

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:17 AM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: makikirandy@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB834 on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM

SB834

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for ETT/GVO on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Taniguchi, Chair Kim, Vice-Chair Ruderman and members of the committees, Please vote yes on SB834. It would help many Neighbor Island and rural Oahu people to testify before the Legislature, while saving testifiers much money and time. Mahalo for your consideration.

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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Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
TOURISM, & TECHNOLOGY

Monday, February 13, 2017 — 1:25 p.m. — Room 414

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 834, Relating to Videoconferencing

Dear Chair Kim, Vice Chair Ruderman, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports SB 834, which requires both chambers to implement rules to permit residents to present testimony through audiovisual technology, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

Agricultural issues often disproportionately impact rural neighbor island constituencies as that is where farmers live and operate their farms. However, when legislation impacts their business it is extremely challenging for them to testify at the Legislature. Most rural farmers can't afford to leave their farms for an entire day or have the financial resources to book last minute flights. Once at the Capitol, parking can be a logistical challenge and they must also consistently monitor their parking meter while testifying. If hearings run long, these trips are often in vain since they cannot stay due to their departing flight.

This leads to a situation where representation on agricultural issues can be greatly underrepresented. When legislators need to decide policies and funding priorities, having bona fide farmers explaining their experiences and viewpoints can be the definitive factor.

As videoconferencing technology becomes more sophisticated and is widely used by citizens, it is critical that the legislative process progresses with such technology. This will result in more informed decision making and increased civic engagement through more accurate representation, increased accountability, and greater transparency.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 8:32 PM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: p.lahaela.walter@posteo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB834 on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM*

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philipp LaHaela Walter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 6:31 PM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: freundtheresa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB834 on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa Freund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha my name is Theresa Freund and I am from Nuuanu. I am in strong support of SB834. Enabling Hawai'i residents to present testimony through audiovisual technology will enhance our democracy and allow residents from all islands to make their voices heard without having to purchase expensive flight tickets. It's time to use technology for democracy! Please pass SB834. Mahalo Nui Loa.

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Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 6:10 PM
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Cc: Burdick808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB834 on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan B Burdick	Progressive Democrats of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: Progressive Democrats of Hawaii strongly supports measures such as SB 834 that will help give our fellow citizens on the Neighbor Islands better access to the legislative process. One such aspect of this effort is to make remote video testimony a reality. The least known part of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is the guarantee of the right to "redress of grievances." That's what legislative testimony is all about. It is already nearly the end of the second decade of the Twenty-First Century. One would think we as a State would have made video testimony a reality already. Please pass this measure! It is a matter of fundamental fairness. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify. Alan B. Burdick Chair, Progressive Democrats of Hawaii ---
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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 5:01 PM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: bethhaiku@gmail.com
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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beth Savitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Beth Savitt	Individual	Support	No

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Beth Savitt	SHAKA Movement/SAFE	Support	No

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Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 4:13 PM
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Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB834 on Feb 13, 2017 13:25PM

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly Support!!!

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Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 2:53 PM
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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doug Killpatrick	Individual	Support	No

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