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**LATE TESTIMONY**

TESTIMONY OF RICKY R. WATANABE  
COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 827  
RELATING TO ELECTION OFFENSES  
February 20, 2013

Chair Hee and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 827. The Bill prohibits a candidate from physically handling or possessing the voter registration form, voter ballot, or absentee ballot of another person.

We take no position on the Bill but offer comments on its impact to our office and operations.

Since the County Clerks are statutorily responsible for both voter registration and absentee mail voting, we understand the desire to establish stricter measures to govern both processes.

However, we note that the proposed election offenses typically occur at a time when virtually all staff and resources are already focused on preparing for the upcoming Election, so it will be difficult for us to expeditiously investigate and document any complaints.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 827.

**RICKY R. WATANABE**  
County Clerk