



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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

February 21, 2019

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

House Bill 1153, HD1 - Relating to Remote Testimony in Legislative Hearings

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports and offers comments on House Bill 1153, HD1 Relating to the Remote Testimony in Legislative Hearings which requires both chambers of the Legislature to establish rules for livestreaming public hearings and informational briefings at the State Capitol to the public through remote testimony.

This bill would allow more ways for individuals, including individuals with disabilities to be included in the Legislative process. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) livestreaming public hearings and informational briefings need to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. This bill does not specify that the rules will include procedures to address the inclusion of people of people with disabilities. Livestreaming will need to include captioning for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Is the current network or system at the Capitol equipped to provide the service?

We suggest including an advisory group of individuals with a variety of disabilities to collaborate by offering suggests to the rules for presenting accessible livestreaming of public hearings and informational briefings. We are willing to assist with suggesting names of individuals who may be willing to participate on such an advisory group. There are also other service providers and agencies serving people with disabilities who may be able to suggest individuals with disabilities to assist in the development of remote technology. Including people with disabilities at the planning phase will allow for the development of a more holistic approach that will work for the entire community.

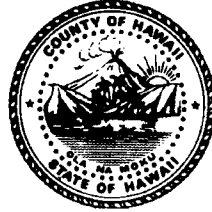
Funding to pay for equipment or means to provide real time captioning of the livestreamed public hearings and informational briefings, as well as auxiliary aids and services (sign language interpreters and/or notetakers) for individuals with disabilities to participate in an advisory group should be included in the appropriation of this bill. The amount is dependent on the cost for live captioning services of the hearings and informational briefings and how many times the advisory group meets and the length of the meetings.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANCINE WAI
Executive Director

Harry Kim
Mayor



Wil Okabe
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 19, 2019

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance

Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members:

RE: **HB 1153, HD1 Relating to Remote Testimony in Legislative Hearings**

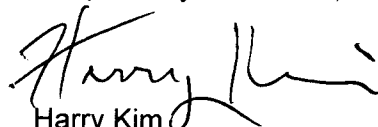
Article I, Section 1, of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i provides that "All political power of this State is inherent in the people and the responsibility for the exercise thereof rests with the people." In that spirit, and over the course of its history, the Hawai'i State Legislature has been dedicated to assuring citizen participation in its activities, and has often been at the forefront of innovations that enhance that participation and make it more effective.

Technology has now reached the point where persons with disabilities, residents of rural Oahu, and neighbor island residents, can be enabled to more fully participate in the legislative process without experiencing inconvenient, expensive and/or time-consuming travel to the Capitol. Exactly how that should be done, without jeopardizing the need for an expeditious legislative process, may require further thought and deliberations, and that is exactly what HB 1153, HD1 would allow. HB 1153, HD1 does not presuppose a method, but neither is it just another "study." Truly action oriented, it mandates the outcome that remote testimony shall be allowed, and then leaves it to each house to figure out the details. That is the kind of balance that this Legislature is known for and can be proud of.

An earlier generation of Hawai'i leaders recognized that all residents of the State deserve equal educational opportunities, regardless of where they live. Now today's generation of leaders is better assuring that all have equal access to their government. Thank you for taking this next step.

I hope you will approve HB 1153, HD1.

Respectfully Submitted,


Harry Kim
MAYOR



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 21, 2019

H.B. 1153, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 1153, H.D. 1 which requires each chamber of the Legislature to establish procedures for the public to present oral testimony at legislative committee hearings via remote testimony.

Due to the fast-paced legislative timetable, it is often a severe financial hardship for neighbor island residents to actively participate in our democratic process. For example, when the Legislature was considering the privatization of the Maui Region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, employees had to take time off of work, purchase airline tickets – often with only 48-hours notice, and arrange ground transportation to attend and testify in committee hearings. Many of our members chose to expend their valuable time and money to share their expertise and ensure their voices were heard, but we firmly believe many more would have taken advantage of remote testimony technology. We are confident that this same situation is all too familiar for too many neighbor island residents, regardless of the issue at hand. The establishment of a Remote Legislative Access Program ensures equal access to committee hearings no matter where a Hawaii resident resides.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1153, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308
HB 1153, Relating to Remote Testimony in Legislative Testimony**

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the FIN committee:

On behalf of the Hawai`i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, I would like to offer our comments in support of **HB 1153**, which provides greater access to and transparency of the legislative process.

Hawai`i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations (HANO) is a statewide, sector-wide professional association of nonprofits. Our mission is to unite and strengthen the nonprofit sector as a collective force to improve the quality of life in Hawai`i. Our member organizations provide essential services to every community in the state.

As a statewide organization, HANO believes it is important to engage nonprofit organizations and their communities on all islands throughout the state. Legislative modernizations like remote live testimony via video conferencing will make the legislative process more accessible to those who live and work on the neighbor islands, and/or who are homebound, and cannot come to the State Capitol in person. We support this effort to improve statewide public participation in our policymaking process.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Lisa Maruyama
President and CEO



Hawaii

Holding Power Accountable

Common Cause Hawaii • 307A Kamani St. • Honolulu, HI 96813 • 808.275.6275

To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Brodie Lockard for the Common Cause Hawaii Board
Date: Thursday, February 21, 2019, 1:30 pm

In strong support of HB 1153

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

Common Cause Hawaii strongly supports HB 1153.

We on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. They can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. They are second-class participants in their own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard
Board Member, Common Cause Hawaii



Thursday, February 21, 2019

House Bill 1153 HD1
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

The Democratic Party of Hawaii (The Party) stands in **support of HB1153 HD1 Relating to Remote Testimony in Legislative Hearings**, which establishes a Remote Legislative Access Program to allow for the submission of testimony remotely and appropriates funds.

The Party understands that in order to have a more engaged public, we must ensure that everyone has access to the legislative process. While it is true that any member of the public can theoretically submit testimony in writing, that is not always the case. It requires computer and internet access, the capacity to follow directions, the ability to read and write, and various other supports. We also know that oftentimes the most compelling testimony is that which is given in person, sitting across from their Representatives and Senators.

Beyond just the written testimony, the ability for members of the public to testify face to face and voice to voice should be the guiding principle for public hearings. Yet for too long this has not been the case. Individuals living on islands other than Oahu face steep time and financial challenges to make their cases heard. This, on top of potentially having to take time off from work, those separated by an ocean from their state elected officials presents immense challenges to fair and equal access.

And those with disabilities face more daunting impediments to equal access to provide in-person testimony.

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a “qualified individual with a disability” means an individual with a disability who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by a public entity.”

Also from the ADA; “subject to the provisions of this subchapter, no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason or such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity.”

Persons with disabilities are guaranteed the right against discrimination.

Insurance companies in Hawaii, including MedQuest, recognize that when a neighbor island resident is required to fly for treatment to an island on which they don't reside, that it can be stressful. This is why the insurance companies pay for a companion or caregiver plane ticket so that the person has support during the process.

It is an undue hardship for many residents of Hawaii to attend Public Hearings in person. This is why creating and funding a Remote Legislative Access Program is a priority for the Party. It is time to truly create access for all.

When it comes to discerning the best ways to spend our state's limited finances, we hope that creating equal access for all people to participate in their democracy, is high on the priority list.

For these reasons we urge to vote favorably on this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,



Josh Frost
Co-Chair, Legislation Committee
Democratic Party of Hawai'i



Zahava Zaidoff
Co-Chair, Legislation Committee
Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 4:19:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:



PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME



~ helping cannabis patients in Hawaii since 2004.

February 18, 2019

Aloha Hawaii lawmakers,

PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME submits our testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1153.

Hawaii's seriously ill medical cannabis patients, who do not live on Oahu, have a great disadvantage in access; therefore to ensure equal access to all citizens, it should be a **TOP PRIORITY** to pass HB1153, and create access points on the other islands. The technology is fast, easy, and a relatively inexpensive cost to give all the people equal access to the law making process.

The members of **PWT** would very much like the opportunity to address lawmakers directly, about Hawaii's inequity in the application of the Federal Schedule of Controlled Substances, and the state placing commercial cannabis sales to tourists, above the needs of some of our most vulnerable citizens.

In 2000, Hawaii's lawmakers, (**in blatant violation of federal Schedule**), passed compassionate medical marijuana laws. Then Hawaii issued commercial licenses to the "BIG 8 DISPENSARY/Monopoly System (**again in blatant violation of federal Schedule**),

In 2019, almost two decades later, thousands of Hawaii's registered cannabis patients, and tens of thousands of unregistered (**angry, fearful and confused**) patients, are still being criminalized (**in obedience to the federal Schedule**)! This is NOT equal justice for all.

Furthermore; Hawaii's seriously ill registered medical cannabis patients still do not have legal access to cannabis seeds, clones, and/or plants.

Twenty years of written testimony has not moved lawmakers to take action to end the racial prejudice, and economic discrimination, and needless suffering wrought by the federal marijuana prohibition, perhaps our personal pleas will be heard.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

Brian Murphy, Director
PATIENTS WITHOUT TIME
Maui, Hawaii



PWTMAUI.ORG

PO BOX 322, PUUNENE, HI 96784

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 11:04:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly Support Remote Testimony and all efforts for transparency and accountability in government.

www.WeAreOne.cc

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 4:19:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Nomura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Think this would be a wonderful opportunity to open electronic communication amongst all islands. To really have a 'voice' in a bill, not just written testimony.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 4:33:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

For too long people have been discriminated against submitting testimony directly to the legislature because they live on other islands or are physically unable to attend. This is a great way to provide for more people to give testimony.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 9:22:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke
Vice Chair Cullen
House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, February 20, 2019
10:05 AM

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB1153 HD1 RELATING TO REMOTE
TESTIMONY IN LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, Members of the House Committee on Finance,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a freshman at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and I currently serve as an executive committee member of the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). I am testifying as **an individual in support of HB1153 HD1 relating to remote testimony in legislative hearings**. As a supporter of more small “d” democracy in our public institutions, I appreciate that our state already has in place the Public Access Room and the Capitol website. These resources help guide advocates, both young and old through the process, and make participating in our local democracy a lot more easier. I can attest to that personally.

Although I personally have the privilege of having relative accessibility to the Capitol, I have seen citizen advocates who I respect tremendously on the neighbor islands constantly have to fly over to Honolulu, to lobby and testify. This can be hard for them for a variety of reasons, including cost, personal scheduling conflicts, and if your a parent and have to take care of your kid/kids. By taking on the creation of a digital venue for members of the public to send and receive both written, and oral testimony through a remote access program for the legislative process, we can change the game for them. If they aren’t able to come to Honolulu or even instead of coming to Honolulu, they’ll be able to participate and give testimony on important legislation from their home islands.

Alongside considering the needs and interests of our neighbor island residents, this legislation includes language to make sure that even if you live on O’ahu where the Capitol is, those who live away from the urban core or those who face any barriers due to disabilities, will be considered and represented in this program, expanding the pool of democracy. Making sure these groups are able to participate is seriously important, and will help in bringing more members of the public into the legislative process to be a part of shaping public policy. In conclusion, to continue to strengthen our democracy, **I support HB1153 HD1 and request for it to be passed through your committee.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin
1561 Kanunu St.
Cell: 808-255-6663
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2019 9:53:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Autumn Ness	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee,

I am in full support of this measure, which would give neighbor islanders a stronger voice in the legislative process. I have worked as an aide and a lobbyist on State and County level legislation for years, and public input is vital to producing quality legislation. I was a legislative aide for a Maui County Council Member, and the County of Maui is unique in that we are made up of different islands and the remote community of Hana. We have set up remote council offices on Moloka'i, Lana'i, and in Hana to allow the residents of those communities to participate in the legislative process and it has been a huge success. Remote offices are simple, with little overhead, but allow the community to engage in their government without having to spend the money on airfare, which is prohibitive for most community members.

Please support this initiative.

Mahalo nui,

Autumn Ness

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 7:43:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erika Lechuga Disalvo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 8:50:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii Lawmakers,

I SUPPORT - HB1153

Equal access to government by the people is vital if the interests of the people are to be represented equally. Modern media makes it easy, and well worth the relatively modest costs to provide equal access to government to the "other" islands.

Mahalo,

Mary Whispering Wind

Puunene, HI

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 8:53:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii Lawmakers,

I SUPPORT - HB1153

Equal access to government by the people is vital if the interests of the people are to be represented equally. Modern media makes it easy, and well worth the relatively modest costs to provide equal access to government to the "other" islands.

Mahalo,

Brian Murphy

Maui, Hawaii

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 10:35:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peggy McArdle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Fully support. Long overdue. Mahalo.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 5:30:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank DeGiacomo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 5:58:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strongly Support. Waaaay past time for remote testimony from Neighbor Islands.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 1:52:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
PL Fritz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1153. Remote testimony will provide an opportunity for individuals with disabilities who may not be able to travel to the Capitol to testify in person and persons from other islands to provide testimony on legislative matters. Development of rules that will allow people to testify using their computer will allow more citizens to testify and make government more transparent transparency in government.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 5:28:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Lawmakers,

This is long overdue. Not everyone can afford to fly to the State Capitol to testify on important matters.

Please pass this Bill,

Mahalo,

Barbara Barry

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 4:38:33 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

I strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

We on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. They can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. They are second-class participants in their own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 5:26:58 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 7:20:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please send testimony! Priority bills

C



Common Cause Hawaii

to me
3 hours ago

Details

The House and Senate should allow remote oral testimony at committee hearings, letting people on neighbor islands to testify via, e.g., Skype.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:00:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anita Trubitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:42:15 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:11:30 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael deYcaza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:23:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Boscole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

I strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

Citizens on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population such as myself that lives on sister islands. To travel to Oahu for this is prohibitively expensive and time consuming. We can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. We are limited to be like second-class participants in our own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Christopher Boscole

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:26:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Wilcox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This will allow testimony to be heard from sister islands and allows more people to express their opinion.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 1:10:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Boyne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB1153 would require the House and Senate to each allow remote oral testimony at committee hearings, letting people on sister islands to testify via, e.g., Skype.

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:14:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:02:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
L.M. Holmes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

I strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

We on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. They can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. They are second-class participants in their own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Dr. Lorna Holmes, Honolulu 96817

LATE

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:21:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Shaw	Lanai Community Health Center	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 8:03:24 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Greg Puppione	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

I strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

We on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. They can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. They are second-class participants in their own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Aloha, Greg Puppione Honolulu, HI

finance1 - Sean

From: bob-marion@hawaiiantel.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 9:05 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: support HB 1153 HD1



Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members—

We strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

We are writing to you from Kauai. It has been costly for us to travel to Oahu to testify. We have held many a fundraisers to help Kauai citizens make to trip to Oahu to provide testimony on bills that directly effect our island.

Those on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. We can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that our input has made a difference. We are second-class participants in ownown democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow every island to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Robert and Marion McHenry

Princeville, Kauai

LATE

HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 10:51:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Park	Common Cause Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1153 HD1.

We on Oahu are very lucky to be able to drive an hour or less and join a hearing at the Capitol to voice our opinion in the making of laws that shape our lives.

Not so for the third of our population that lives on sister islands. They can only email testimony and await the results of hearings deliberations, hopeful that their input has made a difference. They are second-class participants in their own democracy, excluded from joining one of the most central steps of lawmaking, or even witnessing it.

Well-tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free, but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process.

Please pass HB 1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii's democracy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Council Chair
Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Alice L. Lee
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Maria E. Zielinski

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
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WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
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February 21, 2019

LATE

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 1153, HD1, RELATING TO REMOTE TESTIMONY IN LEGISLATIVE
HEARINGS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require each house of the legislature to establish procedures and necessary information infrastructure for the public to present oral testimony at legislative committee hearings through remote testimony.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. It is paramount that all people in our island state be given the opportunity to actively participate in the legislative process. It is often not feasible for residents of Maui County, Hawaii County, and Kauai County to fly to Oahu to give testimony in person at the State Capitol.
2. The ability to testify remotely can result in more well-informed legislation that will positively impact more people and be responsive to the needs of all residents.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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HB-1153-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 1:09:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2019 1:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DJ Iijima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1153 HD1

I live on the Big Island of Hawaii We can only testify by email and wait for the results of hearings deliberations, and hopefully that the input has made a difference. A well tested and fairly simple technology can solve this problem easily. It is not free but is well worth the cost to include every Hawaii resident in this crucial segment of the lawmaking process. I ask please pass HB1153 and allow our neighbors to participate more fully in Hawaii`s democracy.

Leslie Iijima - Big Island Hawaii