



HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii • Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Committee: Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Bill Number: S.B. 631, Relating to Ethics
Hearing Date/Time: Monday, February 27, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
Re: Testimony of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission with
COMMENTS

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) hereby submits comments on S.B. 631, which seeks to amend Hawaii’s gift reporting law, HRS § 84-11.5.

Currently, under Hawaii’s gift reporting law, a gift given to the State – such as a piece of artwork given by a foreign dignitary – does not have to be reported by the individual who accepts the gift on the State’s behalf. Instead, that item belongs to the State and remains with the State after the official’s departure from office. As such, in that situation, this proposed amendment to HRS § 84-11.5 appears to be unnecessary.

The Committee may wish to amend this measure by inserting the words “Tangible and non-perishable” before the word “Gifts” in sub-section 8, insofar as this measure appears to contemplate tangible, non-perishable gifts (rather than gifts such as food, money, or travel). The Committee may also wish to define what is meant by a gift received on behalf of the State, either in HRS § 84-11.5 or in the purpose section of the bill.

Thank you for considering the Commission’s testimony on S.B. 631.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck
Executive Director and General Counsel

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB631 on Feb 27, 2017 09:30AM
Date: Friday, February 24, 2017 11:13:57 AM

SB631

Submitted on: 2/24/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: No official of our government shall be exempted from all rules and laws because they are the check and balances for (us) public!!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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