

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY

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

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

RANDY BALDEMOR
DEPUTY CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER – BUSINESS
TRANSFORMATION

KEONE KALI
DEPUTY CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER – OPERATIONS

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

Tuesday, February 12, 2013
2:05 p.m.
Conference Room 325
State Capitol

H.B. 632, H.D. 1

RELATING TO OPEN DATA

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 632, H.D. 1. My name is Sanjeev "Sonny" Bhagowalia, Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Hawaii.

Since becoming the State's first full-time CIO, Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT) has developed and openly published a comprehensive Business and Information Technology/Information Resource Management (IT/IRM) Transformation Plan that provides the roadmap for modernizing the State's technology infrastructure and streamlining its business processes. One of the top 10 initiatives outlined in the Transformation Plan is Open Government. H.B. 632 aligns to this initiative, and thus we strongly support the intent of the bill.

OIMT supports making government more open and transparent. Open data builds trust among citizens by making government more transparent with the sharing of information. Open data also encourages innovation with developers as they create applications from the information available to address specific needs of the community, whether it is a constituent tracking the spending of candidates or parents looking for the nearest playground or park for their keiki or anything in between. Most importantly, open data encourages citizen participation and engagement with their government. The State provides a wealth of information and data that we are making more accessible and interactive through our open data portal at www.data.hawaii.gov, which has been federated with groundbreaking federal open data site

www.data.gov. The open data portal is one example of how the State is proactively aggregating disparate data and information to make it more accessible and user-friendly. With support from the Governor, OIMT launched its Open Data Initiative on June 26, 2012 asking all departments and attached agencies to contribute datasets to the open data portal and to name Open Data Coordinators to work with OIMT to further build out the information offered to the public.

H.B. 632, H.D. 1 addressed many of OIMT's earlier concerns regarding establishing limits on the use of data to preserve the quality, integrity and capacity of a centralized and federated data warehouse system; safeguarding information and data that is protected from disclosure by federal and state laws; and appropriating resources for OIMT to provide additional open data coordinators as a shared service to departments to effectuate the intent of the bill.

However, this draft of the measure still requires the adoption of administrative rules under Chapter 91 by July 1, 2015. We have discussed this specific issue with the Office of Information Practices (OIP) and agree with eliminating this requirement in order to continue and encourage departments to provide more open data to the public. OIMT is in the process of developing open data policies, procedures, and guidelines for departments, including technical specifications, which we believe would fulfill the intent of the requirements described on page 5 in lines 13 through 20. We anticipate the initial set of policies to be complete by January 1, 2014.

In closing, OIMT strongly supports the intent of H.B 632, H.D. 1 as it will ensure that the Open Data Initiative will continue for the long term, regardless of administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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
JUDICIARY
ON
February 12, 2013
H.B. 632, H.D. 1

RELATING TO OPEN DATA

Chair Rhoads and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 632, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the intent of H.B. 632, H.D. 1, provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

The open data initiative will allow Hawaii State government to make publicly available any existing electronic data sets containing public information, so that discrete pieces of data can be aggregated and further analyzed to provide meaningful, valuable, and useful information to the citizens of the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: House Committee on Judiciary

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 12, 2013 at 2:05 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 632, H.D. 1
Relating to Open Data

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) generally supports the bill as amended, and has attached a proposed draft making a few further amendments that are necessary to promote open and free access to government data and not impede the state's ongoing efforts to move public information and government services online.

OIP is a strong supporter of efforts by the Office of Information Management and Technology (OIMT) and the private sector to place public data onto the state's centralized website at data.hawaii.gov, where it can be open and available to all members of the public to view, visualize, analyze, and perhaps help government come up with new ideas and solutions. OIP has been helping state and county agencies to adopt open data practices and has been training them to post data onto data.hawaii.gov. OIP is concerned, however, that HB 632, HD 1, requires the adoption of administrative rules under Chapter 91 by July 1, 2015. This was OIP's primary objection to the original bill and OIP still objects to this provision because departments are likely to stop their ongoing efforts to post information onto data.hawaii.gov until the rules are adopted. That is why OIP's attached proposal has eliminated the need for administrative rules and expressly states in the purpose section that it is not the bill's intent to halt the ongoing voluntary postings by departments. Additionally, OIP's draft amends the purpose section to make clear that the bill is not creating any new liability for the State.

OIP is charged by the UIPA with the policy of conducting government business as openly as possible while balancing the right of the people to the state constitutional right to privacy. HRS § 92F-2. Since the UIPA's adoption in 1988, there have been many computer and technological advances that create new challenges, such as the "mosaic effect" resulting when information posted online can be mashed up with data from many different sources to create a new data set providing extensive personal information about an individual. OIP has tried to take these general security and privacy concerns into consideration by suggesting in our attached proposal that any data with personally identifiable information not be posted online, unless the disclosure is agreed to by the person or is necessary to the department's mission, as in the case of sex offenders or the names of candidates and lobbyists in Campaign Spending reports.

OIP also recognizes that the bill attempts to codify into law the aspirational goals of open data advocates. To avoid unintended consequences, however, OIP's proposal would provide departments with the discretion to post "appropriate" data, so that they would not have to release online their internal operations that would frustrate their management, impinge on privacy and security issues, or have no real value in being released online. Moreover, OIP is aware of departments' experiences with requesters who may try to use the new law simply to harass departments by demanding that specific or multiple data sets be posted online immediately, regardless of the department's workload and staffing, which is why OIP's proposal would not require departments to post data upon demand. Please note that such information would still be generally be available upon request under the UIPA; OIP's proposed changes would merely ensure that departments are not required to affirmatively act to make such information easily available in machine-readable form online.

OIP's proposal has also added a provision to take into account the concerns of Peter Sybinsky of the Hawaii Health Information Corporation to not infringe upon third-party licensors' rights.

Finally, we highly appreciate the appropriation provisions in HB 632, HD1 to OIP and the departments to implement the open data efforts. OIP recommends expanding the purpose of the departments' appropriations to allow for the hiring of open data coordinators, who would not only help with getting data online, but will also coordinate the UIPA responsibilities for the departments.

Thank you for considering OIP's attached proposal.

SECTION 1. [~~Open data is~~] In recent years, the idea that certain data should be freely available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents, or other mechanisms of control, has become prevalent. This concept, which is generally referred to as open data, [~~Open data~~] applies to data that is already deemed public and made available electronically, such as on a website; it could include department, agency, and legislative data. Open data is not data that is governed by privacy, security, or any pre-existing protection of the law.

Open data is a top initiative of the chief information officer, as identified in the State of Hawaii Business and Information Technology/Information Resource Management Transformation Plan. The purpose of the initiative is to increase public awareness and access to data and information created by and available from state departments and agencies, enhance government transparency and accountability, encourage public engagement, and stimulate innovation with the development of new analyses or applications based on the unique data provided by the State.

The State launched its open data site, data.hawaii.gov, and is in alpha testing with data sets being voluntarily provided by departments and agencies. The site incorporates data that was readily available in digital format and commonly requested by the public. The intent of this Act is to continue and ensure the efforts of the chief information officer in the multi-year, multi-phased program open data initiative. This bill is not intended to impede or delay state agencies' currently ongoing voluntary efforts to move data online. This bill is not intended to create any new liability, and instead is intended to protect the state from any liability for making open data available to the public, except for gross negligence, willful and wanton misconduct, or intentional misconduct.

SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding four new sections to part VII to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§27- Electronic data set availability; updates. (a) Each executive branch department shall use reasonable efforts to make appropriate and existing electronic data sets maintained by the department electronically available to the public through the State's open data portal at data.hawaii.gov or successor

website designated by the chief information officer; provided that nothing in this chapter shall require departments to create new electronic data sets or to make datasets available upon demand; and provided further that data licensed to the state by another person or entity shall not be made public under this chapter unless the person or entity licensing the data agrees to the public disclosure. Such disclosure shall be consistent with the policies, procedures, and standards developed by the chief information officer and consistent with applicable law, including laws related to security and privacy, and no personally identifiable information shall be posted online unless the posting has been consented to by the individual or is necessary to fulfill the lawful purposes or duties of the department. Nothing in this chapter shall require the chief information officer to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 and nothing in this chapter shall supersede chapter 27G.

(b) Each department shall update its electronic data sets in the manner prescribed by the chief information officer and as often as is necessary to preserve the integrity and usefulness of the data sets to the extent that the department regularly maintains or updates the data sets.

(c) For purpose of this part:

"Data" means final versions of statistical or factual information:

(1) In alphanumeric form reflected in a list, table, graph, chart, or other non narrative form, that can be digitally transmitted or processed; and

(2) Regularly created or maintained by or on behalf of and owned by an executive branch department that records a measurement, transaction, or determination related to the mission of that executive branch department.

"Data set" means a named collection of related records on an electronic storage device, with the collection containing individual data units organized or formatted in a specific and prescribed way, often in tabular form, and accessed by a specific access method that is based on the data set organization.

"Open data" means [certain] data [that is] made available in electronic form via the internet or similar means to the public [to] for use and [republish,] republication without restriction[s from copyright, patents, or other mechanisms of control. Open data applies to data that is already deemed public and made available electronically and can include executive department, agency, or legislative data. Open data is not], including but not limited to data maintained by state agencies or the state legislature; provided that open data does not include data that is governed by privacy, security, or any pre-existing protection of the law.

§27- State liability for data sets. Data sets shall be available for informational purposes only. The State shall not be liable for any deficiencies in the completeness or accuracy of any data set, except where the State's conduct would constitute gross negligence, willful and wanton misconduct, or intentional misconduct, and does not warrant its fitness for any particular use.

§27- Data set licensing. The chief information officer may make the departments' electronic data sets on data.hawaii.gov available to third parties pursuant to a license, which may require the licensee to allow any user to copy, distribute, display, or create derivative works at no cost and with an appropriate level of conditions placed on the use.

§27- Data set rules. (a) The chief information officer, in consultation with the office of information practices, shall [adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91 to make data sets available to the public]develop policies and procedures to implement the open data initiative, including standards to determine which data sets are appropriate for public disclosure[pursuant to chapter 92F]. In making this determination, the chief information officer, in consultation with the office of information practices, and the information security and privacy council, shall balance the benefits of publicly available data sets with the need to protect information that is proprietary, [or] confidential, protected from disclosure by law or contract, or otherwise inappropriate for disclosure as part of a data set. [The rules shall be adopted by July 1, 2015. Information that is protected from disclosure by law shall not be subject to open data.]

(b) The [rules] policy and procedures shall include the following:

(1) Technical requirements with the goal of making data sets available to the greatest number of users and for the greatest number of applications, including whenever practicable, the use of machine readable, non-proprietary technical standards for web publishing; and

(2) Guidelines for departments to follow in making data sets available."

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the office of information practices to establish FTE positions, to promote open data pursuant to this Act and chapter 92F, the Uniform Information Practices Act (Modified).

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of information practices for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for departments and agencies to provide open data coordinators to implement the purposes of this act and chapter 92F, the Uniform Information Practices Act (Modified).

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

TED SAKAI
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Martha Torney
Deputy Director
Administration

Max Otani
Deputy Director
Corrections

Keith Kamita
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 632, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO
OPEN DATA
by
Ted Sakai, Interim Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair
Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 12, 2013; 2:05 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety **supports the intent** of House Bill 632, House Draft 1, which promotes the goal of achieving transparency in government by requiring Executive departments to make all data sets under their control open and available to the public without charge. We believe this initiative would not only inform the public, but also reduce the number of requests for information.

The Office of Information Practices (OIP) and the Office of Information Management Technology (OIMT) submitted testimony on this measure during the hearing of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce and both discussed the technical and operational challenges this initiative presents. The Department supports their positions and respectfully requests this Committee consider the resources necessary to implement open data.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



February 11, 2013

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Committee: Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary
Bill No. & Title: HB632HD1, Relating to Open Data

Date, Time: Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 2:05 p.m.
Place: State Capitol, Room 325

Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Sharon E. Har and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I am Burt Lum, Executive Director of Hawaii Open Data, a non-profit dedicated to advancing open data principles in Hawaii. Formed in 2012, we focus on improving data accessibility and integrity in support of public/private collaboration, government transparency and civic engagement.

Hawaii Open Data **strongly supports HB632HD1, Relating to Open Data**. This Bill is a cornerstone to Hawaii's IT Transformation Plan. In addition to open data being a key element in a national movement for open government and transparency, it is a fundamental building block for **open innovation** in a collaborative, citizen-facing environment. Websites like Data.Hawaii.Gov and Data.Honolulu.Gov are in place for public access and interaction. It is an opportunity for government to co-create the delivery of services with the community it serves. This process will also fuel economic development in the technology sector.

The State of Hawaii clearly supports making government more open and transparent. Gov. Abercrombie said in his State of the State Address that he seeks to "allow state government to operate more transparently and efficiently." And with the endorsement of the Governor, OIMT (Office of Information Management and Technology) launched its Open Data Initiative on June 26, 2012. OIMT has defined the platform and is already working with departments in determining best practices to open more government data for public use.

Hawaii Open Data believes that setting a standard for open data sets in legislation will help frame future development as well as clarify how data is viewed by the government agencies. Data should not be a product to deliver. It's a product of government's day-to-day activities, ultimately owned by the constituents it serves. Government agencies are stewards of civic data.

We would like to clarify that HB632HD1 does not force agencies to release all data to the public for free. It accounts for agencies taking "reasonable efforts" to release data that is already "deemed public records under chapter 92F." In essence, the bill is releasing data that is already being processed for public use through chapter 92F, calling for it to be delivered via the open data portal as defined by OIMT. By doing this, HB632HD1 creates a pathway for data requests to be provided to everyone rather than just the requestor of the data, and in a format that can be widely used by the public. HB632HD1's "reasonable efforts" definition would not force agencies to bear the undue costs of digitizing data for information that is not in a digital format while making data that is already digitized and organized available for public use.

HB632HD1 also defines the data on the open data platform as "informational" to remove government liability for errors in processing. This is especially important in the initial phase of releasing data as feeds from existing systems are being built first to lower the cost and processing by the agencies. However, these systems would be a requirement for future development as this bill adds open data as a priority.

There is also a stipulation that "the chief information officer may make data sets available pursuant to a license." This allows for different levels of licensing for public and commercial use, and thus an option to charge fees or otherwise recoup some of the costs of moving to a more open system while addressing the spectrum from individual civic interests to large corporations. This type of licensing is common in the information technology marketplace.

Hawaii Open Data acknowledges that Section 92-21 and Section 27G-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, allows for the recovery of costs associated with the reproduction of records that have been requested by the public as well as the fee added to any service developed by the State's portal manager. However, it is our belief that Section 92-21 was not written to generate revenue for the agencies, but to address the costs of compiling and delivering what were once largely physical records. Digital systems have largely eliminated these costs, although state agencies should certainly pursue fees to recoup costs for research and other staff time. After the information is collected, however, there should be no additional processing costs. As the cost to generate the material for any request will have already been paid by the initial requester, we believe the information should then be released to the public.

Finally, Section 27G-2 allows for fees for "value added electronic services provided through the portal manager," and these would still be in place independent of HB632HD1. The current portal manager, Hawaii Information Consortium, has delivered considerable value to both the state and its constituents, placing a number of labor-intensive government services online at no upfront cost to the government. Digitizing the State camping permit process eliminates long

lines, for example, and makes permits available to people anywhere they have access to the internet.

However, Hawaii Open Data respectfully suggests that there may be an unintended conflict between the intent of Section 92-21 and Section 27G-2. The latter builds into law the business model of the portal manager, providing for revenue on top of recouped costs. As a result, when Section 27G-2 is applied to open data initiatives and data sets (rather than individual records or services) covered by Section 92-21, the aggregate fees charged to the public could easily be considerably higher than the costs incurred to deliver them, especially insofar as the work to put systems in place are often one-time projects.

Ultimately, we believe HB632HD1 takes these concerns into account through the "reasonable efforts" statement. Going forward, OIMT and the Access Hawaii Committee that oversees the portal manager will need to define what data sets can be reasonably delivered without charge to the public via the the open data portal, and which involve systems, processes and public services that the portal manager is uniquely qualified to manage.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.



Written Statement of

BRIAN M. DOTE

Founder

Tapiki LLC

Co-Founder

Menuie, LLC., Viimodo LLC.

before the

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

2:05 pm State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of

HB632 HD1 RELATING TO OPEN DATA

I am a tech co-founder of multiple Hawaii based technology companies. We rely on the availability of open public data in order to design and develop novel, engaging, and cutting-edge mobile consumer applications. Many of the applications we are working on in this space require the data be provided to us in a digital format free from copyright restrictions, patents, or other mechanisms of control.

By making this public data truly open, the possibilities for their use are endless. Already we have seen the use of this data on websites and mobile apps. Think of these data sets as ingredients for a recipe. The more ingredients mobile application developers such as myself are allowed to throw into the pot, the better the soup.

Or think of them another way. If you recall those transparent anatomy diagrams of yesteryear with each physiological system drawn on a sheet of clear plastic. You would layer them to see how the body functions as whole. In this way, we layer data sets to come up with novel solutions to consumer issues.

So much traction has occurred in the last year events such as City Camp, the launch of the data.hawaii.gov website, and the developer community rallying behind the open data movement. Let's continue to grow the open data movement and make true innovation possible here in the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

har2-Vincent

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2013 2:44 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: pamelapcm@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB632 on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM*

HB632

Submitted on: 2/8/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Williams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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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February 8, 2013

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
The Honorable Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Wednesday, January 30, 2013
2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

Re: HB632, Relating to Open Data

Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair Derek S.K. Kawakami and Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce:

I am Forest Frizzell former Deputy Director of the Department of Information Technology at the City & County of Honolulu and current CIO of the Hawaii Community Foundation. During my time at the City I actively pursued many open data initiatives and saw firsthand the power of citizen engagement and the creation of smarter more connected city with the use of open and accessible government data.

I strongly supports HB632, Relating to Open Data. This measure requires executive departments, boards, commissions, and agencies to make data available to the public. Absolves the State for liability for deficiencies or incomplete data. And requires the CIO to enact rules to address making data sets available to the public.

I believe that this bill is the cornerstone to increasing transparency in government, will drive civic engagement, and will create the infrastructure needed to support the software development industry. The State CIO has started the process in choosing an open data platform and can require all systems being updated or developed to feed into it. This legislation will increase access to more data sets while still protecting the privacy of the public at little to no cost as the majority of State data is already being collected in a digital form.

I have been tracking this bill through its different iterations and am still in strong support.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

har2-Vincent

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 11:00 PM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: hdoug@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB632 on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM*

HB632

Submitted on: 2/11/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
H. Doug Matsuoka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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har2-Vincent

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 8:08 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: lindseak@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB632 on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM

HB632

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsea K. Wilbur	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Open data is a necessity for the future of our governance system, and inevitable if the US government wishes to solve the problems of its constituency with the greatest amount of effectiveness and collaboration, and smallest amount of waste. With ample technological resources at our finger tips, which the private sector generally has taken advantage of, the government systems still remain painfully behind. Opening up data will engage citizens public/private partnership that will be key to facing the twenty first century.

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February 11, 2013

Ryan Kawaiiani Ozawa
95-595 Kanamee St., #326
Mililani, HI 96789-1431
(808) 372-3372

Dear Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair, Sen. Sharon Har, Vice Chair, and the members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 632 relating to Open Data.

I have been an advocate for open data policies and practices since exploring musty basement archives as a journalism student at UH. I've worked for access to university and government records as the editor of both UH Hilo and UH Manoa student papers, then as an independent publisher and blogger. After setting up the Hawaii Open Data Project in 2011, I co-founded the non-profit **Hawaii Open Data** with Burt Lum and Jared Kuroiwa last year to formally and enthusiastically advance the open data movement in the islands.

There is clear momentum toward open data throughout the U.S. and internationally. Free access to information leads to a more informed and engaged populace, and a more transparent and accountable government. It also allows citizens to better understand their communities, make better decisions, and even build new tools and find new business opportunities.

I hope the amendments incorporated to date help address many of the valid questions and concerns of various stakeholders, most of whom have nonetheless affirmed their overall support of the principles advanced in this bill.

Simply putting many of the state's **existing** data sets online, eliminating the time and expense of responding to repetitive requests for information, will be a big step forward. Still, I hope HB632 merely lays the groundwork for increased access to more information in the future, and expands opportunities to work with and build businesses on government data to external, independent companies and entrepreneurs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Malama pono,

Ryan

February 11, 2013

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Committee: Testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
Bill No. & Title: HB632, Relating to Open Data

Date, Time: Tuesday February 12, 2013
2:05 p.m.

Place: State Capitol, Room 325

Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Sharon E. Har and Members of the
Judiciary Committee:

My name is Tara Coomans I am a founding member of Hawaii
Innovation Alliance and immediate Past President of Social Media
Club Hawaii.

I strongly support HB632, Relating to Open Data. This measure
requires executive departments, boards, commissions, and agencies
to make data available to the public.

It is in the best interest that data which belongs to the community also
be accessible to the community. An educated citizenry is an engaged
citizenry. Open Data supports many initiatives within the State of
Hawaii, not the least of which is transparency and access to
information to citizens. This measure will also support the emerging
technology community in Hawaii by providing opportunities for creative
digital thinkers to provide existing public information to citizens in easy
to understand, usable ways.

By passing this bill, Hawaii can be a leader and an example for
supporting technology development, transparent government and
citizen engagement.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

har2-Vincent

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 6:56 AM
To: JUDtestimony
Cc: terrilanichong@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB632 on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM*

HB632

Submitted on: 2/12/2013

Testimony for JUD on Feb 12, 2013 14:05PM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terrilani Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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