

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 4:14:32 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

We need this to help our neighbor island ohana to be able to participate fully in the legislative process without having to spend tons of money.

Michael Golojuch, Jr.  
Chair & SCC Representative  
LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 5:29:49 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB337, Hawaii is made up of an island chain and although the capital is in Honolulu, Every voice should be heard equally.

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 9:07:08 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Gee, only 41 years after Alaska made remote live testimony available to its citizens!  
And 28 years after Nevada did so. This truly is some "progressive" state.

I wonder what the rationalizations will be this year for not making it possible again?

**Chair Keohokalole**  
**Vice Chair English**  
**Senate Committee on Technology**

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**  
**2:45 PM**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB337 RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE**

Aloha Chair Keohokalolele, Vice Chair English, Members of the Senate Committee on Technology,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a freshman at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and I currently serve as the Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair for the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). I am testifying in **strong support of SB337 relating to the legislature**. 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 strongly support SB337 relating to the legislature and request for it to be passed through this committee.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin  
Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair  
Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA)  
1561 Kanunu St.  
Cell: 808-255-6663  
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com



Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Senate Committee on Technology:

My name is James Kilgore and I am the Executive Director of Full Life. Full Life is a non-profit organization serving approximately 70 people with developmental disabilities and their families on Hawai'i Island for the nearly 19 years. I am writing to provide support for **SB 337 scheduled for hearing on January 31, 2019 at 2:45PM.**

- I support establishing a remote legislative access program to enable Hawai'i residents of all abilities to participate remotely in legislative proceedings.
- I want to thank the introducers of SB 337 for speaking to how this issue affects people with disabilities.
- Air travel from Neighbor Islands can be difficult for some people with disabilities. There may be physical barriers as well as extra costs including purchasing tickets for support staff or personal aids.
- I support remote access to provide face-to-face testimony as a way to have a constituency more engaged in the public process. People of all abilities in Hawai'i can be empowered to provide testimony through remote technology.
- People with developmental disabilities and their families desire to be active in the political process as evidenced by their participation at disability legislative forums on Hawai'i Island. They ask meaningful questions and share solutions regarding public policy that impacts them the most.
- At this year's West Hawai'i Disability Legislative Forum participants were in favor for remote access to legislative testimony as a means to have their voices heard by State Legislators.
- Many people with disabilities lack the resources to fly from Hawai'i Island to testify in person even when they don't experience barriers to flying due to their disability.
- Face-to-face or voice-to-voice testimony allows for a more interactive process that can be more meaningful than providing written testimony.

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration,

James Kilgore



**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  
The Senate  
Committee on Technology

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association

January 31, 2019

S.B. 337 – RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 337 which establishes a Remote Legislative Access Program to allow for the public to submit testimony remotely.

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 S.B. 337.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for Randy Perreira  
Executive Director

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 2:50:43 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please allow us to speak to you without having to fly back and forth, lose one day, and pay up to \$200

Mahalo,

Una Greenaway



Thursday, January 31, 2019

Senate Bill 337  
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee on Technology,

The Democratic Part of Hawai'i (The Party) stands in **support of SB337 Relating to the Legislature**, 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 read and write, and various other supports. We also know that often times 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.



According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 20 percent of people with anxiety disorders have a fear of flying intense enough to affect their personal and professional lives, while for 6.5 percent, it is debilitating.

Insurance companies in Hawai'i, 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 Hawai'i to attend Public Hearings in person. This is why creating and funding a Remote Legislative Access Program is a priority for the Party.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zahava Zaidoff', with a stylized, cursive script.

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

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 4:44:01 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 4:50:05 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 5:02:57 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hanalei Fergerstrom	Testifying for Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kakou,

Our organization, Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe", is in full support of the intent of SB337. We live on the island of Hawaii. The legislature is on Oahu. It is very impractical for us to have to travel to Oahu in order to get our testimonies heard. We count and are equally important to person on Oahu.

This was a problem here on Hawaii island but was relieved when the County implemented on this system which allows the different districts to be heard via conferencing. This would be quite an improvement on the way the legislative process is handled.

Again, we stand in full support.

Thank you, Hank Fergerstrom, spokesperson for Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 5:20:26 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
L.M. Holmes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Residents of neighbor islands deserve the chance to have their testimony heard. Please support this bill enabling remote testimony. Mahalo.

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 6:21:55 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please support SB337 in favor of Remote Testimony! As a Neighbor Islander concerned with reducing green house gas emissions SB337 is a step in the right direction for those who wish to reduce our environmental impact while saving money, time AND strengthening our democracy, mahalo!

Phaethon Keeney

Honokaa Hawaii



Board of Directors:

**Senate Committee on Technology**

Gary L. Hooser  
*President*

**Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action Supports SB 337**

Andrea N. Brower  
Ikaika M. Hussey  
*Co-Vice Presidents*

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair English & Members of the Committee,

Kim Coco Iwamoto  
*Treasurer*

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) in strong support of SB 337 establishing remote legislative access. HAPA is a statewide environmental, social and economic justice organization. HAPA engages over 10,000 local residents annually through our work.

Bart E. Dame  
*Secretary*

Much of our work is focused on increasing civic engagement. The ability to provide remote testimony is extremely important to for this cause and to our organization. As an organization that is based on neighboring islands it is extremely costly, both in time & financially, to regularly be flying to Oahu to submit testimonies.

Paul Achitoff

Nancy Aleck

Laura Harrelson

Furthermore, many of the priorities we advocate on behalf of are issues that heavily impact neighboring islands and which more neighboring testimonies would add great value to the conversation and decision making process. Many of our members are unable to testify on issues that impact their lives simply because they cannot afford to take a day off work, or find childcare, and pay hundreds of dollars in airfare to travel to Oahu for three minutes of testimony.

Kaleikoa Ka'eo

Michael Miranda

Walter Ritte Jr.

Pua Rossi-Fukino

It is critical that neighbor island voices are heard and given a fair chance to testify that doesn't require spending a lot of money or flying inter-island.

Karen Shishido

Leslie Malulani Shizue Miki

Given the nature of our island state, and the costs involved in transport, it seems more than reasonable to provide a way for citizens to testify on important issues that doesn't require such exhaustive effort, that many people are unable to commit to.

Everyone deserves to have their voice heard but many cannot get out of work, afford the cost of plane ticket, get the childcare, or spend an entire day traveling to `Oahu to submit testimony.

Also, given the state's commitment to addressing climate change and reducing our carbon footprint, lessening the need for excessive interisland travel by provide remote legislative access is one simple and responsible step in the right direction.

Please support open government, public engagement and access for all Hawaiian residents by supporting SB 337 and moving the State of Hawai'i to establish a remote legislative access service for constituents to testify from their home island.

Thank you for your consideration! I urge you to support SB 337.  
Respectfully,

Anne Frederick, Executive Director

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (H.A.P.A.)



**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 7:21:53 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Mcknight	Testifying for HCC Legislative Committee	Support	No

Comments:

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

**Senate Bill 337**

**Testifying in Support**

**Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee on Technology,**

**The Democratic Part of Hawaii (The Party) stands in support of SB337 Relating to the Legislature, 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 read and write, and various other supports. We also know that often times 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.**

**According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 20 percent of people with anxiety disorders have a fear of flying intense enough to affect their personal and professional lives, while for 6.5 percent, it is debilitating.**

**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.**

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

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 1:53:46 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

In light of the State's strong commitment to gathering input from all islands and to a cleaner climate, I support the initiative.

Mahalo, Len Gambla

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 2:49:53 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha. I fully support SB 337. Remote testimony is self evident for citizens living on different islands in the state. Mahalo.

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 6:29:45 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 7:52:13 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 7:58:52 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha. This bill and companion HB395 are about democracy in Hawaii, to create the means for all citizens across our State, all islands, to provide Legislators with live but not in-person testimony about proposals and their impact on the people who live in areas affected by the legislation. It is not realistic nor fair to require in-person testimony across the vast territory of Hawaii State, nor is it wise to have such costs in monetary and fuel use. Our State must be a model of intelligent involvement of all citizens. Please pass SB337. Mahalo.



**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 8:54:41 AM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 9:16:20 AM

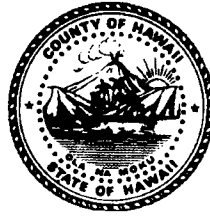
Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please allow residents of the "neighbor islands" to participate fully and equally in the legislative process by adding video conferencing to the legislature. Mahalo!

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

January 30, 2019

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
Committee on Technology  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Keohokalole and Committee Members:

**Re: SB 337 Relating to the Legislature (Establishing a Remote Legislative Access Program)**  
**Hearing Date: January 31, 2019 – 2:45 PM; Senate Conference Room 414**

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 even more so, 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 SB 337 would allow. SB 337 does not presuppose a method, but neither is it just another "study." Truly action oriented, it mandates the outcome that "There is established in the state capitol a remote legislative access program that shall become part of the legislature's public access program," and then leaves it to a joint committee 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 deserved equal educational opportunities, regardless of where they lived. Now this 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 SB 337.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim  
Mayor, County of Hawai'i

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:41:30 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Kā• kou,

I can't wait until there is an option above on this online form that asks if I will be testifying remotely at the hearing. Please do whatever is in your power to make this happen. Neighbor island constituents deserve to have their voices heard! Testifying in general is costly (time off work, childcare/transportation to capitol costs, parking, etc.) and some folks have illness/disability which prevents them from easily traveling. And this is just thinking about those on O'ahu, it is almost impossible for neighbor island folks to get over there to testify. This would be a way to ensure equal opportunity for all to participate in democratic process. We have figured out how to do it at the county level, I'm certain you can figure it out at the state level. Whatever the cost and hassle may be, it is worth it for fair process for all to be involved. Please pass this legislation this session, we have all been waiting long enough.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

**SB-337**

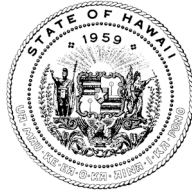
Submitted on: 1/30/2019 2:20:43 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
CHIEF INFORMATION  
OFFICER

## OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119  
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ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Chief Information Officer  
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY  
Thursday, January 31, 2019

SENATE BILL NO. 337  
RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair English and members of the committee:

The Office of the Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports Senate Bill No. 337, relating to the Legislature, which establishes a Remote Legislative Access Program to allow for the submission of testimony remotely as long as it doesn't affect the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request.

We look forward to collaborating with the Remote Legislative Access Program to encourage active citizen participation in the government process by providing recommendations and advice on current communication technologies.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

**LATE**

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 10:00:19 PM  
Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support SB337 so that voices from all islands in the state of Hawaii can be heard via remote testimony.

Mahalo,

Laura and the Bettencourt family

Kapa'a, Kauai

**LATE**

**SB-337**

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 8:54:06 PM

Testimony for TEC on 1/31/2019 2:45:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

Hawai'i County has been doing videoconferencing for several years. Time for the Legislature to catch up! And receive valuable input from neighbor island perspectives.

mahalo,

Cory Harden, Hilo





**LATE**

## 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

January 31, 2019

### TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

#### Senate Bill 337 - Relating to the Legislature

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports and offers comments on Senate Bill 337 Relating to the Legislature, which establishes a Remote Legislative Access Program to allow for the submission of testimony remotely.

This bill would allow more ways for individuals, including individuals with disabilities to participate in the Legislative process by testifying remotely. This provides the Legislature with the unique opportunity to include people with disabilities from the beginning with the planning process. The bill establishes a Remote Legislative Access Program to establish a committee to seek advice and recommendations from experts with knowledge related to remote communications to establish a program to consider different methods of communication, including teleconference and videoconference and to include technologies that will accommodate people who are blind, deaf or hard of hearing. Those are just a few of the types of disabilities that may be impacted by remote technology.

We suggest including feedback from an advisory group of people with a variety of disabilities to collaborate with the Joint Legislative Access Committee. 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 people 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 auxiliary aids and services for individuals with disabilities to participate in an advisory group should be included in the appropriation included in this bill. The amount would be dependent on how many times the advisory group will meet and the length of the meetings.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

FRANCINE WAI  
Executive Director