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BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

"Building Better Communities"

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Testimony to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing, Technology and the Arts, and Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Wednesday, February 27, 2013
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 016

RE: S.B. 1236, RELATING TO FIBER OPTICS

Chairs Dela Cruz, Wakai, and Espero, Vice-Chairs Slom, Nishihara, and Baker, and members of the Committees:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the voice of the construction industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii is **opposed** to S.B. 1236, which would require installation of fiber optic cable systems in new single-family, duplex, condominium, and apartment dwellings.

BIA-Hawaii is opposed for the following reasons:

- 1) We believe this mandate is unnecessary as providers already provide this service to new developments.
- 2) We are especially troubled that the requirement is tied to issuance of a building permit. We understand that these cable systems are brought in from a source that the homeowner would have no control over. There is no nexus is tying the requirement to a building permit.
- 3) The bill would require "a fiber optic cable system.....pursuant to subsection c". Subsection c states that "the director shall adopt, by rule, standards for fiber optic cable systems". Therefore, S.B. 1236 is requiring a "system" that has yet to be defined.

Therefore, BIA-Hawaii is **opposed** to S.B. 1236.

Thank you for the opportunity to express to you our views.