



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 101 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V/TDD) • Fax (808) 586-8129

February 24, 2016

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

House Bill 1595, HD1 - Relating to Legislative Testimony

The Disability and Communication Access Board supports the intent of House Bill 1595, HD1 Relating to Legislative Testimony. The purpose of the bill is to establish a Remote Testimony Task Force to develop procedures for the public to testify remotely via the Internet during legislative proceedings and requires a report of findings and recommendations prior to the convening of the 2017 Hawaii State Legislature.

We feel that any discussion to develop procedures to improve interaction and to allow more citizens to testify on legislative matters will increase access for everyone, and should include people with disabilities. House Draft 1 does that by including a representative who who is deaf or visually impaired.

One suggestion for your consideration is on page 2, lines 2 and 3:

Amend the wording to read "...barriers faced by people with hearing or vision disabilities."

This change in language acknowledges the person first and references the disability second, which is currently politically correct terminology when referring to individuals with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to present comments.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA FISCHLOWITZ-LEONG
Chairperson
Legislative Committee

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



HB1595 HD1
RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
House Committee on Finance

February 24, 2016

2:00 p.m.

Room 308

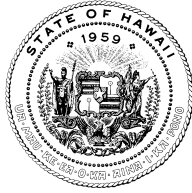
The Office of Hawaiian Affairs **SUPPORTS** HB1595 HD1, which will increase access to the political process for all the people of Hawai‘i, by taking the first steps towards allowing remote oral testimony on legislative measures.

It is well known that Hawai‘i has historically suffered from general community disengagement from political processes; this is especially evident in data demonstrating low voter turnout. For example, Hawai‘i consistently ranks lower than the national average for voter participation among those eligible to vote in the presidential election.¹ Historical data also reflects the underrepresentation of Native Hawaiians in particular in the polls. Accordingly, during the past two election seasons OHA has implemented a “Hawaiian Voice, Hawaiian Vote: I Mana Ka Leo” campaign to increase Native Hawaiian civic engagement.

During the course of these campaigns, many Native Hawaiians expressed feelings of detachment from policy-making processes, due to geographical distance and frustration at perceived neglect of their community concerns. Those from neighbor islands who wish to attend public governing processes in Honolulu, including legislative hearings, must do so at great personal expense for travel and accommodations. In addition, many *kūpuna* or ‘ohana without transportation may likewise experience substantial difficulty in attending and providing their input at public hearings on matters that affect them. By exploring opportunities for such individuals and other members of the public to offer oral comments from more accessible, decentralized locations, this measure could help to lower the barriers to civic participation that have led to the overall sense of detachment felt by the Native Hawaiian community and general public. Moreover, the resulting increase in Native Hawaiian and public engagement in the legislative process may also reaffirm the significance of community input in our policy-making decisions, and foster the robust legislative discussions that lead to better-informed laws.

Given the potential to greatly bolster participation in Hawai‘i’s legislative process, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB1595 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

¹ Editorial Board, *The Worst Voter Turnout in 72 Years*, THE NEW YORK TIMES, Nov. 11, 2014, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/12/opinion/the-worst-voter-turnout-in-72-years.html>.



OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
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INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
SERVICES DIVISION

OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
AND TECHNOLOGY

Testimony of
TODD NACAPUY
Chief Information Officer, State of Hawai‘i

Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Wednesday, February 24, 2016; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

HOUSE BILL NO. 1595, H.D. 1
RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I am Todd Nacapuy, State Chief Information Officer (CIO), testifying in **support** of House Bill No. 1595, H.D. 1, which establishes the Remote Testimony Task Force to develop procedures for the public to testify remotely via the Internet during legislative proceedings.

We look forward to collaborating with the Legislature to encourage active citizen participation in the government process by providing options to use current communication technologies.

For example, the State’s Office 365 enterprise license agreement includes many tools and enhanced resources such as Skype for Business and Skype for Meeting Broadcast (formerly known as Microsoft Lync), which provides a high-quality video streaming solution. Supporting up to 10,000 viewers at any one time, it is device agnostic. Participants can join from nearly anywhere on almost any device, as long as they have an Internet connection. Viewers can interact via built-in collaborative tools, and have the ability to rewind, pause and restart the broadcast at will.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Making Hawaii A Better Place for the Deaf

Aloha State Association of the Deaf

P.O. Box 88591
Honolulu, HI 96830

February 22, 2016

HB1595 TESTIMONY TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair of Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 306
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke,

Aloha State Association of the Deaf support HB 1595 HD1. HB 1595 HD 1, with the new language adding a representative with knowledge of the issues faced by Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing individuals will allow the Remote Testimony Task Force to develop effective procedures that allow the Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing to participate remotely in the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Billy Kekua
President



House Finance Committee
Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto

Wednesday 02/24/2016 at 3:00 PM in Room 308
HB 1595 – Relating to Legislative Testimony

TESTIMONY — SUPPORT
Carmille Lim, Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the House Finance Committee:

Common Cause Hawaii supports HB 1595 HD1 which would establish a “Remote Testimony Task Force” to develop procedures for the public to testify at legislative hearings remotely through the internet.

At Common Cause Hawaii, we encourage productive public participation in the political process. Our members and supporters often tell us that being geographically distanced from the Capitol (e.g., neighbor island residents, or even residents who live or work on the other side of Oahu) makes it difficult for them to productively participate in the government. Common Cause Hawaii supports this bill because it takes a step forward toward fostering public participation in the political process.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony **supporting HB 1595**.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 12:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM

HB1595

Submitted on: 2/22/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Urge support...forward step toward civic engagement and fostering public participation in the political process.

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 7:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: katc31999@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM*

HB1595

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katarina Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:55 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM*

HB1595

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 6:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: canthecant@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM

HB1595

Submitted on: 2/22/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Ewan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: February 22, 2016 HB1595 TESTIMONY TO THE REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE Representative Sylvia Luke Chair of Finance Hawaii State Capitol Room 306 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Dear Chair Luke, My name is Darlene Ewan. I am a deaf person. I support HB 1595 HD1. HB 1595 HD 1, with the new language adding a representative with knowledge of the issues faced by Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing individuals will allow the Remote Testimony Task Force to develop effective procedures that allow the Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard of hearing to participate remotely in the legislative process. Sincerely, Darlene Ewan Honolulu, Hawaii

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PETER L. FRITZ

TELEPHONE (SPRINT IP RELAY): (808) 568-0077

E-MAIL: PLFLEGIS@FRITZHQ.COM

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Testimony on H.B. 1595 HD1

Hearing: February 24, 2016

(RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY)

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and members of the Committee, my name is Peter Fritz. I am an individual with a hearing disability and an attorney. I am testifying **in support** of this bill.

This bill establishes the Remote Testimony Task Force (“Task Force”). The Task Force is to develop procedures for the public to testify via the Internet during legislative proceedings and report its findings to the Legislature.

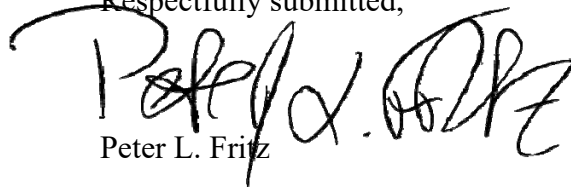
I respectfully suggest that paragraph (b)(9) on page 2 of HB 1595 HD1 be amended to replace the “or” with “and” and that “impaired” be replaced with “disabled” to ensure that the representative that has the requisite knowledge and experience to assist the Task Force in developing effective procedures that permit hearing disabled and blind citizens to testify remotely.

The amended paragraph would read as follows:

“(9) A representative that has knowledge and experience with the barriers faced by hearing ~~[or]~~ and vision disabled ~~[impaired]~~ people.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter L. Fritz

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 6:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: blee@ulupono.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM
Attachments: HB 1595 HD1 House Finance Hearing Testimony 2-24-16.pdf



HB1595

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Lee	Ulupono Initiative	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: colinwhited@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM



HB1595

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Whited	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am an individual who is Deaf and I support HB 1595 HD1. HB 1595 HD 1, with the new language adding a representative with knowledge of the issues faced by Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, will allow the Remote Testimony Task Force to develop effective procedures that allow the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to participate remotely in the legislative process. Hearing Date Wednesday, February 24, 2016 TIME: 2:00 P.M. PLACE: Conference Room 308

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 9:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: legislationcommittee@hawaiidemocrats.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1595 on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM
Attachments: DPH HB1595 HD1 FIN 022416.pdf



HB1595

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for FIN on Feb 24, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Democratic Party of Hawaii	Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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