

# LATE TESTIMONY

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB153 on Jan 21, 2016 09:00AM  
**Date:** Thursday, January 21, 2016 6:44:37 AM

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## **SB153**

Submitted on: 1/21/2016

Testimony for JDL on Jan 21, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Estelle Chun        | Individual          | Oppose                    | No                        |

Comments: As a former legal aid attorney for over 23 years, I know well the essential role that the Hawaii State Bar plays in administering Interest On Lawyers' Trust Account funds and how critical that funding is in providing free legal services to thousands of low-income and impoverished individuals each year. Without IOLTA support over the past decades, hundreds of programs providing vital judicial access and fairness throughout the US would neither have been created nor adequately funded. If for nothing else, the integrated and mandatory HSBA must continue.  
Estelle Chun Member, HSBA and MCBA

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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Submitted on: 1/21/2016

Testimony for JDL on Jan 21, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Margaret Wille      | Individual          | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments: As an attorney for 30+ years, I stand in support of Bill SB153 (and SB154). I do not believe the HSBA, as a trade association, should have the power to require mandatory membership in its organization in order to maintain a license to practice law in the State of Hawaii. I previously practiced in a State where there was not mandatory membership and thought that worked out well. I voluntarily joined. If a trade association does a good job, attorneys will join. Disciplinary oversight should be handled by the judiciary and not administered by the bar association itself. Independent administration of disciplinary measures for attorneys promotes public trust and confidence in bar and in the judiciary. Otherwise there is a sense that the judiciary and the bar are but one entity. The Judiciary should maximize transparency. A trade association does not require maximum transparency. HSBA does a lot of good work. It should not be afraid of a voluntary bar.

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