

# HB 1009 HD 1

Measure Title:	RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS.
Report Title:	Motion Picture Theater Accommodation; Closed Captioning
Description:	Requires a movie theater to provide at least two showings per week per movie offered with open movie captioning. Removes the option of a movie theater to provide eyewear to fulfill the movie captioning requirement. Makes the requirement permanent by repealing the sunset date from Act 39, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015. (HB1009 HD1)
Companion:	<a href="#">SB1235</a>
Package:	Governor
Current Referral:	CPH, JDC
Introducer(s):	SAIKI (Introduced by request of another party)



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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

March 15, 2019

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

#### House Bill 1009, HD1 – Relating to Movie Theaters

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) strongly supports House Bill 1009, HD1, which will strengthen our state's law relating to the provision of open captioned movie showings for the deaf and hard of hearing population.

The Legislature passed Act 39 (2015) to require movie theaters with more than two locations to offer each movie produced with captions to have two showings/week with open captions, similar to subtitles. Open captioned movie show times were at the discretion of the theater. This state law augments federal requirements to offer an assistive technology option to view movies with closed captioning. Unfortunately, Act 211 (2017) restricts Act 39 (2015) by (a) requiring only one open captioned showing per week instead of two showings, and (b) allowing theaters to forgo any open captioned showings if they offer "lightweight eyewear" as an alternative.

House Bill 1009, HD1 essentially seeks to return to the statute what was initially provided in Act 39 (2015) without a sunset date.

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 Hawaii, a community that readily accepts subtitled foreign language movies and television programs, open captioning is a natural expansion of that concept.

Our support for the bill is based upon multiple factors:

- Open captioning is the preferred means of viewing a movie for most deaf and hard of hearing persons. The current federal law that requires closed captioning via assistive technology, such as lightweight eyewear, was a compromise to the industry. Individuals who use assistive technology to watch movies with closed captioning disclose their disability to the public, whereas open captioning maintains anonymity.
- Requiring a specific device in statute is not appropriate. Federal law allows theaters to use any option to view closed captions while our state law limits viewing to one option. With rapid technological advances occurring, there may be a better option developed in the future other than lightweight glasses. However, with the specificity in our current statute, Hawaii would be stuck with obsolete technology.

- Open captioning will benefit the Limited English Proficiency population, who cannot request assistive technology at movie theaters because the devices exist as accommodations for individuals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Open captioned showings will broaden the availability of captioning to the public. Thus, providing open captioned movies will INCREASE, not decrease, attendance and revenue for the theaters by appealing to patrons who would otherwise not be willing to attend a movie without captions.

We are aware of opposing testimony that Wallace Theaters submitted to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and wish to comment on the erroneous information presented in their testimony. The testimony states that this bill “seeks to eliminate the eyewear option, and therefore stifles the technological innovation that is happening...”. This is incorrect. The ADA already requires theaters to provide a type of assistive technology to view closed captioning at any showing, but the ADA does not prescribe the type of technology to be used. Rather, the ADA contemplates technological innovation. Note that the majority of movies produced today contain closed captions that can be viewed with assistive technology. New technology, including lightweight eyewear, can, will and should be developed as technology advances. House Bill 1009, HD1 will not stifle technology because it also contemplates technological innovation. That stated, this bill is about providing another option to consumers who prefer open captioning to any assistive device.

For any given movie, there are approximately 28 showings in a week (4x/day x 7 = 28). If House Bill 1009, HD1 passes as is, it means that two showings will be open captioned and the remaining 26 will be closed captioned and viewable only by using assistive technology, such as the referenced lightweight glasses, that theaters are required to provide under federal law. This bill will provide a CHOICE for open captions, increased attendance for the theaters, and allow for the development of new technology.

The proposed amendments to the current law will address the discriminatory effects of communication barriers at movie theaters encountered by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and will ensure equal opportunity to enjoy motion picture showings.

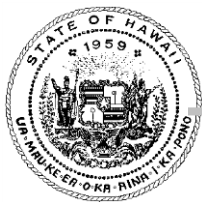
We ask that you pass House Bill 1009, HD1 out of Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,



FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director



# HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

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

March 15, 2019  
Rm. 229, 9:00 a.m.

To: Hon. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Hon. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

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

Re: H.B. No. 1009, H.D.1

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.

HCRC strongly supports H.B. No. 1009, H.D.1, which 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.”

Further, H.B. No. 1009, H.D.1, 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.

H.B. No. 1009, H.D.1, 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 H.B. No. 1009, H.D.1.**



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

March 15, 2019

The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Baker and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 1009 HD1 - Relating to Movie Theaters

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS HB 1009 HD1**. The bill requires a movie theater to provide at least two showings per week per movie offered with open movie captioning. Removes the option of a movie theater to provide eyewear to fulfill the movie captioning requirement. Makes the requirement permanent by repealing the sunset date from Act 39, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015.

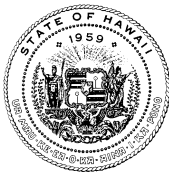
Open movie captioning provides a display of text on a screen or other visual display that provides additional or interpretive information of what is being presented. Star Wars: The Force Awakens movie was the first official premiere of open movie captioning on December 30, 2015. The overwhelming response 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. Passing HB 1009 HD1 will provide the deaf and hard of hearing an equal opportunity to enjoy attending a movie with family and friends like the general public.

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) is responsible for providing technical assistance regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to State and County Government agencies, as well as private businesses. As such, the Council respectfully defers to DCAB for comments, and any further proposed amendments they may have that would strengthen equal access to the movie theaters.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting HB 1009 HD1**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator



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

March 12, 2019

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

From: Aphirak Bamrungruan, Executive Director

Subject: **HB 1009, HD1 – RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS**

Hearing: Friday, March 15, 2019, 9:00 AM  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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**Agency's Position:** The Office of Language Access (OLA) supports House Bill 1009, HD1.

**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 two showings per week 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.

HB1009, HD1 benefits more than the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing. Under the current law, the lightweight glasses are only available to those requiring an ADA accommodation, not for LEP individuals. Using open captioning can be a great tool for LEP individuals and English-Language Learners (ELLs) to enjoy movies and to increase an opportunity to learn the correspondence between spoken and written language. Open captioning provides a critical link to communication and making information accessible to LEP individuals and ELLs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



## **National Association of Theatre Owners**

### **Statement of Position on HB 1009 March 2019**

On behalf of the National Association of Theatre Owners (NATO), representing 21 movie theaters and 205 screens across Hawaii, we respectfully submit these written comments in opposition of HB 1009.

#### **I. The Movie Theater Industry is Committed to Access for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

Access for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing has been a major goal and effort of NATO and its members for a long time. In the late 1990s/early 2000s NATO began working with advocacy groups, film studios, and technology developers to ensure we could provide access to all feature films at all times. Twenty years ago, there were no more than a handful of captioned films. Through our collective efforts, today practically every feature film is provided with caption files, and personal captioning systems are available at every digital theater as required by existing federal regulation, which is exactly what the overwhelming majority of deaf advocacy groups and individuals requested from the exhibition industry. Contrary to what some supporters of HB 1009 and its companion bills contend, current federal law reflects what the majority of deaf advocates sought: access to all feature films at all showtimes via the use of personal captioning systems. They specifically rejected access at limited open captioned showtimes, which this legislation mandates, and requested access to all films at all showtimes via personal captioning systems. These achievements are directly due to the efforts of movie theater owners engaging stakeholders to ensure interoperability of closed captioning and audio description systems and availability of access files on all movies for all showtimes.

#### **II. Current Open Captioning Requirement Provides Access in Hawaii**

While we appreciate the intent of this legislation, we believe the existing open captioning mandate in Hawaii combined with the flexibility offered by closed captioning equipment render no need for further legislation. The current open caption requirements in Hawaii meet, and even exceed, consumer demand.

Movie theaters in Hawaii offer many options for access for deaf and hard of hearing customers. Today, major Hawaii movie theaters schedule open-captioned shows of every movie that comes with open captions files, every week, in accordance with Act 211. In addition to the open-captioned shows offered weekly, a deaf or hard of hearing moviegoer in Hawaii can go to his or her local theater and obtain a personal captioning device to view any movie, at any time of day, with captions, provided the movie comes with a closed captioning track. Since passage of Act 211, NATO members have continued to meet and exceed all consumer demands for open-captioned shows, have not received complaints about any lack of available open captioned shows or that more such showtimes are needed, and there exists no rational or consumer basis to amend Act 211 to mandate an increase in the total number of such shows.

Moreover, contrary to what supporters of HB 1009 contend, this legislation may in fact stymie technological advances and limit access for individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing. Having reached a joint accord with the majority of deaf advocacy groups in 2014 to ensure access to individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing, the exhibition industry spent millions of dollars to encourage studios to provide their feature films with captioned movies, encourage technology companies to develop better closed



captioning technologies, and acquired and installed the latest such technologies in all of their digital theaters. Supporters of HB 1009 contend that, in combination with federal law, the bill will ensure individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing improved access by ensuring that consumers have a choice between closed captioned technologies and mandated scheduled open-captioned showtimes. However, this legislation could result in theater owners ceasing their efforts to encourage development of improved closed captioning devices or purchase same. Instead, theater owners may simply embrace the limited open captioning option allowed by federal law, which of course will restrict access to specific showtimes and seriously disrupt the moviegoing experience for all consumers. Contrary to what the supporters of HB 1009 argue, federal law does not solely mandate use of closed captioning technologies. Instead, it provides theater owners the choice to use such technologies or provide open captioned shows at all times or upon request (28 C.F.R. 36 (6)(ii)). Obviously, such an approach to providing open-captioned shows would not only be disruptive to the general public and the exhibition industry, but may also lead to unwanted and negative backlash against members of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

### **III. Open Caption Mandates Have Negative Effects on Moviegoing**

While advocates of HB 1009 contend that the general public would embrace open-captioned shows, exhibition data, as well as data reported by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism in 2017, clearly reflects that not to be the case. In 2015, Hawaii enacted Act 039 requiring movie theaters with at least two locations in the state to play two open-captioned shows of each feature per week. Theaters covered by this mandate quickly found that attendance dropped during these showtimes. The legislature acknowledged this negative impact on attendance by subsequently passing Act 211, which amended the mandate to only require one open-captioned show of each feature weekly, or no open-captioned shows, if personal captioning glasses are available.

The negative impact on attendance at open-captioned shows was corroborated by a study done by the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, which determined that attendance at movie theaters in Hawaii was estimated to drop by 94,755 patrons annually as a result of the open captioning mandate. Likewise, most industry data reflects an approximately 50% reduction in attendance at open-captioned shows. Moreover, a recent study conducted in Rhode Island, where exhibition members entered into a voluntary agreement with deaf advocates to play a certain number of open-captioned shows per week, clearly establishes the preferences of the general public as it pertains to open captioned movies. (See Appendix.) Specifically, one such theater located near the Rhode Island School for the Deaf (areas around deaf schools tend to have a higher population of individuals that are deaf and hearing than others) scheduled open-captioned and non-open-captioned shows of the same movie within a half hour of each showing (often only 10 or 15 minutes apart in start time). Movies were generally played at the following show times:

- Mondays at 11 am and 7 pm
- Wednesdays at 11 am, 1 pm, and 4 pm
- Saturdays at 4 pm
- Sundays at 7 pm

92% of the time, when given the choice to attend an open-captioned or non-open-captioned show of the same movie, moviegoers chose to attend the non-open-captioned show. Overall, the theater saw an 83% drop in ticket sales for open-captioned shows compared to the ticket sales for the closely scheduled non-



open-captioned show of the same movie. This was true on the weekends as well where Saturday afternoon matinees tend to be some of the highest attended showtimes each week. Of the 113 open-captioned and 113 non-open-captioned shows scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays, only twice did the attendance at the open-captioned show exceed attendance at the non-open-captioned show.

Theaters in Hawaii also found that usage of their closed captioning equipment went up after the enactment of Act 039. Supporters of HB 1009 contend that this increase is simply the result of theaters complying with federal law. However, this assertion is unfounded as the federal law did not go into effect until mid-2018. Instead, those theaters subject to Act 039 saw an increase in closed captioning equipment as a direct result of the publicity of Act 039. This demonstrates what the overwhelming majority of individuals that are deaf or advocates for same have continuously represented to exhibition: despite the availability of open-captioned shows, the overwhelming majority deaf and hard of hearing moviegoers value and prefer the flexibility offered by personal captioning devices, which give moviegoers the option to see any movie at any time with captions.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

Further increasing the open captioning mandate on theaters in Hawaii is unnecessary as all consumer demands for same currently meet and or exceed the mandates of Act 211. Moreover, such an increase would result in an unnecessary and excessive financial burden on covered theaters due to the significant impact on ticket sales, a burden that Hawaii cannot afford to impose on theaters already contending with external pressures on the industry and increasing competition from at-home entertainment. We welcome the opportunity to continue working with local advocacy groups on improving the moviegoing experience.

###

## APPENDIX

### **Rhode Island Open Captioning: A Case Study December 2018**

#### **Background**

In Rhode Island, legislation was introduced in 2017 requiring movie theaters to play a certain number of open-captioned (OC) showtimes per week for every movie that came with OC capability. Advocacy groups for the deaf and hard of hearing and local movie theaters came to a joint agreement on voluntary OC showtimes to avert the need for legislation. Movie theaters committed to showing three OC shows per week from July 1, 2017-September 30, 2017; five OC shows per week from October 1, 2017-December 31, 2017; and seven OC shows per week from January 1, 2018 onward. Note, theaters were required to show a total of three, five, or seven OC shows per week per theater complex; not three, five, or seven OC shows of each movie per week. Theaters with eight or more screens participated in this agreement.

Below is a case study done of one 16-screen movie theater in Rhode Island that participates in the voluntary OC shows agreement. This theater is located within a short drive of the Rhode Island School for the Deaf. In order to understand the impact of open captioning on attendance, the movie theater scheduled OC and non-OC showtimes for the same movie within a half hour; many of the showtimes were only 10 or 15 minutes apart in start time. The theater tracked attendance for all of these showtimes and provided attendance data to NATO from the time period of July 1, 2017-September 30, 2018.

During that time period, the theater played 351 OC shows and 351 non-OC shows to compare the attendance. Movies were played on Mondays, Wednesday, and Saturdays from July 1, 2017-September 30, 2017; from October 1, 2017 and onward, movies were played on Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. OC shows were marked on the theater's website with the designation "OC" before the movie title.

Movies were generally played at the following times:

- Mondays at 11 am and 7 pm
- Wednesdays at 11 am, 1 pm, and 4 pm
- Saturdays at 4 pm
- Sundays at 7 pm

#### **Findings**

Moviegoers overwhelmingly prefer to attend non-OC shows than OC shows. 92% of the time, when given the choice to attend an OC or non-OC show of the same movie, moviegoers chose to attend the non-OC show. At only 4% of the compared showtimes did the theater see greater attendance at the OC shows than at the non-OC shows. Overall, the theater saw an 83% drop in ticket sales for OC shows compared to the ticket sales for the closely-scheduled non-OC show of the same movie.



This was true on the weekends as well. Of the 113 OC and 113 non-OC shows scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays, only twice did the attendance at the OC show exceed attendance at the non-OC show.

### **Data Snapshot**

From July 1, 2017-September 30, 2018, of the 702 compared showtimes in this case study:

--Attendance was greater at 322 non-OC showtimes than at 322 comparable OC showtimes.

--Attendance was greater at 14 OC showtimes than at 14 comparable non-OC showtimes.

--15 OC showtimes had the same attendance as the comparable 15 non-OC showtimes.

--12,161 tickets were sold to non-OC shows.

--2,113 tickets were sold to OC shows.

###

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:34:08 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darlene Ewan	Testifying for Aloha State Association of the Deaf	Support	Yes

Comments:



**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**  
**1010 Richards Street, Room 118**  
**Honolulu, HI 96813**  
**Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129**  
**email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov**

March 15, 2019

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*  
Ms. Dale Matsuura, *Vice Chair*  
Dr. Patricia Sheehey, *Vice  
Chair*  
Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Vice Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta  
Ms. Virginia Beringer  
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman  
Ms. Annette Cooper  
Mr. Motu Finau  
Mr. Sage Goto  
Ms. Lindsay Heller  
Dr. Kurt Humphrey  
Ms. Tina King  
Ms. Bernadette Lane  
Ms. Kaili Murbach  
Ms. Stacey Oshio  
Ms. Carrie Pisciotto  
Ms. Kau'i Rezentos  
Ms. Rosie Rowe  
Mr. James Street  
Mr. Francis Tael  
Mr. Steven Vannatta  
Dr. Amy Wiech  
Ms. Jasmine Williams  
Ms. Susan Wood

Ms. Cara Tanimura, *liaison  
to the Superintendent*  
Dr. Bob Campbell, *liaison to  
the military community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff  
Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: H.B. 1009 H.D. 1 - RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

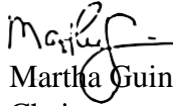
Dear Chair Baker and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **strongly supports** the intent of H.B. 1009 H.D. 1 that makes permanent the requirement for certain motion picture theater owners and operators to provide open movie captioning at least twice a week with at least one showing on a Saturday or Sunday.

SEAC is a strong advocate for inclusive practices in school and in the community. It is well documented that open movie captioning provides a preferred access to the movie-going experience for students who are deaf and students who are English learners. Students with learning disabilities, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or other cognitive disabilities also benefit from the open captions supplementing the audio. Research has further shown that the majority of the movie audiences adapt easily to the captions and find the captions beneficial by supplementing the audio when dialogue is missed due to poor sound quality or due to audience noises.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Sincerely,

  
Martha Guinan  
Chair

  
Ivalee Sinclair  
Legislative Committee Chair

**From:** [Hawaii Interpreting Services](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** House Bill 1009  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 2:41:42 PM

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We are in support of this bill.

Mahalo,  
Hawaii Interpreting Services  
PO Box 734  
Kaneohe, HI 96744  
808-394-7706 Main Line/voice calls  
808-692-0595 Video Phone/signing calls  
1-808-442-0088 fax



This email was seamlessly encrypted for your privacy and security by [Paubox](#)

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:12:30 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian I. Hauser	Testifying for Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:12:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Louis Erteschik	Testifying for Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:58:42 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Beth	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill as it will provide increased access for our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community.

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:10:58 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Darlene Ewan	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:19:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul A. Ireland Koftinow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Baker, Chair, Senator Chang, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I SUPPORT this measure. The option of being able to watch movies with open captioning at a public motion picture theater should remain available. I do not have a hearing impairment. Even so, I have enjoyed watching movies with open captioning. In addition, I have friends and family (with and without hearing impairments) who enjoy or benefit from movies at theaters with open captioning. I would be very grateful if this measure is passed by the legislature.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Ireland Koftinow

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:12:19 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eva Momosea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:11:42 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Momosea-Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1009-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:12:59 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/15/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Theresa Ewan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Galinda Goss-Kuehn](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 2:40:29 PM

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer “closed captioning” glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

Some theaters use a “captioning box,” which is placed in an attendee’s cup holder. The moviegoer then has to look back and forth between the box and the movie screen to understand what is happening. This causes strained necks and eyes and increases the likelihood that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing moviegoers miss portions of the film. These devices are also unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity too.

Providing open captions directly on films allows patrons who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing to enjoy a film equally to that of their hearing peers. Open captions do not just benefit individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing but also those with other disabilities or non-native English speakers who may rely on captions to fully understand what is said.

Sincerely,  
Galinda K. Goss-Kuehn  
92-369 Akaula Street  
Kapolei, HI 96707



**From:** [Austin Darner](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 2:53:56 PM

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 12, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

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Sincerely,

Austin Darner

**From:** [Eileen Chiwa](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH  
**Date:** Monday, March 11, 2019 8:55:09 PM

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March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer “closed captioning” glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

Some theaters use a “captioning box,” which is placed in an attendee’s cup holder. The moviegoer then has to look back and forth between the box and the movie screen to understand what is happening. This causes strained necks and eyes and increases the likelihood that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing moviegoers miss portions of the film. These devices are also unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity, too.

Providing open captions directly on films allows patrons who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing to enjoy a film equally to that of their hearing peers. Open captions do not just benefit individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing but also those with other disabilities or non-native English speakers who may rely on captions to fully understand what is said.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Eileen Chiwa  
Mililani, HI



March 12, 2019

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

Friday, March 15, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 1009 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Dear Chair Baker:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of House Bill 1009, which will ensure that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind are afforded full and equal access at movie theaters in Hawaii by requiring open captioned showings. I have relied on open captioning my entire life to fully enjoy screen-based dialogue; no other method has ever remotely given me an equal degree of access.

The decision to allow for “lightweight” eyewear as a substitute for open captioning was a slap in the face for me; I was left feeling like I was demoted to a second-class citizen who was not worthy of a fully accessible movie-going experience. The “lightweight” eyewear is not light, comfortable, or effective. Even more so, they are embarrassing and borderline discriminatory to wear.

To go even further, individuals other than those who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind benefit from captioning. This is true for kupuna, members of the limited English proficient community, or everyday individuals desiring to comprehend heavily accented or obscured dialogue. In fact, a study by the BBC showed that 80% of individuals who rely on captioning have no hearing disability at all.<sup>1</sup> However, these same individuals cannot benefit from assistive technology provided at movie theaters because, without a disability, they cannot request ADA accommodations. This is where mandatory open captioning is a boon; it allows anyone – regardless of ability – to benefit from captioned movies.

There are many issues with Hawaii’s current open captioning law that will be corrected and made permanent by House Bill 1009, which will ensure that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal opportunity to enjoy showings at movie theaters. I ask you to consider including language to require at least one showing on a Saturday or Sunday (as seen in SB 331) and vote in support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Mary Harman  
Honolulu, HI

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<sup>1</sup> [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/magazine/4862652.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/magazine/4862652.stm)

March 15, 2019

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

Friday, March 15, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 1009 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Dear Chair Baker:

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of House Bill 1009, which will ensure that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal access at movie theaters in Hawaii by requiring open captioned showings. I have relied on open captioning my entire life to fully enjoy screen-based dialogue; nothing else has allowed me to experience the degree of access afforded by open captioning.

In fact, I recall rejoicing in 2015, when Hawaii became the first state in the U.S. to require open captioning at movie theaters. That feeling, however, diminished when the law changed in 2017. The decision to allow for “lightweight” eyewear as a substitute for open captioning was a gut-punch; I could not help but feel like a second-rate citizen. Assistive devices are glitchy, and my ability to follow dialogue is never “effective” – the standard required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Moreover, wearing devices feels ostracizing. Wear them yourself in a room full of strangers and you will understand what I mean.

There are many issues with Hawaii’s current open captioning law that will be corrected and made permanent by House Bill 1009, which will ensure that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal opportunity to enjoy showings at movie theaters. Please consider including language to require at least one showing on a Saturday or Sunday (as seen in Senate Bill 331) and vote in support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Colin Whited  
Honolulu, HI

**From:** [Kris Natori-Sonognini](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB1099  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 7:29:54 PM

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March 15, 2019

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

Friday, March 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 1009 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Dear Chair Baker:

I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 1009, which will permanently require open captioning at movie theaters in Hawaii.

In 2015, Hawaii became the first state in the U.S. to require open captioning at movie theaters.

That allowed me to enjoy full and equal access to movies. However, in 2017, the law changed to allow “lightweight eyewear” to be offered instead of open captioning. This had a negative impact on my experience at movie theaters. The glasses are uncomfortable to wear, and I am not able to fully understand movies when using the device.

The glasses are not fitted over my RX glasses. It is very uncomfortable to wear two glasses at the same time and very bulky to wear with.

House Bill 1009 will correct Hawaii’s open captioning law and make it permanent, ensuring that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal access at movie theaters. Please vote in support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,  
Kiki Natori-Sonognini  
Email: [Haulibear2@live.com](mailto:Haulibear2@live.com)

Sent from my iPhone

March 15, 2019

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

Friday, March 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 1009 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Dear Chair Baker:

I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 1009, which will permanently require open captioning at movie theaters in Hawaii.

In 2015, Hawaii became the first state in the U.S. to require open captioning at movie theaters. That allowed me to enjoy full and equal access to movies. However, in 2017, the law changed to allow "lightweight eyewear" to be offered instead of open captioning. This had a negative impact on my experience at movie theaters. The glasses are uncomfortable to wear, and I am not able to fully understand movies when using the device.

My 15 year old son needs the captions to be able to understand all that is said in the movies. The glasses DO NOT WORK! He no longer requests them because they 1) do not work at least 50% of the time 2) are uncomfortable 3) points him out as a person with a disability. Our local theater only offers captions on Monday night at 10 pm, and that doesn't work for parents of children.

House Bill 1009 will correct Hawaii's open captioning law and make it permanent, ensuring that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal access at movie theaters. Please vote in support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Amanda Kaahanui  
Kaneohe, HI

March 13, 2019

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

Friday, March 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 1009 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

Dear Chair Baker:

I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 1009, which will permanently require open captioning at movie theaters in Hawaii.

In 2015, Hawaii became the first state in the U.S. to require open captioning at movie theaters. That allowed me to enjoy full and equal access to movies. However, in 2017, the law changed to allow "lightweight eyewear" to be offered instead of open captioning. This had a negative impact on my experience at movie theaters. The glasses are uncomfortable to wear, and I am not able to fully understand movies when using the device.

That's the reason why I would prefer to go to movies that provided open-captioning. I would sit down and feel very much comfortable without the lightweight eyewear. My hands are free to rest and not needed to worry about the eyewear would fall off my face or need to adjust the switches on the lightweight eyewear device. I feel so much assessible and no burden at all. Just the beautiful sight to see open captioning on the screen and always have a smile on my face. I just feel good about it.

House Bill 1009 will correct Hawaii's open captioning law and make it permanent, ensuring that individuals in Hawaii who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind have full and equal access at movie theaters. Please vote in support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Christine Holmes  
418 N. Vineyard Blvd. #C-11  
Honolulu, HI 96817



**From:** [Cheryl Mizusawa](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Supporting of the House Bill 1009 HD1  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 5:00:36 AM

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer “closed captioning” glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

Some theaters use a “captioning box,” which is placed in an attendee’s cup holder. The moviegoer then has to look back and forth between the box and the movie screen to understand what is happening. This causes strained necks and eyes and increases the likelihood that Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing moviegoers miss portions of the film. These devices are also unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity too.

Providing open captions directly on films allows patrons who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing to enjoy a film equally to that of their hearing peers. Open captions do not just benefit individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing but also those with other disabilities or non-native English speakers who may rely on captions to fully understand what is said.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mizusawa  
District 17

**From:** [Nikki Kepoo](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB1009 Open captioning - Testimony in Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 2:36:04 PM

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Aloha,

My name is Nikki Kepoo and I am a mother of a deaf child. He is 7 years old and benefits greatly from open captioning. We also have a hearing daughter so the current alternate option of lightweight glasses is unrealistic for a 7 year old child and also challenging as a mother to ask my son to do something my daughter isn't required to use. It's uncomfortable and excludes him from choosing to enjoy the movie as freely as his sister.

We use open captioning at home so to have this option at the theaters is empowering to him. Additionally, I know that this would only increase revenues for theaters especially in Hawaii, the melting pot, where English may be a second language to others. Our elderly benefits from this as well as our deaf/hh community.

I strongly support this bill and see no negative impact this would impose on anyone including the businesses. This is a benefit and a great way to provide inclusion for a community that is usually excluded. Please speak on our behalf and pass this bill for the community at large.

Mahalo,

**From:** [John O'Loughlin](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** House Bill 1009  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 12:10:49 PM

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 13, 2019

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

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Sincerely,

John O'Loughlin

**From:** [Aileen Solem](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Senator Rosalyn Baker  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 3:08:12 PM

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Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer “closed captioning” glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Sincerely,  
Aileen

**From:** [Nikki Kepoo](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** HB469 Relating to Hearing Aids - Testimony in Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 2:39:09 PM

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Aloha,

I am a mother of a deaf child and highly involved with our parent group. Many of our families incur insanelly large bills in trying to provide adequate equipment for their hard of hearing child. We already have insurance payments that we all feel should go towards such needs as hearing aids. Visual coverage such as glasses are included in our plans, but not hearing aids? It seems odd to list hearing aids as an "aesthetic" desire and not a physical need.

Please help our families focus on the more important needs in raising their child than the impact of costs for equipment that should be included in the plans they already are receiving, paying for, or contributing to.

Mahalo,

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Dana DeAnna".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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Sincerely,



Jeff Stabile

2421 YOUNG PL

HONOLULU, HI

96816

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

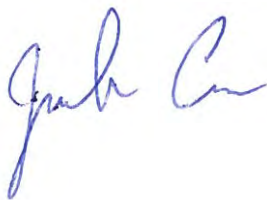
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack C.", is written below the text "Sincerely,".



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

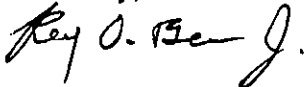
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Sincerely,



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
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For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer “closed captioning” glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Sincerely,

*Claudine Enriquez*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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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Sincerely,

Ferdinand Bermudez

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P. A. Baker III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a stylized "B" and "I".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Alda". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Aoki". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenji Caruso".



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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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Sincerely,



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kenneth J. Robertson in cursive script.

SENATE BILL 331 TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

March 11, 2019

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Chair Labor & Public Employment  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #436  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Johanson,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer "closed captioning" glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Sincerely,



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Stinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "M".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

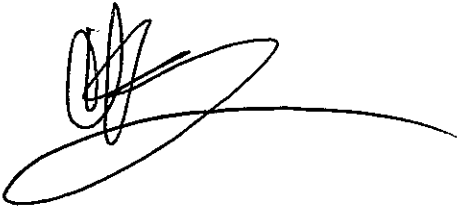
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive name followed by a long horizontal flourish.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duke Denny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelby Jwitaals". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Shelby Jwitaals".



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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Sincerely,

MARY ANNE ROSS

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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Sincerely, *Tabitha Marie Ross*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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Dear Senator Baker,

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For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer "closed captioning" glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Murakami-Hi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

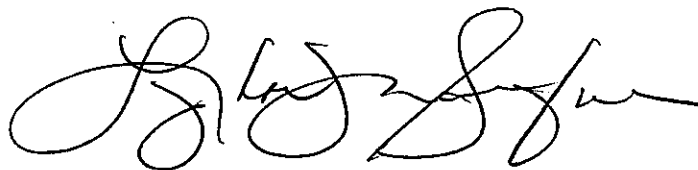
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. J. [unclear]". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

SENATE BILL 331 TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

March 11, 2019

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson  
Chair Labor & Public Employment  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #436  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Johanson,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

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Sincerely,

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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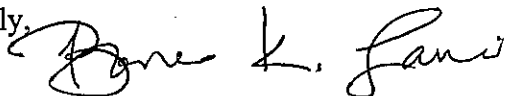
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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Hawaii State Capitol  
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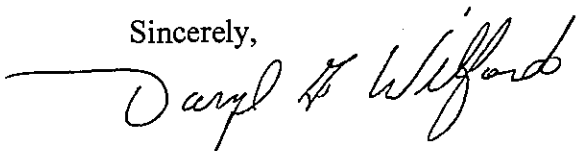
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daryl H. Wilford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Hawaii State Capitol  
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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
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Sincerely,



Wendell Tagura

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daeann Bunaney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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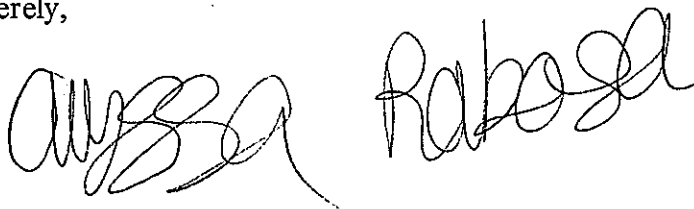
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alyssa Rabosa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

PATRICK KAWSANA JR

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

Senator Rosalyn Baker  
Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
Hawaii State Capitol  
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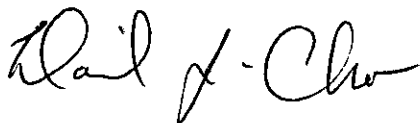
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Sincerely,

Daniel Cho

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Cho". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "C".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

Candy Mezurashi  


HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
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Sincerely,

*Adrienne Bourne*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

Nathanael Oliver

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

 Custodio

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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Sincerely,

Olivia Malcolm  


HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

*Neeraj Custodio*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zachary Best". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

*Jake Kuney*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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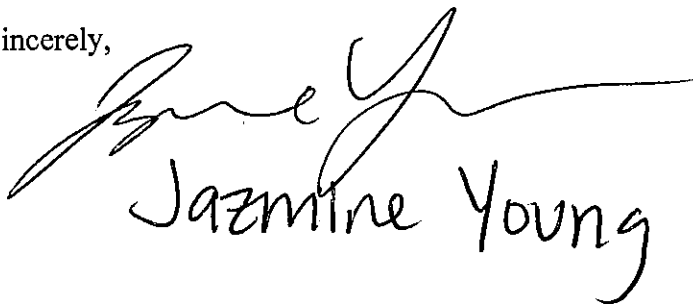
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Sincerely,



Jazmine Young

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

*Marayla Fa'ama'i*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

*Jitzgerald Mercado*

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Sincerely, MyEsha Pierce

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mahlyn Siuta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely, Dominique Celeste Wih ebush

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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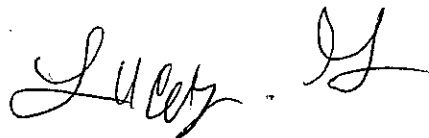
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lucy G.", is written in black ink.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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Sincerely,

Selina Chang

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayden Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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Sincerely,

*Laoni Muiakani*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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*Denise S. M. Kuan*

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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Hawaii State Capitol  
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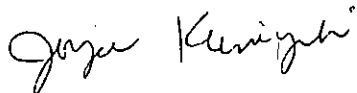
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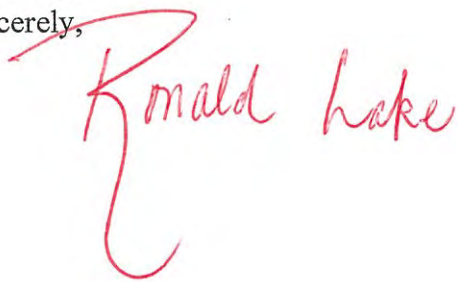
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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Ronald Lake in red ink.



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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to be 'Aki' followed by a large, stylized flourish.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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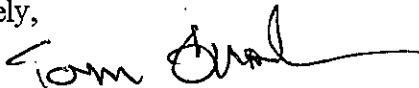
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Sincerely,

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

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Rae Yamashiro

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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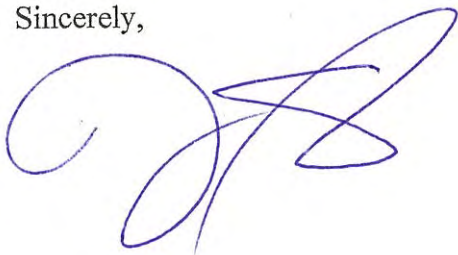
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Joshua Smith

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Javacento". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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Sincerely,

Sung Kim



03/13/19

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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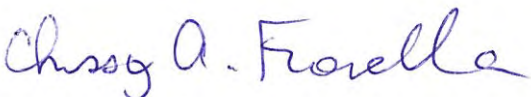
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maggie Suter".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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Sincerely,



HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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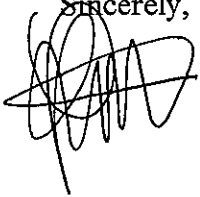
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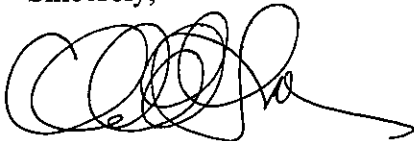
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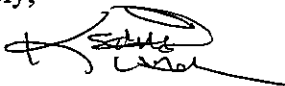
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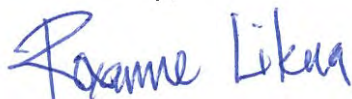
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rosalyn Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

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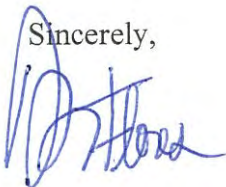
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*Bernissa Dumadag*

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Koni". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'K' and a cursive 'oni'.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

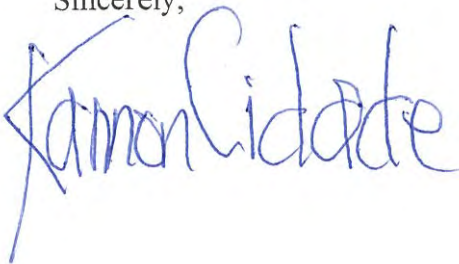
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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Cidade". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J'.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ab Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, fluid style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Hawaii State Capitol  
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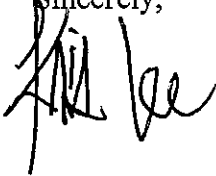
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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

*Kristine Natou*

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Chair Commerce, Protection, and Health  
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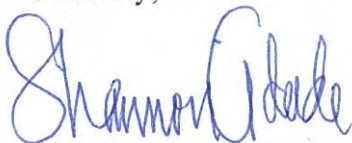
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shannon O'Keefe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Jay Watson", is written below the text "Sincerely,".

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Hawaii State Capitol  
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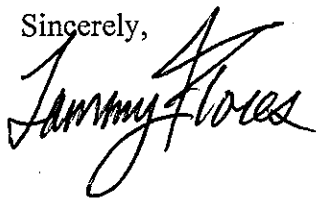
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy Flores". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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Hawaii State Capitol  
Room #230  
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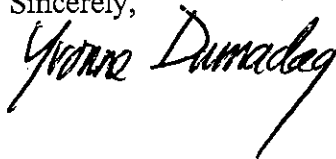
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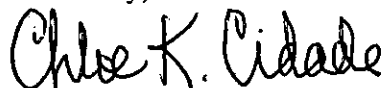
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Chae K. Cidade

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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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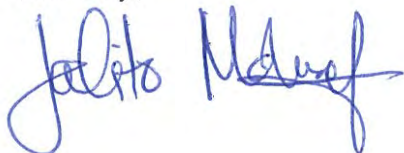
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Sincerely,

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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

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Sincerely,

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HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
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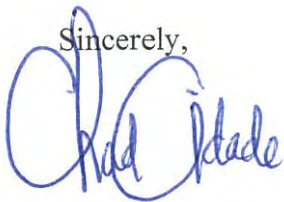
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Sincerely,

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For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer "closed captioning" glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Providing open captions directly on films allows patrons who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing to enjoy a film equally to that of their hearing peers. Open captions do not just benefit individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing but also those with other disabilities or non-native English speakers who may rely on captions to fully understand what is said.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cory Cichadek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOUSE BILL 1009 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

March 11, 2019

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

Dear Senator Baker,

I am writing to express my support for the Open Movie Captioning bill. I urge you to pass this important bill.

For many Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing residents and visitors to the islands including all residents of Hawaii, seeing a film in a movie theater can prove to be difficult. Often, movie theaters offer "closed captioning" glasses for attendees who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind or Hard of Hearing so they can view captions detailing spoken words, sounds, and music throughout the film. These glasses are unreliable due to battery failure and lack of proper connectivity. The glasses are heavy, often not properly cleaned - which could pose a health risk to those with compromised immune systems. The glasses are uncomfortable and can be difficult to wear for those that also use every day glasses, hearing aids, or cochlear implants.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Hunter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.