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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 5:14 AM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: damizu@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB148 on Mar 14, 2013 09:30AM

SB148

Submitted on: 3/14/2013

Testimony for HUS on Mar 14, 2013 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Mizusawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Cheryl Mizusawa, am a private citizen, distributor for the Better Body System, and leadership for Senior Citizen for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I learned that Dept of Vocational Rehabilitation will end its contract for Interpreter Referral Services with the state on June 30, 2013 and will not be renewed! I use the interpreting service for many years and have requested interpreters for my training business, during my stay in the hospital for the surgery since no one in my family would interpreted for me. If these services end I will not have the effective, efficient communication access I need and will not fully participate independently as contributing citizen in the General Community. I'm writing this to request \$500,000 for the fiscal year 2013-2014 and \$400,000.00 for the fiscal year 2014-2015 for the Comprehensive Deaf Service to provide the statewide services that will help deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind clients seek for the housing, improve their independent living skills, and enhance communication access such as American Sign Language (ASL), advocate for their civil rights, and many other services that they desperately need.. Please add the Interpreter Referral Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the CSC bill. The service is very essential for the Deaf Community to have full communication access. Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of the Deaf Community. I strongly urge to have this important bill be passed out of the committee.

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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