

**LATE**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki  
Comptroller

Maria E. Zielinski  
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
FINANCE  
ON  
February 21, 2013

H.B. 358, H.D. 1

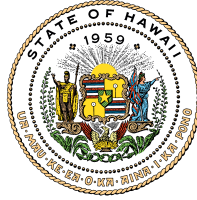
RELATING TO VIDEOCONFERENCING

Chair Luke and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 358, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the intent of H.B. 358, H.D. 1 and will work with the State Legislature and other interested parties to establish audiovisual technology throughout the State to enable neighbor island residents to present oral testimony at legislative committee hearings.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



**SANJEEV "SONNY"  
BHAGOWALIA**  
CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER

**RANDY BALDEMOR**  
DEPUTY CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER – BUSINESS  
TRANSFORMATION

**KEONE KALI**  
DEPUTY CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER – OPERATIONS

**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119  
www.hawaii.gov/oimt

TESTIMONY OF  
SANJEEV "SONNY" BHAGOWALIA, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Thursday, February 21, 2013  
4:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308  
State Capitol

H.B. 358, H.D. 1

RELATING TO VIDEOCONFERENCING

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 358.

The Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT) applauds the efforts of the legislature to embrace technology in order to encourage and engage neighbor island residents in the legislative process and therefore strongly supports the intent H.B. 358, H.D. 1. OIMT provides the following comments for consideration.

As identified in the Business and Information Technology/Information Resource Management (IT/IRM) Transformation Plan, OIMT will also be using technology to increase and encourage citizen participation with State government. It is OIMT's understanding that pilot videoconferencing projects are being conducted with select committees in the Legislature and that this bill would expand the videoconferencing capabilities to all committees in both the House and Senate.

The Legislature should consider various options to encourage and facilitate live oral testimony from the neighbor islands, as well rural Oahu. While this measure requires each chamber of the Legislature to seek out State agencies sites with existing audio and audiovisual capabilities, OIMT would like to note that any increase in the use of these facilities would have an impact the State's network infrastructure. Additionally, there may be more cost-effective, citizen-centric technology solutions, such as Skype, that could be leveraged by individuals from their home or office computer. Regardless of the technology solution(s) employed, they must all be supported by the State's network infrastructure, which is overseen by the Chief Information Officer (CIO).

As such, we recommend that the CIO spearhead this effort in working with the legislature, the Department of Accounting and General Services, and other stakeholders to ensure that the potential audiovisual and videoconference technology solutions meet the technical requirements of the State's network, adhere to best practices, interface or are compatible with multiple platforms, and are provided the appropriate support resources. Additionally, we request that the appropriation be expended by the Chief Information Officer to reflect this responsibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Council Chair  
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair  
Robert Carroll

Council Members  
Elle Cochran  
Donald G. Couch, Jr.  
Stacy Crivello  
Don S. Guzman  
G. Riki Hokama  
Michael P. Victorino  
Mike White




Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**LATE**

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov/council](http://www.mauicounty.gov/council)

February 20, 2013

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Gladys C. Baisa  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2013; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 358, HD1,  
RELATING TO VIDEOCONFERENCING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require both chambers of the Legislature to implement rules to enable the Legislature to receive live oral testimony from the neighbor islands through audio or audiovisual technology.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Section 3-5.5 of the Maui County Charter was amended during the November 2012 election to require the Maui County Council to provide interactive communications access for the residents of Hana, Lanai, and Molokai so that they could participate more fully in all County Council and Council Committee meetings. While this has not been achieved without dedication of resources, our experience has shown that such an option has increased participation in the legislative process.
2. The bill before your committee seeks to expand access to the State Legislature for neighbor islanders, and would do so by providing an alternative to the only cost prohibitive option now available, flying to the State Capitol to testify.
3. I strongly encourage you to pass this measure as an important first step that would both appropriate funds to establish audiovisual systems throughout the State and require each chamber to seek out agency sites that have audio or audiovisual capability that could be used for live testimony.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.



## Advocates For Consumer Rights

*Working for Hawaii's consumers since 1994*

Scott Foster, Communications Director

808-988-0555 <afcr@hawaii.rr.com>

Testimony For Thursday, February 21, 2013

Committee on Finance

**SUPPORTING HB358, HD1 “Relating to Videoconferencing”**

4:00 P.M.

Conference Room 308

State Capitol

**LATE**

Aloha Honorable Chair, Co-Chairs, and Committee Members;

My name is Scott Foster and I am the Communications Director of Hawai`i Advocates For Consumer Rights. Our 19-year old statewide organization was co-founded by Mr. Ralph Nader and we continue to research and testify on public-policy issues. **We strongly support HB358, HD1.**

As an O`ahu resident and having participated in legislative hearings at the State Capitol for the past 25 years, I`ve come to know many advocates on various issues from our Neighbor Islands (NI) and have watched many struggle to participate in the legislative process because of limited time and money. I truly believe that we all know and understand this.

Today, the technology is easily available and relatively inexpensive that would facilitate NI residents participation via videoconferencing. Please pass HB358, HD1 which would finally give *all* Hawai`i residents the equal opportunity to participate in a meaningful way in our participatory democracy.

Mahalo for your time and kind consideration.

Scott Foster

**LATE**

Thank you Rep. Luke for the opportunity to give testimony on HB 358 HD1.

Being from a neighbor Island and intensely interested in bills before the house **I strongly support this important bill.**

Currently in order to attend a meeting it costs me anywhere from \$400 - \$500, more if I count the cost of lost time and work. This is the cost of traveling from my home in Puna to Hilo, catching a flight and returning plus any transport needed in O'hau as well as meals etc. since while traveling I do not have access to the food that grows on our property. This is a major undertaking. We simply can not afford to be constantly traveling to O'hau.

There are many people who want to be involved in the process of government who live on neighbor islands. We have need to have our voices heard. Let us not let the waters that separate the islands of Hawaii drown out the voices of the neighbor islands. Too often I have heard people say that the decisions being made in O'hau are being made without the input of the very people that are effected by them .

Technology can ensure that those of us on the neighbor islands are able to be involved.

Please pass this bill and let us be heard through the use of technology for all issues that concern us.

Barb Cuttance  
Puna Pono Alliance  
Hawaii Alliance

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2013 9:52 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rangien2010@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB358 on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM

### **HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Puanani Rogers	Ho`okipa Network -Kauai	Support	No

Comments: Please vote to support this measure. I live on Kauai and this would be most helpful to people that do not live on Oahu. Please give us a chance to voice our concerns. Mahalo a nui, Puanani Rogers

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**LATE**

**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jackie Reynolds	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee of Finance: I strongly support this bill. I have friends who live in very remote places in which this would strongly help in playing a role in laws that affect them and me. Thank you. Sincerely, Jackie Reynolds

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**LATE**

**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clare Apana	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I would like to be able to enter testimony verbally from Maui where I live. we do this for Molokai, Lani,Hana in maui County council and it works very well to allow people to testify without the expense of being at the hearing. Clare Apana Testimony in favor of HB 358

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**LATE**

**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jonathan R Cole	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Neighbor island residents have been disenfranchised for too long!!

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**LATE**

**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Toni Withington	Individual	Support	No

Comments: If we had video conferenceing we would not have ended up with the mess called PLDC.

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2013 11:09 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** konaconnection@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB358 on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM

**LATE**

### HB358

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
April Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is only fair to us on the neighbor Islands.

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**LATE**

**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alicia Morrier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Big Island strongly supports

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**HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Casey Sexton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2013 12:36 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** saws123@myway.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB358 on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM\*

### **HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl York	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2013 12:56 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** palmtree7@earthlink.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB358 on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM

### **HB358**

Submitted on: 2/21/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 16:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
janice palma-glenie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: this legislation will enhance democratic process. mahalo to rep lowen for introducing it.

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