieb@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

As a volunteer for Friends of Aina Haina Library, I see patrons coming in to buy books at our ongoing sale - they are so disappointed to find ropes across the book shelves with a sign saying "Sales Canceled". Please vote Yes for our bill so that we may continue to raise money for our library as we have done for fifty years.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: joansabanos@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Sabanos
Organization: Individual
E-mail: joansabanos@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. There is no reason to have another layer of bureaucracy when there is already a successful, transparent method of locally accounting for funds. The system in place does not cost the taxpayers a cent - certainly our tax dollars can be spent in more effectively. Please vote NO on SB2994. Mahalo.

Joan Sabanos, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:21 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: TJGNYHI@att.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Terry Germaine
Organization: Individual
E-mail: TJGNYHI@att.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2994. It is going to cost the money-strapped state. Do not allow the hard-earned monies that directly and solely support go into a subaccount. This is not a workable bill and should not pass. Please vote NO on SB2994.

Terry Germaine, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jaws2@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John Wilson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jaws2@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. It is convoluted. It is unnecessary. There is a system in place with the Friends of Kailua Library that is totally transparent. There is no expense to the taxpayers and the account books are open to everyone. Please vote NO on SB2994.

John Wilson, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jaws@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Adele Wilson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jaws@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2994. We do not want the hard-earned funds from the Friends of Kailua Library to go into a subaccount. We already have an superb system in place that costs nothing to the state. It is totally trackable, with the records available to anyone who wants to see them. This is a confusing bill, please vote NO on SB2994.

Adele Wilson, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: CKing@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cheryl King
Organization: Individual
E-mail: CKing@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Although I appreciate the changes House members have made to remove some of the more problematic language in the original bill, I am still concerned about some of the language in the bill and request that you amend it.

As a Friends of the Library Kona member, I can attest that it will be difficult to retain volunteers if there is any suspicion on the part of our members or the members of any non-profit that the state has the ability to require us to put money raised from our book sales into a state account. Members derive both satisfaction and confidence from each group's ability to write the checks which enable us to support our branch library(ies) needs.

Therefore, please change the language in 312-3.8 (b) to state:

"Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all net income of proceeds received from the operation of any concession, vending machine, or other for-profit business enterprise within, or on the grounds of, any state library facility , excluding the sale of books, shall be deposited into . . ."

Then 312-3.8 (d) could be taken out. This would leave no room for someone to say that book sales are "for-profit" and also a "concession" and that a group's fundraiser money should be diverted to state coffers.

Also, some groups have bookstores and others have shelves upon which are placed books for sale. Saying "sale of books" is much more clear as it covers the multiple ways in which non-profit groups may sell books to raise money for the library.

Also, as some Friends groups such as my Kona group support more than one library, please make the following change in 312-2.

Change the language to: "specific library branch" or " specific library" plural to "branch(es)" or "library(ies).
and 312-3.8 (a) and (c).

Thank you for reading my Testimony. I hope you will continue to support one of the most successful Public/State partnerships that Hawaii has.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 3:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: malomu@lava.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary Mulder
Organization: Individual
E-mail: malomu@lava.net
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

To the House Finance Committee:

I am a voter, a volunteer at the Kailua Library Bookstore, a member of the Friends of Kailua Library, and I OPPOSE bill SB 2994. We have a successful system here that supports our library and is popular in our community. Our sole purpose is to support our Kailua library.

Our accounting is so transparent that even I can easily understand it. We are audited annually by a CPA. The state pays nothing. The exclusivity argument doesn't really make sense. We are part of the Kailua Library, and all of the reading public benefits. It is important for our library and all of our 50 plus volunteers to keep our funds in Kailua.

Mary Mulder, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: finka001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Alice Fink
Organization: Individual
E-mail: finka001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. There is an accurate system in place that locally accounts and tracks the monies of the Friends of Kailua Library. This costs the taxpayers nothing - the FKL even pays for its own annual internal audit with a CPA. Use our tax dollars where they are needed - please oppose SB2994.

Sylvia Baldwin, Kailua

Mahalo,

Alice Fink, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sylviab@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sylvia Baldwin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sylviab@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. There is an accurate system in place that locally accounts and tracks the monies of the Friends of Kailua Library. This costs the taxpayers nothing - the FKL even pays for its own annual internal audit with a CPA. Use our tax dollars where they are needed - please oppose SB2994.

Sylvia Baldwin, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: renee@myfirststartclass.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Renee Ramsey
Organization: Individual
E-mail: renee@myfirststartclass.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2994. There is already a successful method of tracking income and expenses in place for the Friends of Kailua Library. There is no reason that the State should have to hire personnel to manage a program that is already working and transparent. Spend taxpayers dollars where it is needed, not where it is unnecessary. Vote NO on SB2994.

Mahalo,

Renee Ramsey, Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: RF101WALTZ@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Burt Waltz
Organization: Individual
E-mail: RF101WALTZ@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

My wife and I oppose SB2994 because it is confusing and convoluted. As an affiliate of the Friends of the Library, the organization we belong to, Friends of Kailua Library, already has an accounting system in place that tracks our funds. The FKL bookkeeping is totally transparent and available for review by anyone at any time. The bonus for the State is that this highly-successful system cost the taxpayers absolutely nothing!! Please vote NO on SB2994.

Lt. Col. B. Waltz, ret.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 8:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tutubrenda@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenda & George Powell
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tutubrenda@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

My Husband and I STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed bill SB2994.

I recently started to volunteer at the Friends of Kailua Library. Being an accountant by trade, I am very impressed with their accounting system, accountability, annual audit procedures, as well as the positive support provided to Kailua Library. This is done at no expense to the State of Hawaii. This is done with faithful, educated, supportive Volunteers that are cheerful, giving of their time and positive because they know they are supporting "their" library and helping to establish a better place for all people of Hawaii. I have no doubt in my mind that - if necessary - Volunteers experienced with the Friends could well establish guidelines that make sense, give all groups the same procedures and enhance the current system (if needed) versus imposed bureaucracy, limitations, time and money spent by the State.

My Husband and I would much prefer to see our tax dollar go towards something that is broken - not towards something that is already working.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 1:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: chapmanr001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard & Charlene Chapman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: chapmanr001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please vote NO on SB2994. We believe that this is a bad bill that will result in losing revenue for the Kailua Public Library and costing the State of Hawaii money. Vote NO on SB2994.

Richard and Charlene Chapman, Kailua

FINTestimony

.m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 10:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mfsleh@ulukanu.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michal Stover
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mfsleh@ulukanu.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

As a member of the board of Friends of the North Shore Library at Princeville, I oppose SB 2994. The current system with the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and its affiliates works and should not be changed. If it is changed, it should only be done after careful study and consideration.

The House Education Committee made changes to improve this proposed legislation, for which I applaud them. Additional issues still remain as set forth below. Although I would prefer not to see any legislation at all, if there is to be a change, I request that you consider the following:

1. Make the language "specific library branch" or " specific library" plural to "branch(es)" or "library(ies)." This language is found in the changes to 312-2 and 312-3.8 (a) and (c). The reason for this is that there are 3 groups on the island of Hawai'i that support two local libraries. They are Friends of the Libraries Hamakua (Laupahoehoe and Honoka'a), Friends of the Ka'u Libraries (Pahala and Na'alehu), and Friends of the Libraries, Kona (Kailua-Kona and Kealakekua). This will also help the Maui Friends.
2. Change the language in 312-3.8 (b) to state, "Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all net income of proceeds received from the operation of any concession, vending machine, or other for-profit business enterprise within, or on the grounds of, any state library facility , excluding the sale of books, shall be deposited into . . ." Then 312-3.8 (d) could be taken out. This would leave no room for interpretation, where booksales are "for-profit" and "concessions." Also, bookstores and other permanent book carts/shelves, etc. may not be considered booksales per se. This is much more clear. Friends of Kailua Library and Friends of Kane'ohe Public Library both have actual bookstores.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 9:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: littleone0058@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Kia Kamaka
Organization: Individual
E-mail: littleone0058@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

My name is Kia Kamaka, and I'm a volunteer with the Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library. I support SB 2994, SD 2 HD 1. The "Friends," whether BIG or small, have the same purpose which is to support libraries within the Hawaii State Public Library System.

According to the current law, HRS 312-3.8 gives exclusive rights/special privileges to the Friends of the Library of Hawaii. The Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation who has supported the Aina Haina Public Library for almost 50 years. They have provided funds so that the library can continue programs for the community.

2011, the Friends of Aina Haina Public Library provided a special grant to help renovate the staff's workroom. This renovation helps the overall process of getting books out to the public more effectively and increases staff productivity. The Friends of the Aina Haina Public Library would like to be given the same right as the Friends of the Library of Hawaii to sell books on State property.

Please support this bill. Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 10:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: anneokamura@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anne Hong
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anneokamura@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

I really appreciate that consideration that went into the changes have been made by the House Education Committee to parts of the SB 2994, SD1 and SD2. I have been volunteering with the Friends of Kaneohe Library for over 20 years, and I had concerns that the provisions of the senate bill could hinder the ability of friends of the library groups to support public libraries and community programs due to ambiguities in some of the language and the increased involvement of the Board of Education in getting funds raised by community volunteer organizations to the libraries that they were formed to support. While the changes have helped to clarify the intent of the organizations that would be allowed to hold sales on library property and the use of the funds that are raised, I recommend that more time be taken to further discuss the full effect and possible interpretation of the language in SB 2994 SD, HD1 with both the Friends of the Library of Hawai'i and its affiliates and with non-affiliated groups that support the public libraries.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Very Respectfully,
Anne Hong

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ggp@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Geoffrey Paterson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ggp@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:

Please oppose SB2994. It is not a good bill for the libraries or for the already overburdened and understaffed state of Hawaii.

FINTestimony

m: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 4:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rayoshizaki@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rachelle Yoshizaki
Organization: Individual
E-mail: rayoshizaki@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments:
Please oppose SB2994.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 6:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Bbremer@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2994 on 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2012 5:30:00 PM SB2994

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Elizabeth Bremer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Bbremer@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/28/2012

Comments: