

SB-3057

Submitted on: 2/5/2020 7:38:29 PM

Testimony for LCA on 2/11/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christen Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Many people visit the State Capitol everyday to admire its beauty and importance to our state government. A tour guide could teach visitors and locals about the history of the State Capitol as well as about our legislative process, which would encourage further participation. Please pass SB3057!

SB-3057

Submitted on: 2/5/2020 7:42:13 PM

Testimony for LCA on 2/11/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adrian Tam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill

SB-3057

Submitted on: 2/5/2020 9:48:16 PM

Testimony for LCA on 2/11/2020 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mai chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is a great idea and would be a useful service to provide to visitors. Well worth the minimal funding required.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

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Written Comments

SB3057

RELATING TO THE STATE CAPITOL

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 224

Chair Brian T. Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon, Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB). Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments on S.B. No. 3057, Relating to the State Capitol.

The purpose of this measure is to establish within the Public Access Room (PAR) the position of a tour guide, who shall conduct tours of the State Capitol, and to appropriate funds for the position.

The Bureau takes no position on this measure but submits the following comments for your consideration.

PAR was established in 1994 to help enhance the public's ability to participate in the legislative process; it became part of LRB in 1996. PAR's office and services are utilized year-round, offering equipment, services, and facilities to enhance the public's ability to participate in the legislative process. This measure provides funds for a permanent full-time equivalent position of tour guide to be placed within PAR but provides no guidance on the scope envisioned for a capitol tour program established under PAR. If the intended scope is broad (such as providing tours for classes of school children), PAR would need additional space within the Capitol building to ensure that tours do not interfere with PAR's current

services, especially during the legislative session when the PAR room is often filled to capacity.

We note that PAR has no expertise with respect to managing or conducting a tour program. Historically, a capitol tour program has been housed in the Office of the Governor, most recently in its Community Relations area. The Office of the Governor currently has a "Hawai'i State Capitol Tours" page on its website that includes a virtual tour and a self-guided tour brochure. Given its historical expertise in running a tour program, the Office of the Governor may be the more appropriate entity in which to place a Hawaii State Capitol tour guide, especially given that jurisdiction over the capitol building resides with the executive branch, rather than the legislative branch. Should the Committee decide that it would like the Legislature to take over responsibility for capitol tours and establish a tour guide position in PAR, we respectfully ask the Committee to clarify the tour guide's scope of work and consider the spatial challenges that such a position would create within PAR.

Thank you again for your consideration.