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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 5:28 PM
To: GVO Testimony
Cc: DrKioniDudley@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2655 on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM
Attachments: Kioni -- 2016 testimony on GET deadline shift.docx

LATE

SB2655

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for GVO on Feb 2, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Kioni Dudley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I cannot come to testify today. Please read my testimony.

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LATE

At the time of the recent 2008 recession, the state needed extra money. The legislature chose one of the worst possible ways to get it. They moved the GET filing date from the 31st to the 20th of the month.

What was so bad about moving it to the 20th?

It persistently caught little-guy taxpayers unaware, and they had to pay 11% late filing fee each time they filed late.

This legislation was government at its worst, preying on its overworked citizens.

I want to tell you that it really hurts citizens; it makes them feel the government is trying to trap them; and it makes them angry at the government. That is not good.

These aren't salaried workers. They are our entrepreneurs, our small business people, who are getting caught by the early deadline and have to pay. When the squeeze is on in business, that 11% late penalty really hurts.

The whole world is built on things being due at the end of the month. That's the way it always was with the GET too.

In my own experience: I pay semi-annually. For the first several years, I got caught every time. Around the 21st I would begin thinking about upcoming obligations by the end of the month. Then I would remember that GET was due on the 20th. Even though I was only a day late, I had to pay the full late fee. That is really unfair.

We are living in better times now. The state can afford to move the filing date back to the last day of the month.

Last year, we got a bill to do this as far as conference committee.

This year, we need to get it passed.

On behalf of all who pay GET, I ask for your Yes vote.

W