

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 6:32:35 PM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Ewan	Aloha State Association of the Deaf	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony of Aloha State Association of the Deaf
Submitted to the Hawaii House, Committee on Human Services and Homelessness
The Honorable Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair
Re: SCR11 REAFFIRMING THE USE OF THE TERM "DEAF-BLIND" BY THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE COUNTIES.
April 12, 2019, 9:00 AM Conference Room 329:
Ms. Chair, Ms. Vice Chair, Members:

Aloha State Association of the Deaf is writing to ask that you SUPPORT passage of SCR11. We believe in supporting the community's core and values. Deaf-Blind community has expressed to the organization they prefer to be called Deaf-Blind.

Deaf-Blind are important part of Hawaii community. Their concerns should be heard. To protect the identity of Deaf-Blind, please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Darlene Ewan

President

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 8:54:54 AM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

LATE

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Democrats Legislative Priorities Committee	Support	No

Comments:

nakamura1 - Nichol

From: Mary Ann <nhbcm@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:13 PM
To: HSHtestimony
Subject: SCR11 Sd 1 Testomony

Testimony of Mary Ann Nakamichi

Submitted to the Hawaii House, Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

The Honorable Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Re: SCR11 REAFFIRMING THE USE OF THE TERM "DEAF-BLIND" BY THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE COUNTIES.

April 12, 2019, 9:00 AM Conference Room 329:

Ms. Chair, Ms. Vice Chair, Members:

I am writing to ask that you SUPPORT passage of SCR11.

I have been and continue to be an advocate of the deaf-blind community and urge your support for SCR11. I believe each of us has the right to their own identity, and believe the deaf-blind also should decide on their own identity and not have a government entity decide for them.

Please support SCR11.

Mary Ann Nakamichi

Testimony of Roderick J. Macdonald

Submitted to the Hawaii House, Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

The Honorable Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Re: SCR11 REAFFIRMING THE USE OF THE TERM "DEAF-BLIND" BY THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE COUNTIES.

April 12, 2019, 9:00 AM Conference Room 329:

Ms. Chair, Ms. Vice Chair, Members:

I am writing to ask that you SUPPORT passage of SCR11.

I am both Deaf and Blind, and for as long as there has been Federal legislation on the subject my community has been called "Deaf-Blind". Hawaii State statutes use "Deaf-Blind", and so do most organizations serving this population. I served as President of the American Association of the Deaf-Blind, and am currently acting in the position of President of the Hawaii Association of the Deaf-Blind until our new organization can be fully established.

In 1989 a gentleman from Italy circulated a letter in which he proposed removing the hyphen from the name. He argued that this would make it easier to do fundraising - making it clear that "deafblind" is a single disability. For the most part educators of Deaf-Blind children embraced this name change; for the most part Deaf-Blind consumers did not. In 1994 the membership of the AADB voted on the matter: 60% were in favor of keeping the hyphen; 25% said they did not care; and 15% voted to remove the hyphen.

In the late 1990s some local organizations of Deaf-Blind people decided that "DeafBlind" served better. This was largely in parallel to the Deaf community's insistence on capitalizing "Deaf" at all times.

And so it is that today we have three separate spellings in use. Here in Hawaii Deaf-Blind consumers have chosen to go with what they are familiar with - "Deaf-Blind". This is our identity; this is how we refer to ourselves; this is how we prefer others to refer to us.

And yet certain entities - State contractors, to be precise - have been trying to change the spelling to "DeafBlind", without consultation with the Deaf-Blind community. We strongly resist this attempt.

"Deaf-Blind" is who and what we are, and we wish to be respected as such. We ask that you support reaffirming our identity by PASSING SCR11.

Thank you for your support.

Rod Macdonald

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 6:27:17 PM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darlene Ewan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 6:33:07 PM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Momosea-Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 6:33:33 PM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Momosea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

nakamura1 - Nichol

From: Brenda Nakamoto <bwitch75@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:41 PM
To: HSHtestimony
Subject: SCR11 Sd1 Testimony

Testimony of Brenda J. Nakamoto

Submitted to the Hawaii House, Committee on Human Services and Homelessness

The Honorable Joy A. Buenaventura, Chair

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Vice Chair

Re: SCR11 REAFFIRMING THE USE OF THE TERM "DEAF-BLIND" BY THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE COUNTIES.

[April 12, 2019, 9:00 AM](#) Conference Room 329:

Ms. Chair, Ms. Vice Chair, Members:

I am writing to ask that you SUPPORT passage of SCR11 Sd1.

I am deaf and I have friends who are deaf-blind. The issue of using the correct term for the "deaf-blind" should be left up to the deaf-blind community to decide on how they want to be referred to. Using terms other than "deaf-blind" would be considered as very disrespectful. The deaf community also has been struggling to get rid of the "hearing impaired" term for a long time. We prefer to be referred to as "deaf" or "hard-of-hearing" but not as "hearing impaired". The same goes for the deaf-blind community.

Please honor the wishes of our deaf-blind community by passing SCR11. Mahalo nui loa.

Respectfully yours,
Brenda J. Nakamoto

nakamura1 - Nichol

From: Eleanor Macdonald <elemacdonald8@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 7:15 AM
To: HSHtestimony
Cc: Roderick J. Macdonald
Subject: Please vote to pass SCR 11, SD1

To the Honorable Representative San Buenaventura:

I am writing to express strong support for this resolution to require the spelling of “Deaf-Blind” by agencies of the State of Hawaii and its counties. People who are both deaf and blind like Helen Keller in Hawaii prefer “Deaf-Blind” to identify themselves as a minority group in the general population.

Please vote yes to pass this important resolution. Mahalo.

Eleanor Macdonald
Oahu Resident

LATE

SCR-11-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 8:47:46 PM

Testimony for HSH on 4/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eileen Chiwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe it's very important how the Deaf-Blind consumers want to be identified themselves. And very important how this word should be spelled out: Deaf-Blind. "Deaf-Blind" is who and what they are, and they wish to be respected as such. We ask that you support reaffirming their identity by PASSING SCR11.

Thank you for your support.

HSHtestimony

From: Suzanne Gray <topsail1996@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 8:49 AM
To: HSHtestimony
Subject: Deaf-Blind in Hawaii

LATE

LATE

Hello from the Big Island! My 37 year old daughter, Holly, is one of 5 Deaf-Blind individuals on our island who is identified with Usher Syndrome. Holly worked for 11 1/2 years at Seattle's Lighthouse for the Blind. The Lighthouse is the largest employer of Deaf-Blind individuals in the U.S.. We are closely connected to that community.

We both support the verbiage of Deaf-Blind. We are involved with the newly formed HI Association for the Deaf-Blind in Honolulu.

Thank you for your consideration in representing those with these marked challenges and gifts.

Respectfully,
Suzanne and Holly Gray
Ninole HI