

HAWAII FILIPINO LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

LATE

Officers:

Rozelle A. Agag, President
Jessica Domingo, 1st Vice-President
Kainani Collins Alvarez, 2nd Vice-President
Daniel Padilla, Secretary
Merlinda Garma, Treasurer

Immediate Past President: Shyla Fukushima

Directors:

Sean Baz
Catherine Betts
Rebecca Gardner
Ashley Labasan
Jeanilou Maschhoff
Alana Peacott-Ricardos
Wayne Scott
Radji Tolentino

Date: March 15, 2016

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, & Health

Re: Testimony on H.B. 2227 HD2- Relating to Language Access

The Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **strong support** of HB2227 HD2 relating to language access.

Among some of the purposes of the HFLA are to advocate for the interests of the Filipino community in Hawaii; and to broaden professional opportunities for Filipino attorneys.

Our organization is a strong proponent of language access as a matter of civil rights law. We believe that the Language Access Resource Center and the Multilingual Website Pilot Project are valuable tools for improving government compliance with language access law; therefore, we fully support it.

Moreover, a multilingual website and publicly available online roster of interpreters and translators will greatly assist our membership of attorneys who have clients who don't speak English well. Since these resources will be available to the public, we can consult them; refer our limited English proficient (LEP) clients to it for information; and find language service providers to help ensure our representation of the LEP community is as accurate and effective as possible. We also believe that these efforts are in keeping with our increasing multi-media and digital connectedness.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this measure in support.

The purposes of the HFLA are: to promote participation in the legal community by Filipino lawyers; to represent and to advocate the interests of Filipino lawyers and their communities; to foster the exchange of ideas and information among and between HFLA members and other members of the legal profession, the Judiciary and the legal community; to encourage and promote the professional growth of the HFLA membership; to facilitate client referrals and to broaden professional opportunities for Filipino lawyers and law students.

LATE



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Melba Bantay, Immigration Program Director

DATE: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 (9:00 a.m., Room 229)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of HB 2227, HD2, Relating to Language Access**

Catholic Charities Hawai'i supports HB 2227, HD2, Relating to Language Access, which will enable the Office of Language Access (OLA) to continue the operations of the Statewide Language Access Resource Center and Multilingual Website Pilot Project. We respectfully request consideration of funding in the amounts of \$300,000 (Resource Center) and \$150,000 (website).

As a member of the OLA Advisory Board, I recognize the excellent and important work that OLA does to ensure that individuals with Limited English Proficiency are able to access information and resources.

This bill will enable OLA to continue services that help government entities and the private sector comply with the requirements of Federal and State laws that exist to ensure equal access for those with little or no English proficiency. As an organization that serves many Limited English Proficient people in need, Catholic Charities Hawai'i recognizes the importance of ensuring that language does not become a barrier to receiving services for which an individual or family may need.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2227, HD2.



baker3 - James

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 7:30 PM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: Dinocelda@susannahwesley.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2227 on Mar 15, 2016 09:00AM

HB2227

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for CPH on Mar 15, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dominic Inocelda	Office of Language Access Advisory Council	Support	No

Comments: Honorable Rosalyn Baker and members of the CPH Committee, The Office of Language Access Advisory Council submits testimony in full support of HB 2227, HD2, Relating to Language Access. The development of a Statewide Language Access Resource Center and Multilingual Website Pilot Project is a much needed media format to increase the OLA's office ability to reach out and interact with the community. Much work has been completed to make this resource available to the community and funding needed to complete and sustain the multilingual website is fully supported by the OLA Advisory Council.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

