

HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

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

March 23, 2021
3:45 p.m.
Room 225 via Videoconference

To: The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: S.C.R. No. 7 / S.R. No. 5

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.

The HCRC supports S.C.R. No. 7 and S.R. No. 5, which, if adopted, would require the Disability and Communication Access Board, in collaboration with the Office of Enterprise Technology, to convene a Working Group on Accessible Government Documents

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, all documents posted on the internet by any government agency must be accessible. However, technology sometimes moves more quickly than many of its users, and not all documents posted are actually accessible. As a proposed member of the working group, the HCRC supports S.C.R. No. 7 and S.R. No. 5 and looks forward to working with the expert groups charged with helping the State of Hawai‘i create solutions for accessibility.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
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To: Senate Committees on Human Services and on Government Operations

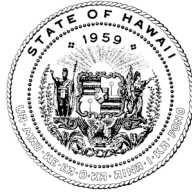
From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: March 23, 2021, 3:45 p.m.
Via Videoconference

Re: Testimony on S.C.R. No. 7 / S.R. No. 5
Requesting the Disability and Communication Access Board, in
Collaboration with the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, to
Convene a Working Group on Accessible Government Documents

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this resolution, which would request the Disability and Communication Access Board to convene a working group to make recommendations to further the policy of providing accessible government documents. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) would be happy to take part in the working group as called for by the resolution.

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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Written Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

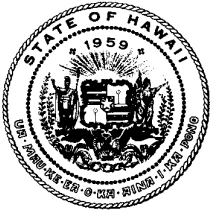
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 7
SENATE RESOLUTION 5

Dear Chairs San Buenaventura and Moriwaki, Vice Chairs Ihara and Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports the resolutions which requests the Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB), in collaboration with the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, to convene a working group on accessible government documents.

ETS looks forward to working with DCAB and the members of the working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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March 23, 2021

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senate Concurrent Resolution 7/Senate Resolution 5 – Requesting the Disability and Communication Access Board, in Collaboration with the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, to Convene a Working Group on Accessible Government Documents

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of Senate Concurrent Resolution 7/Senate Resolution 5, which asks DCAB and the Office of Enterprise Technology Services to convene a working group on accessible government documents.

When it comes to accessible government documents, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act requires state and local governments to provide equal access for individuals who are disabled, especially persons with communication access needs. It is acknowledged that the increasing use of technology to post government documents on state agency websites has presented challenges with ensuring compliance with accessibility requirements. Convening a working group to address various issues involving accessible government documents would be a positive step in overcoming such challenges and ensuring equal access for persons with disabilities.

Unfortunately, DCAB cannot serve as a co-chair of the proposed working group due to a lack of staff. DCAB lost its Communication Access Specialist position, which had responsibility for providing technical assistance on issues involving website accessibility, including the concerns raised by SCR 7/SR 5. Nevertheless, DCAB would like to contribute input as part of the working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director

SCR-7

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 10:18:53 AM

Testimony for HMS on 3/23/2021 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Moises	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this bill.

Jaclyn Leilani Borsa
Testimony Before the Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations
(GOV)
Hawaii State Senate
Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021
March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Good afternoon committee chairs, vice chairs, and committee members. My name is, Jaclyn Leilani Borsa, I am a blind woman residing at 91-031 Parish Drive, Ewa Beach, HI 96706. I am a member of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

I am in strong support SCR7, SR5 and ask that you pass the measure.

I strongly support the testimony submitted by The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii and ask that you take our testimony into serious consideration.

Mahalo for your commitment to blind people of Hawaii and your consideration of my testimony supporting SCR7, SR5.

Hoku Burrows

Testimony Before the Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations (GOV)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021

March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Good afternoon committee chairs, vice chairs, and committee members. My name is, Hoku Burrows, I am a blind woman residing at 824 Laula Way #1, Honolulu, HI 96814. I am a member of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

I am in strong support SCR7, SR5 and ask that you pass the measure.

I strongly support the testimony submitted by The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii and ask that you take our testimony into serious consideration.

Mahalo for your commitment to blind people of Hawaii and your consideration of my testimony supporting SCR7, SR5.

Tammy Robar
Testimony Before the Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations
(GOV)
Hawaii State Senate
Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021
March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Good afternoon committee chairs, vice chairs, and committee members. My name is, Tammy Robar, I am a blind woman residing at 91-1045 Makaike Street, Ewa Beach, 96706. I am a member of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

I am in strong support SCR7, SR5 and ask that you pass the measure.

I strongly support the testimony submitted by The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii and ask that you take our testimony into serious consideration.

Mahalo for your commitment to blind people of Hawaii and your consideration of my testimony supporting SCR7, SR5.

Katie Keim

Testimony Before The Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations (GOV)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021

March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Good afternoon committee chairs, vice chairs, and members. My name is Katie Keim, a blind business woman residing at 2943 Kalakaua Avenue in Honolulu, and a member of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. I strongly support SCR 7, SR 5 and the position of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

The inaccessibility of government documents that I cannot fully access or not at all is a daily challenge during my work, civil community advocacy and care and maintenance of my health. The resolution clearly addresses the issue I and other blind individuals deal with attempting to access vital state agency information and I ask you for your full support on this resolution.

7 years ago I worked as a public servant in 1 of our state agencies. The job application was not accessible to me even using my alternative technology. It required I seek assistance from a sighted individual. Although during my public service, I had access to a shared administrative assistant, I spent at least three times as long completing many of the forms required in my professional capacity or adding an extra load to my assistant who served 4 other professionals who did not have the barrier to access the documents i did.

Today as a business woman in the private sector, government documents are still a requirement to do business in Hawaii and most of them are not accessible for me using alternative technology. Again, although I have an office manager and bookkeeper I hire, it is added cost to my business to have them fill out forms that I should be able to do if the forms were fully accessible to the blind.

With the COVID pandemic, we run into scheduling barriers for tests and vaccinations putting us at risk with no alternatives to set our appointments that we should be able to easily do with our alternative technology.

Mahalo for your consideration of this resolution and my testimony in support.

Testimony Before The Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations (GOV)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021

March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Dear Committee Members,

I want to express my strong support for SR5 and SCR7 which communicate the strong need for all state and local governmental entities in Hawaii to post and maintain accessible documents on websites and apps which are available to the public. Whether applying for a job, applying to enter a public college or university, or trying to schedule covid testing or vaccinations, we blind citizens of Hawaii encounter daily difficulty using online resources. Given that most business must be conducted partially or totally online, this places us at a serious disadvantage or risk.

Maintaining accessible online resources requires a focused and ongoing commitment.

Your strong support will be greatly appreciated and will contribute to an enhanced quality of life and participation by blind people in education, employment, and civic engagement.

Ann Lemke, Ph.D.

Virgil Stinnett

Testimony Before The Committees on Human Services (HMS) and Government Operations (GOV)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-First Legislature, Regular Session of 2021

March 23, 2021, 3:45 PM, hearing on SCR7, SR5

Good afternoon committee chairs, vice chairs, and members. My name is Virgil Stinnett, a blind entrepreneur, a resident of Honolulu at 2943 Kalakaua Avenue, and a leader and member of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. I strongly support SCR 7, SR 5 and the position of The National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

Mahalo and Aloha for your serious consideration in support of the resolution.