

SB2650

Measure Title: RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS.

Report Title: Motion Picture Theater Accommodation; Open Movie Captioning

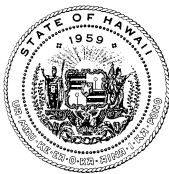
Description: Makes permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m. Repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

Companion: [HB2520](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH, JDC

Introducer(s): BAKER, K. RHOADS, Gabbard, Galuteria, Nishihara, Ruderman, Taniguchi



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE ACCESS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 322
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 6, 2018

To: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Aphirak Bamrungruan, Executive Director

Subject: **SB 2650** – RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Hearing: Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 9:00 AM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Agency's Position: The Office of Language Access (OLA) supports Senate Bill 2650.

Purpose and Justification: The purpose of this measure is to make permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m., and repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

The purpose of OLA's enabling statute (Hawaii Revised Statutes 321C) is to address the language access needs of limited English Proficient (LEP) persons and ensure their meaningful access to services, programs, and activities offered by the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government, including departments, offices, commissions, boards, or other state-funded agencies.

SB 2650 benefits more than the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing. Open captioning provides a critical link to communication and making information accessible to Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals and English-Language Learners (ELLs). Using open captioning can be a great tool for LEP individuals and ELLs to enjoy movies and to increase an opportunity to learn the correspondence between spoken and written language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • TTY (808) 586-8162

February 6, 2018

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senate Bill 2650 – Relating to Movie Theaters

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Bill 2650. The purpose of this measure is to make permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m., and repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear. These changes to the law would afford individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing an equal opportunity to attend open captioned movies and follow the audio aspects of movies exhibited in motion pictures similar to the general public. In a community that readily accepts subtitled foreign language movies and television programs, open captioning is a natural expansion of that concept.

The Legislature passed Act 39 (2015) that required movie theaters with more than two locations to offer each movie produced with captions to have two showings/week with open captioning, similar to subtitles. Times were at the discretion of the theater. This state law augmented the federal requirements to offer an assistive technology option to view movies with closed captioning. Act 211 (2017) rolled back the rights in Act 39 (2015) to (a) require one, versus two, viewings per week, and (b) allow no open captioned viewings if the theater offered lightweight glasses as an alternative. This proposed Senate Bill 2650 essentially seeks to revert the statute to the status provided in Act 39 (2015) without a sunset date.

Our support for the bill is based upon two factors:

- (1) the deaf community strongly prefer open captioning to any type of eyewear, even if lightweight. It is a myth that the current federal law with closed captioning was preferred at the federal level by the deaf and hard of hearing community; it was a compromise to the industry.**
- (2) It is inappropriate to reference a specific type of technology, i.e. lightweight glasses, in statute, essentially providing a proprietary advantage. Federal law allows theaters to use any option to view closed captions while our state law limits viewing to only one option. With the rapid technological advances, there is likely to be a better solution in the near future than lightweight glasses and our statute would be stuck with a reference to obsolete technology in the law. The portion of the bill to delete the reference to glasses is the most important portion of the bill.**

We note that another bill, Senate Bill 2797, is similar to this measure and part of the Administrative Package. We support both bills which are nearly identical.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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Open Captioning (OC) at Movie Theaters

Act 211 (2017)* - Current law

- Required OC **OR** 'lightweight eyewear' with Closed Captions (CC)
- One showing per week
- 01/01/2020

Proposed Bill* - Desired law

- ← Open Captioning? → • Required for each movie produced and offered with OC. Eyewear is not specified as alternative to OC.
- ← # of days per week → • Two showings per week
- ← Sunset date? → • None

* Applies to any public accommodation that owns, leases, leases to, or operates a motion picture theater in more than two locations in the state.

What is the difference between OC and CC?

OC - Always are in view and cannot be turned off. No Special device is needed.



CC - Can be turned on and off by the viewer. Needs a special viewing device.



# of Theater Auditoriums	Minimum Required # of Assistive devices
1	4
2-7	6
8-15	8
16+	12

Benefits of Open Captioning

- Advances in digital technology has made OC easier to develop and more widely available
- Most movies are digital and have OC already built in, making the feature **FREE**
- For the Deaf community, OC is usually the most effective form of accessing a motion picture showing

Limitations of Lightweight Eyewear

- Potentially limited number of devices available for groups. Open captioning has unlimited viewership.
 - Federal minimum requirement depends on how many auditoriums at the theater
- Costs as much as \$1,200 per auditorium to implement assistive captioning

Federal Law/State Law

- Federal law already requires devices to be available but does not specify type.
- State law should not specify a type of technology (eyewear). Technology changes rapidly and a better solution may be available in the future.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
919 ALA MOANA BOULEVARD, ROOM 113
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 6, 2018

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,
and Health
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: SB 2650 - Relating to Movie Theaters

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB 2650**. The bill makes permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m. Repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

Open movie captioning provides a display of text on a screen or other visual display that provides additional or interpretive information of what is being presented. Star Wars: The Force Awakens movie was the first official premiere of open movie captioning on December 30, 2015. The overwhelming response of individuals attending the movie with open captioning was evident of the positive benefits of providing access for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to enjoy movies in a similar manner as those who do not require open movie captioning.

The passage of SB 2650 would provide permanency in providing motion picture theater accommodations, such as open movie captioning.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting SB 2650**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

SB-2650

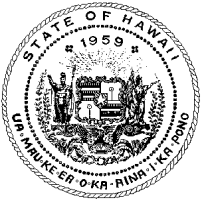
Submitted on: 2/1/2018 2:37:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Erteschik	Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	No

Comments:

For a few years Hawaii led the nation in having a state law which provided open captioning requirements in movie theaters that went beyond the requirements of federal law. It provided opportunities to the deaf and/or hard of hearing members of our community to enjoy movies in a similar fashion as those who do not require open movie captioning. Last year, when the law was due to sunset, the legislature enacted a measure which reduced the availability of open captioning and we believe that was unfortunate. This bill will restore the provisions of the prior law and will also specify that at least one showing will be during a time that is more conducive for most people to attend. We applaud the effort of the legislature this session to do that and we urge the Committee to advance this bill forward.



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: 586-8636 FAX: 586-8655 TDD: 568-8692

February 6, 2018
Rm. 229, 9:00 a.m.

To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Linda Hamilton Krieger, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: S.B. No. 2650

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

S.B. No. 2650 amends H.R.S. § 489-9(a), to restore the statutory requirement originally enacted as a provision of Act 39, L. 2015, that covered movie theaters provide open captioning during at least two showings per week of each motion picture that is produced and offered with open captioning. The bill deletes the amendment of that provision effected by Act 211, L. 2017, reducing the requirement to one showing per week with open captioning, and eliminating that requirement for theaters that opt to provide “[a] personal closed captioning system by means of lightweight eyewear for a motion picture that is produced and offered with closed captioning content.”

S.B. No. 2650 also amends H.R.S. § 489-9(a) to require that at least one of the two showings per week featuring open captioning shall not be a matinee showing.

And, S.B. No. 2650 amends Act 39, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, as amended by Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, to eliminate the “sunset” of the statute on January 1, 2020.

The HCRC has enforcement jurisdiction over H.R.S. chapter 489, including § 489-9. Under § 489-9(c), a violation of the open captioning and audio description requirements is an unlawful discriminatory practice.

H.R.S. § 489-9, as enacted in Act 39 in 2015, was intended to establish its state requirements in addition to and supplementing federal ADA Title III requirements under US DOJ rules, which require covered movie theaters to provide *closed captioning* and audio description for digital movies produced, distributed or available with those features, accessed by use of individual movie captioning and audio devices at individuals' seats.

As enacted in 2015, Act 39 was considered landmark legislation for the deaf community, the first of its kind in the nation, specifically because it required the limited number (2) of open captioned showings per week, that were not required by federal law. Many of the 2015 testifiers on H.B. No. 1272, which was enacted as Act 39, testified that closed captioning was not an effective accommodation for everyone to enjoy a movie viewing experience, noting that the "cupholder" closed caption reading device required the viewer to simultaneously look down at the text and up at the screen, the use of available eyewear to read closed captions was uncomfortable and disorienting, and that the eyewear for reading closed captions could not be worn by viewers who need and use prescription eyeglasses.

Act 211, enacted in 2017, reduced the required number of open captioned showings from two to one per week. However, by inserting the "or" between the amended H.R.S. § 489-9(a)(1) and (2), it effectively eliminated the requirement for any open captioned showings for theaters that provide closed captioning systems by means of lightweight eyewear. It did so without defining "lightweight eyewear," or any numerical requirement for the number of lightweight eyewear units a theater would have to provide at each theater or megaplex location. (The US DOJ federal rule requires a megaplex with 8-15 auditoriums to have 8 captioning devices, which could be eyewear or other captioning devices used by patrons at their seats.)

Act 211 effectively eliminated the open captioned showing requirement that made the current law additive and supplemental to the federal requirements. The HCRC has consistently opposed rollback, erosion, and elimination of existing civil rights protections.

S.B. No. 2650 will help to ensure that members of the deaf community have full, equal, and nondiscriminatory access to and enjoyment of motion pictures with open captioning.

The HCRC strongly supports S.B. No. 2650.



TO: Members of the Hawaii State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Hawaii Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons
American Osteopathic Association

DATE: February 5, 2018

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 2299

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Hawaii Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (HAOPS) are writing in opposition to SB 2299. This bill would expand the scope of practice for naturopaths to allow them to prescribe testosterone, a controlled substance which increases the risk of heart problems in men, without requiring them to attain a level of competency equivalent to a physician. Physicians receive comprehensive education and training to allow them to properly evaluate the risks and benefits of prescribing testosterone, but controlled substance prescribing falls outside of the competencies of naturopathic education, which focuses on alternative and natural therapies.¹ We believe that expansion of naturopaths' scope of practice in this manner is imprudent, and that health professionals' scope of practice must be based on their level of training, education, experience and examination.

The AOA represents 137,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students, promotes public health, encourages scientific research, serves as the primary certifying body for DOs and is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools. More information on DOs/osteopathic medicine can be found at www.osteopathic.org. HAOPS is a professional medical organization that represents over 300 DOs providing patient care in Hawaii.

The AOA and HAOPS support the “team” approach to medical care because the physician-led medical model ensures that professionals with complete medical education and training are adequately involved in patient care. While we value the contributions of all health care providers to the health care delivery system, we believe any expansion of naturopaths' authority to provide services to patients without appropriate oversight should be directly related to additional education, training and competency demonstration requirements. Allowing naturopaths to prescribe controlled substances, without reference to additional requirements or supervision by a physician or surgeon, may ultimately be detrimental to the health and safety of patients in the state of Hawaii. Naturopathic education and training lacks the comprehensive and robust requirements needed to safely provide patients with a full range of unsupervised primary care services.

¹ <https://www.health.harvard.edu/mens-health/is-testosterone-therapy-safe-take-a-breath-before-you-take-the-plunge>.

Osteopathic physicians complete four years of osteopathic medical school, which includes two years of didactic study and two years of clinical rotations. Clinical rotations in the third and fourth years are done in community hospitals, major medical centers and doctors' offices. This is followed by three to seven years of postgraduate medical education, i.e., residencies, where DOs develop advanced knowledge and clinical skills relating to a wide variety of patient conditions. Physicians have both extensive medical education and comprehensive training that prepare them to understand medical treatment of disease, complex case management and safe prescribing practices.

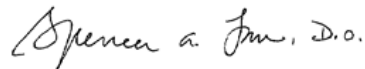
Naturopathic educational curriculum varies by school. There are seven naturopathic programs accredited by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) in the United States. It was only in 2005 that the CNME implemented an approval process for naturopathic residency programs. While opportunities are now available for graduates of naturopathic schools to complete a one or two year residency, this training is still optional. In addition, standard requirements for naturopathic residency curriculum, rotations or experiences do not exist. In terms of program content, the CNME does not provide specific requirements, instead stating that naturopathic residents receive 35 hours a year of didactic instruction, and participate in "scholarly activities that promote a spirit of inquiry, scholarship, and critical thinking such as discussions, rounds, study clubs, presentations, conferences, and local, regional or national professional associations and scientific societies." This level of education, training and certification is not sufficient to prescribe controlled substances, which are regulated by the federal government due to their potential for misuse.

To protect the public's health and safety, health professionals' scope of practice and titles must be based on their level of training, education, experience and examination. **We appreciate your consideration of our concerns regarding SB 2299.** Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Raine Richards, JD, Director of Public Policy at richards@osteopathic.org or (312)-202-8199.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Baker, DO
President, AOA



Spencer Lau, DO
President, HAOPS

CC: William S. Mayo, DO, President-elect, AOA
Joseph M. Yasso, Jr., DO, Chair, Department of Governmental Affairs, AOA
Thomas L. Ely, DO, Chair, Bureau of State Government Affairs, AOA
Adrienne White-Faines, MPA, Chief Executive Officer, AOA
David Pugach, JD, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, AOA
Raine Richards, JD, Director, State Government Affairs, AOA
Samyuktha Gumidyal, MPH, Affiliate Executive, HAOPS



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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February 6, 2018

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senate Bill 2650 – Relating to Movie Theaters

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports Senate Bill 2650. The purpose of this measure is to make permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m., and repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

The proposed amendments to the current law would address the discriminatory effects of communication barriers at movie theaters encountered by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. These changes to the law would afford individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing an equal opportunity to attend open captioned movies and follow the audio aspects of movies exhibited in motion pictures similar to the general public. In a community that readily accepts subtitled foreign language movies and television programs, open captioning is a natural expansion of that concept.

The Legislature passed Act 39 (2015) that required movie theaters with more than two locations to offer each movie produced with captions to have two showings/week with open captioning, similar to subtitles. Times were at the discretion of the theater. This state law augmented the federal requirements to offer an assistive technology option to view movies with closed captioning. Act 211 (2017) rolled back the rights in Act 39 (2015) to (a) require one, versus two, viewings per week, and (b) allow no open captioned viewings if the theater offered lightweight glasses as an alternative.

This proposed Senate Bill 2650 essentially seeks to revert the statute to the status provided in Act 39 (2015) without a sunset date. Our support is based upon two factors: (1) the deaf community strongly prefer open captioning to any type of eyewear, even if lightweight, and (2) it is inappropriate to reference a specific type of technology in statute, essentially providing a proprietary advantage. With the rapid technological advances, there is likely to be a better solution in the near future than lightweight glasses and our statute would be stuck with a reference to obsolete technology.

After two years of offering open captioned movies, the community as well as local theaters should realize that providing deaf and hard of hearing people the opportunity to view movies with their family and friends improves access to services for everyone by allowing the original law to become permanent.

We note that another bill, Senate Bill 2797, is similar to this measure and part of the Administrative Package. We support both bills which are nearly identical.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director



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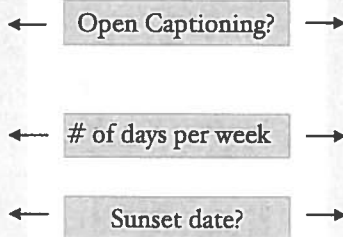
Open Captioning (OC) at Movie Theaters

Act 211 (2017)* - Current law

- Required OC **OR** 'lightweight eyewear' with Closed Captions (CC)
- One showing per week
- 01/01/2020

Proposed Bill* - Desired law

- Required for each movie produced and offered with OC. Eyewear is not specified as alternative to OC.
- Two showings per week
- None



* Applies to any public accommodation that owns, leases, leases to, or operates a motion picture theater in more than two locations in the state.

What is the difference between OC and CC?

OC - Always are in view and cannot be turned off. No Special device is needed.



CC - Can be turned on and off by the viewer. Needs a special viewing device.



Benefits of Open Captioning

- Advances in digital technology has made OC easier to develop and more widely available
- Most movies are digital and have OC already built in, making the feature **FREE**
- For the Deaf community, OC is usually the most effective form of accessing a motion picture showing

Limitations of Lightweight Eyewear

- Potentially limited number of devices available for groups. Open captioning has unlimited viewership.
 - Federal minimum requirement depends on how many auditoriums at the theater
- Costs as much as \$1,200 per auditorium to implement assistive captioning

Federal Law/State Law

- Federal law already requires devices to be available but does not specify type.
- State law should not specify a type of technology (eyewear). Technology changes rapidly and a better solution may be available in the future.

# of Theater Auditoriums	Minimum Required # of Assistive devices
1	4
2-7	6
8-15	8
16+	12

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:24:31 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Genna Koenigsfest	Regal Entertainment Group	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.

- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.

- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:

- Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);

- Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
- The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
- Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.

- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.

- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.

- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.

- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;

- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.

- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:38:43 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosalind Kia	Comprehensive Service Center	Support	No

Comments:

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 5, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker

Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health

Hawaii State Capitol

Room #230

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

Aloha! My name is Rosalind Kia and I am the director of the Comprehensive Service Center for People who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf-Blind. I am writing in support of SB 2650 because I would like to see a permanent law that requires theaters to have open-captioned movies times.

Part of my job is to create opportunities for community gatherings and one of the events we planned to have was an open caption movie night. Unfortunately, the movie we wanted to see was not open captioned. We quickly scrambled and changed our plans, only to find that after calling each theater, none had enough caption glasses for the group size we had. Our event was canceled.

I believe it would be highly beneficial to have open captioned movies so that families and groups of all sizes can enjoy watching a movie together.

Mahalo,

Rosalind Kia

--

Rosalind Kia

Project Coordinator

Comprehensive Service Center

1953 S. Beretania Street, 5A

Honolulu, HI 96826



February 5, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice-Chair
Committee Members – Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Hawaii State Capitol Building

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, Members of the Committee,

This letter is written to express our opposition to SB 2650.

Consolidated Theatres has a long history of operating movie theatres throughout Hawaii, celebrating our 100th anniversary in 2017. Currently, we operate over 90 screens in nine locations on Oahu and Maui. Throughout our history, we have changed our operation and adopted various innovations and technologies, all in an effort to enhance the movie-going experience of our guests.

We continue that trend as we converted all of our locations to digital projection and sound. Digital technology has improved our on-screen presentation as well as offering clear, dynamic sound. This same technology has also enhanced our ability to offer features previously limited or unavailable to those persons who are hearing and/or visually impaired. We currently offer to these individuals the following amenities:

- Closed Captioning Reader – provides a written display of the movie's dialogue
- Assistive Listening Device – used to amplify the movie's audio
- Descriptive Audio Device – offers a narration of the dialogue and effects throughout the movie

These features are available at all of our nine locations for all features during all showings every day of the week. While we also offer an open caption showing as mandated by Act 211, this is typically only during one show time per week which may not always accommodate an individual's personal schedule. However, the aforementioned amenities are available at any showing, all day long.

Act 211 also required the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to access the impact of the law on movie theatres. The report produced by DBEDT dated December 2017, concluded, the annual difference in attendance was estimated at 94,755 patrons per year less at an open caption screening compared to a non-open caption showing. This is a compelling variance that has an impact on our operations. Furthermore, after years of review, testimony and consultation by various stakeholders, the U.S. Department of Justice updated ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) rules applying to movie theatres regarding closed captioning and audio description requirements. On January 17, 2017, new standards took effect benefitting the hearing and visually impaired communities by establishing comprehensive guidelines for the entire industry. Lastly, in his letter to the legislature regarding Act 211 dated July 12, 2017, Governor Ige cited concerns that the law could "potentially create problems" since under ADA there are already specific requirements for providing access for hearing impaired individuals.

For these reasons, in particular the fact that we already provide amenities that offer convenience and flexibility to our guests, we stand in opposition to SB 2650 and respectfully urge you to reconsider moving this measure forward.

Sincerely,

Rod Tengan
Division Manager

From: [ASAD](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 6:06:28 AM

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

Aloha State Association of the Deaf is writing this testimony in support of SB2650. We are in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. We also are in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

We have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. We did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

We are pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. We would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Darlene Ewan
President

From: [Brooke Urayanza](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 6:52:24 AM

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Brooke Christophersen-Urayanza. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Brooke Christophersen-Urayanza
Kahului, Hawaii

Aloha. My name is Amanda Kaahanui and I am in support of Senate Bill 2650.

My son, Ikaika, is a 14 year old who is deaf. He wears hearing aids, but he does not always hear everything being said. At home, he relies on having the captioning on all the time, including broadcast television, streaming video and DVD's, so he can make sure he understands everything being said on screen. When he uses the internet, many videos he watches on YouTube are captioned, and if they are not, he is not interested in watching them. At school, he has captions listed as an accommodation on his IEP, to make sure he has access to everything being said on the video being shown to all students. For the past year, when we went to the movie theater, he had the option to see a movie with open captions. When this option was available, (for our local Regal theater, this was Saturday morning), he always chose the open captions showing. He loved it because everyone in the theater was equal. He was not singled out, and we all had the same access to the movie. Since the law changed to allow the theaters to have the option to have open captions OR provide lightweight glasses, we no longer have that option. Regal only offers some movies with open captions on Monday night after 8:00 pm. Often, the only open caption movie is at 9:00 or 10:00 pm. This is not an option for an 8th grader with school the next day. Even if this was on a Friday or Saturday night, it would not be an option for him, as I think that's too late for him to be out. Currently, when we go to the movies, and we go at least 3-4 times a month, I ask him if he wants the caption glasses, and he says "No thanks." I ask him why, and he says they are uncomfortable, not easy to read the captions and watch the movie, and they only work about 50% of the time. The captions only come on once the movie starts, so you have to wait till someone starts talking before you know if the captions work. Then I have to get up, find a manager to have them reprogramed or get a new pair, and get back in the movie, in which time, 10 or 15 minutes of the start of the movie have passed. This has happened so often, that now, if the glasses don't work, and I offer to get them fixed, he just says to forget it, because he doesn't want me to miss the movie. As a mom, I feel that I've failed him, because he's not getting complete access to the movie and the dialog.

I am a hearing person, I am not deaf or hard of hearing but I also enjoy watching TV and movies with opened captions on the screen. It enhances my movie experience and allows me to catch words that I may have missed being spoken. Asking for access twice a week is not an undue burden on the movie theater. They should do a better job of promoting open captions, if they claim their business is not as good with open captions. I have personally witnessed cashiers talking movie goes out of seeing a movie with open captions and seeing a different movie or time instead. My son, and other members the community, deserve to have access to the movies like everyone else. To make them wear the glasses, that do not always work, are uncomfortable and draw attention to my teenager, is unfair when there are other, more accessible options available. If you don't believe me about the glasses, please go to the movies and see a show with the glasses. If you do, then imagine having to do that every time you go to the movies because you do not have any other options. You may feel differently about this bill.

Please support the passing of SB 2650 so people like my son can look forward to going to the movies and have access. Mahalo.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 8:32:48 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka		Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB 2650 the passage of this bill to support our deaf and hearing impaired community to enjoy movies at times that are convenient after work hours and to have open captioning on the screen.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 7:26:49 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Safranski		Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

Mahalo

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 10:19:41 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Ewan		Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 10:20:25 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa Ewan		Support	No

Comments:

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Peggy Liang
Testimony presented as an individual
Email; Peggy Liang liangpeg@hawaii.edu

February 2, 2018

Testimony in *support* to Senate Bill 2650 – Relating to Movie Theaters

My name is Peggy Liang. I am presenting this testimony as an individual in favor of SB 2650, which require movie theaters to provide open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m. and remove the requirement to provide an option of open captioning or closed captioning (personal lightweight eyewear with closed captioning).

From my personal experience, the visitors and my friends have been enjoying the open captioning at the movie theaters. My friends and I discussed that we liked how we did not have to worry about the hassle of asking for an individual closed captioning device. However, I find the schedule for movies with open captioning, not convenient because it is often showing either in the morning during the work hours or late night on week day that would conflict with my work and school schedule. I would love to find the movies with open captioning during the prime times.

The bottom line is that the passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf Blind.

I strongly urge the Committee to pass this bill, which will widen the audience by giving the option with open captioning and make movies available after 4:30 p.m.

From: [Mai.Vue](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018 12:28:29 PM

February 3, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is (insert your name). I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Mai Vue

Honolulu, HI

From: [Mai.Vue](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018 12:28:29 PM

February 3, 2018

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Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Sincerely,

Mai Vue

Honolulu, HI

From: [Mai.Vue](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018 12:28:29 PM

February 3, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Mai.Vue

Honolulu, HI

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
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As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

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As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 2:58:32 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth Peterson		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.

- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.

- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:

- Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);

- Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;

- The ADA does not require open captioned films; and

- Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

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- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.

- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.

- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.

- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;

- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.

- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

From: [Beth Tokioka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB 2650
Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018 7:08:46 PM

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is (insert your name). I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of forcing Deaf or Hard of Hearing individuals to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Beth Tokioka
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sunflo](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Sunday, February 4, 2018 7:59:47 AM

February 4, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Florence Rapozo. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than [4:30p.m.](#) I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,
Florence Rapozo
Honolulu, Hawaii

From: [Eileen Chiwa](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
Date: Sunday, February 4, 2018 8:25:59 AM

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Eileen Chiwa. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30 p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Eileen Chiwa
Mililani, Hawaii

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
[415 South Beretania Street](#)
[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Jonah Carino. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,



Jonah Carino
Honolulu, HI

From: [Johnny Remigio](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: I strongly Oppose SB2304 - Too many unintended consequences
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 5:40:00 AM

Dear Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair,
Members of the COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
&
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Members of the COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY,

I write you in strong opposition to SB2304.

With all due respect this bill is ill-conceived and would revoke the licenses of virtually every gas station, supermarket, convenience store, 7-11, vape shop, hookah bar, cigar store in the State.

750ft is a Long Way

750ft is equivalent to 2 and a half football fields, or about the distance from the center of the Capitol to the front gated of Iolani Palace on King St.

That distance if extended from the edge of every park, school and public housing complex would completely ban tobacco sales from all of Waikiki, Downtown, Chinatown, Hanalei town, most of Haleiwa, Lihue, Makiki, McCully, Manoa, every commercial part of Maui and Kauai, most the West side and Kailua Town. These were just the ones I had time to look at.

This Is Not Going to Effect Adult Users, Not Children

I realize that this is not your intention, it is more the instinct to keep children safe and away from adult products as they walk to and from school. I can understand this instinct, and applaud it.

It must be noted that we already have laws making it illegal to sell to children. In fact that law was strengthened last year when it was raised to 21. If there are stores selling to under age consumer they should be punished to the full extent of the law. But what this law really does is to deny adults the right to purchase a product that is legal.

Tax Implications:

This is not to mention the calamitous effect this will have on tax revenue, taxes that support services and tobacco prevention and all kind of other things the State needs to pay for. If you shut down all the places that sell the products, there will obviously be a significant drop in tax revenue.

Blackmarket Concerns:

If this bill were to pass, and tobacco sales were limited to just a couple stores on each island, this would increase prices incredibly and lead to more stores and consumers participating in the already burgeoning black market. This means less revenues to the State and less control over the industry.

I hope you take this testimony seriously and kill this bill, which would prove worse than the problem it is trying to solve.

Thank you for listening and considering this testimony. I hope you will look at the issue more closely.

Aloha,

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mariah Dawn](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 6:49:14 AM

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
[415 South Beretania Street](#)
[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Mariah Dawn Punzalan. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Mariah Dawn Punzalan
Kahului, Hawaii

From: [Justin Tokioka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 7:37:40 AM

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Pono Tokioka. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Pono Tokioka
Lihue, HI

From: [Joshua Smith](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650 TESTIMONY
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 8:22:50 AM

February 5, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
[415 South Beretania Street](#)
[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Joshua Smith. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Joshua Smith
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

From: [Alex Low](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Open Captioning
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 8:50:30 AM

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Alexander Low. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Alexander Low

Mililani, HI

From: [Eleanor Macdonald](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: [Sen. Roz Baker](#); [Sen. Karl Rhoads](#); reptokioka@hawaii.gov
Subject: Senate Bill 2650 - Open Movie Captions
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 8:58:25 AM

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND HEALTH

>

>>

>> February 5, 2018

>>

>> Senator Rosalyn Baker

>> Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health

>> Hawaii State Capitol

>> Room #230

>> 415 South Beretania Street

>> Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

>>

>> Dear Senator Baker,

>>

>> My name is Eleanor Macdonald. I am writing to enthusiastically support SB2650 to make a permanent requirement for open captioned movies at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also fully support the repeal to require an option to provide closed captioning screening by means of lightweight eyewear. This is totally uncomfortable and looks so conspicuous.

>>

>> Many of my retired friends say that the open captions help especially when we miss what was said and don't have to disrupt our friends sitting next to us.

>>

>> The State of Hawaii can be SO PROUD to be the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. These are very weird options and certainly draws attention to those of us who cannot hear well.

I am a retired State of Hawaii employee and strongly believe that open captioned movies will encourage us seniors to go out and enjoy movies again. There are many seniors losing their hearing and will give us a reason to get out of our homes and enjoy the movies! This is a mental health option.

>>

>>

>> The bottom line is that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing people should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the closed captioned movies. Open captions provides EQUAL ACCESS to watching movies just like all hearing people.

>>

>> The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will ensure equal access to movie theaters for everyone.

>>

>>

>> Sincerely,

>>

>> Eleanor Macdonald

Honolulu, Hawaii

>>

JAN L. FRIED • American Sign Language/English Interpreter

• RID Certified-IC, CI, CT • Educator • Consultant •

05 February 2018

The Senate

Twenty-Ninth Legislature, 2018, State of Hawai'i

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

Hearing: 06 February 2018 at 9AM, Conference Room 229

Testimony in Support of SB 2650, Relating to Open Captioning in Movie Theaters

Aloha Senators Baker and Tokuda and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Committee Members,

It is without hesitation that I support the continuation of Open Captioning (OC) in Hawai'i's movie theaters and the proposed changes in SB 2560. Maintaining Open Captioning makes good sense for a number reasons: it has a proven track record of success and preferred by Deaf and hard of hearing movie-goers over Closed Captioning; it does not require expensive equipment nor specialized eyewear that is cumbersome and at times, ineffective to use; OC is low maintenance—new releases come caption ready; and OC has been enjoyed by people who can hear. I, for one, can attest to its effectiveness. I appreciate and use OC when watching an action-packed movie that is loud and obliterates the dialogue or when the actors are speaking softly. OC allows me to catch dialogue that I would otherwise miss and helps me stay abreast of the storyline.

There are other positive points to Open Captioning. It is not obtrusive and only momentarily distracting when a movie first starts for those who choose not to read the captions. Two showings a week with OC give viewers a choice with minimal impact on the theater itself. Open Captioning attracts viewers who bring their dollars and loyalty with them. OC provides an equivalent and timely movie-viewing experience for everyone. When OC is in place, there is no need for potential audience members to be forced to wait until films are released on DVD or available through streaming services.

I appreciate this opportunity to encourage the committee to support SB2650 and make this measure permanent. Your approval will have a profound and positive impact.

Respectfully,

Jan L. Fried

Jan L. Fried, CI and CT

Nationally Certified ASL/English Interpreter

From: [Eleanor Macdonald](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Cc: [Sen. Roz Baker](#); [Sen. Karl Rhoads](#); reptokioka@hawaii.gov
Subject: Senate Bill 2650 - Open Movie Captions
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 8:58:25 AM

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND HEALTH

>

>>

>> February 5, 2018

>>

>> Senator Rosalyn Baker

>> Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health

>> Hawaii State Capitol

>> Room #230

>> 415 South Beretania Street

>> Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

>>

>> Dear Senator Baker,

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>> My name is Eleanor Macdonald. I am writing to enthusiastically support SB2650 to make a permanent requirement for open captioned movies at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also fully support the repeal to require an option to provide closed captioning screening by means of lightweight eyewear. This is totally uncomfortable and looks so conspicuous.

>>

>> Many of my retired friends say that the open captions help especially when we miss what was said and don't have to disrupt our friends sitting next to us.

>>

>> The State of Hawaii can be SO PROUD to be the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. These are very weird options and certainly draws attention to those of us who cannot hear well.

I am a retired State of Hawaii employee and strongly believe that open captioned movies will encourage us seniors to go out and enjoy movies again. There are many seniors losing their hearing and will give us a reason to get out of our homes and enjoy the movies! This is a mental health option.

>>

>>

>> The bottom line is that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing people should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the closed captioned movies. Open captions provides EQUAL ACCESS to watching movies just like all hearing people.

>>

>> The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will ensure equal access to movie theaters for everyone.

>>

>>

>> Sincerely,

>>

>> Eleanor Macdonald

Honolulu, Hawaii

>>

From: [Kathy Thomas](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: SB2650
Date: Monday, February 5, 2018 9:48:46 AM

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 2, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Kathy Thomas. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than [4:30p.m.](#) I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,

Kathy Thomas
Kaneohe, Hi

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:40:23 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jenna punahele		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- **The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.**
- **The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.**

- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:

- Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
- Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
- The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
- Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.
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- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other

technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.

- **In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.**
- **We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;**
- **The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.**
- **The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.**

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

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- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a District Manager of movie theatres that provide both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows our theatres to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 7:50:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
julia		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017. As the manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers.

In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Meilia Souza. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Meilia Souza
Your Name

Honolulu, HI
City, State

February 2, 2018

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Kenneth J. Robertson. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

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The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Robertson
Your Name

Honolulu, HI.
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Kristen "Rajarajeshwari" Weiner. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Kristen Rajarajeshwari Weiner

Your Name

Kailua, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is DAVID SIMMONS. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

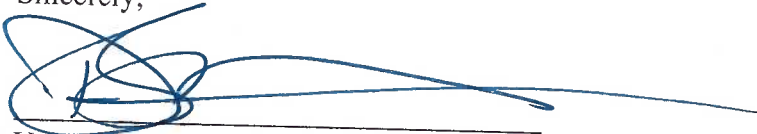
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The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,



Your Name

Kaunoi HI 96734
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Albert Marsh. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

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Sincerely,

Albert Marsh

Your Name

Makaloa, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Sylvester Sonognini. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Sylvester S

Your Name

Aiea HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Nathan Holmes. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

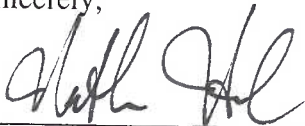
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Sincerely,



Your Name

Honolulu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Laura Saito. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Laura Saito

Your Name

Aiea, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Angel Ramos. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Angel M Ramos

Your Name

Honolulu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Jennifer Maeda. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.


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Sincerely,

Jennifer Maeda 

Your Name

Kaneohe, Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Renante Natividad am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

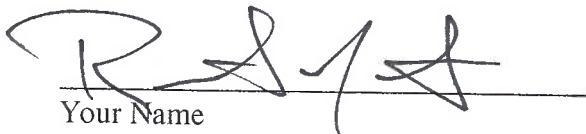
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Sincerely,



Your Name

Honolulu, Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Jiro Maeda. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,



Your Name

Kaneohe, Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is EVA TSUTSUMI. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

EVA TSUTSUMI

Your Name

Mililani H

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is NICHOLAS RIVERA. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Nicholas Rivera

Your Name

KAPOLEI, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Sharlyn Chang. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Sharlyn M Chang

Your Name

Kapolei, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Ramona Engoring. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Ramona Engoring
Your Name

Waialua Hawaii
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is PATRICK KUEHN. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,



Your Name

Kapolei

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Johanna Fernando. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.


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Sincerely,



Your Name

Kaneohe, Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Olivia Malcolm. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Olivia Malcolm
Your Name

Honolulu, HI
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Remedios Miller. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Remedios Miller
Your Name

Waipahu, HI
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Bryce Takaki. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,



Your Name

Honolulu, Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Skype Balbren-Dicks. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Skype Balbren-Dicks

Your Name

Mililani, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is David Hunter. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

David Hunter

Your Name

Honolulu HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Tyler Miller. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Tyler Miller

Your Name

Waipahu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Napali McDonald. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,



Your Name

Milani, HI
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is KARL MIKASA. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Karl Mikasa

Your Name

Honolulu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Ruby Angler. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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Sincerely,

Ruby Angler

Your Name

Kahili Hawaii

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Jake Nunez. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

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The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Jake Nunez
Your Name

Honolulu, HI.
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Isabel Mejia Ramos. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Isabel Mejia Ramos

Your Name

Honolulu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Brian Daguibag I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Brian Daguibag

Your Name

Honolulu, Hi

City, State

February 2, 2018

SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Vuong Ho. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Vuong Ho

Your Name

Honolulu, HI

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Richard Wong. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Richard Wong

Your Name

Honolulu, Hi.

City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is PATRICK KANSANA JR. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

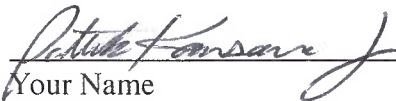
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I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,


Your Name

HONOLULU, HAWAII
City, State

February 2, 2018
SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is QUEEN K. CIDRDE. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

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Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,



Your Name

Honolulu, Hawaii

City, State

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As a manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 8:42:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi		Oppose	No

Comments:

As a manger at a movie theater there is little request for more OC showtimes and our guest prefer the closed caption glasses the we have provided to them. They can come to the movie anytime they want and not worry if there'll be captions on the screen.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:01:16 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rumilani Daquioag		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run.

As the manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.**
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.**
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times.**
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.**
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.**

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:06:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amanda Kerfoot		Oppose	No

Comments:

As a manager at a theater our guests have not requested more OC show times and they prefer the closed caption glasses that we provide. With the glasses they dont have to worry if there'll be captions on the screen when they come in.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:16:41 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- **The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.**
- **The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.**

- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:

- Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
- Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
- The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
- Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.
- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinees is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other

technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.

- **In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.**
- **We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;**
- **The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.**
- **The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.**

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:31:38 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Horace Kekumu		Oppose	No

Comments:

Im writing this testimony as an employee of Regal Cinemas and local citizen in Lahaina, Maui. I am opposing this bill because it directly affects me through loss of attendance that don't want to see movies in Open Caption. Less attendance means less hours for the staff to get paid to work. I am also writing this testimony as someone with below average eyesight and Tinnitus. I personally don't mind captioned movies as I grew up watching them and with tinnitus helps me catch dialouge that I might not have heard otherwise. But I don't feel its the theatre's job to provide specific shows just because I have these issues because, I have not only used these devices that we provide but make sure in the case we do have defective products that they are sent out and repaired in a timely manner and have never not had enough devices on hand to ensure every guests is enjoying the movie. I am also curious at how this bill became so? who started it when and why?

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:06:20 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosalind Kia		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

My name is Rosalind Kia. I am the foster parent of deaf and hard of hearing children. I support SB2650 for open captions because my kids and I have not had pleasant experiences with the caption glasses. The caption glasses:

- mean we have to wait in a second line after getting a ticket
- require an ID and my daughter once received another person's ID back
- are uncomfortable for my daughter who also wears glasses
- make my daughter dizzy because when she looks around the text follows
- are unreliable as many MANY times I have had to leave the movie to replace them when they stop working
- are unreliable because sometimes workers forget to flip the switch to turn the captions on
- are cumbersome when trying to balance the glasses wire, base, and tray of popcorn, plus eat a hot dog. my kids have snagged things on the wire many times and the glasses have jerked off their face or the base lands on the filthy floor

Overall, the glasses experience is not fun and not fair. Please make open captions a requirement for all theaters in Hawaii. It is safer and more convenient for children and their parents.

Mahalo

Roz Kia

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:17:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kauionalani Muaava		Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- **The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.**

- **The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.**

- **Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:**

- Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
- Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
- The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
- Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.
- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other

technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.

- **In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.**
- **We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;**
- **The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.**
- **The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.**

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

SB-2650

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:40:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/6/2018 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patty	Sakal	Support	No

Comments:

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room# 230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Rosalyn Baker,

My name is Patty Sakal. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support of making permanent the requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repealing the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

Although I am hearing, both my parents were deaf. When going to movies with Deaf friends, it doesn't seem fair that the process for them to watch the same movie as I am is so laborious. Watching them struggle keeping those "caption" glasses on their face and finding the right spot where they will be able to watch the large screen and the bottom corner of the captioned glasses at the same time was very disheartening. Open-captioning provides the experience of not having to wear special devices and assures equal appreciation for the film in the same way everyone else seated in the theater is enjoying. It really isn't equal access to have the Deaf and Hard of hearing to have to wear the laborious devices.

I think it would be a fair request to have a group of legislators go and see a movie, using ear plugs, using the same eyewear devices Deaf and Hard of Hearing are given which provide them with "equal access". I know it'll change your mind!

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with Deaf friends having them enjoy open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to

watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill SB2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing

Sincerely,

Patty Sakal
Aiea, Hawaii

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 6, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
[415 South Beretania Street](#)
[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Misella Tomita. I am writing this testimony in support of SB2650. I am in support to make permanent requirement for open movie captioning at least twice per week, one of which begins no earlier than 4:30p.m. I also am in support of repeals the requirement to provide an option of personal closed captioning screenings by means of lightweight eyewear.

I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device or I had to come back to the cashier for the malfunction of the special device in the beginning of the film.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of Senate Bill 2650 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing.

Sincerely,



Misella Tomita
Honolulu, Hawaii

**SB2650 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

February 6, 2018

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
[415 South Beretania Street](#)
[Honolulu, Hawaii 96813](#)

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Misella Tomita
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Representatives,

Please accept this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 2650, concerning amending Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 211), which currently allows movie theaters the option of providing one open captioned showing per week or making available personal captioning glasses. Act 211 amended Act 039 which required two open captioned shows for each feature showing at a movie theatre each week of its run. My opposition is based on the following:

- The American's with Disabilities Act requires movie theatres to provide access via personal captioning systems, which my theatre has had for several years. This fact was noted by Governor Ige in a letter of support of Act 211 dated July 12, 2017.
- The 12/2017 Study conducted by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism entitled "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters" provides substantial data to support that the theatre industry is under attack from varying sources of entertainment and has seen a steady decline in attendance. The study further provides data that reflects the significant decrease in attendance at open captioned shows versus non-open captioned shows; which are of course accessible to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing via various forms of access technology. According to the survey, theatres required to comply with Act 039, two open captioned shows per week, saw a reduction in attendance of approximately 95,000 patrons a year. According to the National Association of Theatre Owners, the average United States ticket price in 2017 was \$8.97, which equates to an estimated loss of \$850,000 in box office revenue alone to the theatres impacted by this law. Of course with a decrease in attendance, those impacted theatres also lost concession revenue.
- Supporters of SB 2650 claim it is necessary because Act 211 had the effect of:
 - Depriving the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing community of a tremendous benefit (which we assume is one additional open captioned feature per week);
 - Some movie theaters have complied with Act 211 by providing open movie captioning during matinee screenings only, which may not be available due to individual personal or work habits;
 - The ADA does not require open captioned films; and
 - Act 211 authorized use of personal captioning glasses, in lieu of open captioned features, which are unreliable and uncomfortable to wear, especially with eyeglasses.

As the General manager of a movie theatre that provides both open captioned features as well as personal captioning devices, including lightweight eyewear, I can definitively state that the supporters of this legislation do not speak on behalf of my regular customers. Specifically:

- Although the law allows my theatre to cease providing open captioned shows, because we employ the lightweight personal captioning glasses, we have and will continue to show one open captioned show per week per feature. I have not received any complaints or requests for additional open captioned shows, or different show times, since the enactment of Act 211.

- The supporters' contention that many of the open captioned shows are matinee is incorrect, however, some are. According to the "Impact of Act 039 Relating to Movie Theaters Requiring open caption showings" study, 72% of the Hawaii's population with hearing difficulty are over 60 years old and those are the typical attendees to our matinee shows.
- Prior to passage of Act 039 or Act 211, I had numerous individuals that are deaf and/or hard of hearing that capitalized on and enjoyed using our various personal captioning devices, including our captioning glasses. To my knowledge, they all continue to do so. In fact, since passage of Act 039 and 211, if anything there has been an increase in utilization of personal captioning devices, I assume due to the publicity associated with same.
- When the devices were first rolled out, there were some technical issues but today, those issues are rare and no more frequent than any other technology issues we experience in a theatre today that are unrelated to personal access.
- In addition, I fear that passage of SB 2650 will eliminate the option for innovative closed captioning technologies and eliminate individual's that are deaf or hard of hearing from having the choice to see a movie at any show time on any day and leave them with no choice but to attend limited OC shows.
- We have myriad customers that use and enjoy our captioning technology and prefer the ability to attend a show when they desire, not as dictated by OC show times;
- The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism report reflects the significant loss of income associated with OC shows and mandating a return to excessive show times is both unreasonable and unfair to the movie theatres subject to same.
- The current law more than adequately accommodates the Deaf and hard of hearing community and a return to the former law will do more harm to movie theatres and their patrons, both those in need of accommodations and those not in need.

For all of the foregoing reasons, we oppose SB 2650 and implore the legislature to vote against its passage.

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