

ORIGINAL

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

June 7, 1999

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 661

Honorable Members
Twentieth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 661, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Enhanced Wireless Emergency 911 Service."

The purpose of House Bill No. 661 is to encourage enhanced wireless emergency 911 service as required by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). Enhanced wireless emergency 911 service would provide automatic caller number identification and caller location to the public safety agency that receives 911 calls from wireless telephones and dispatches safety, health, or fire responders. This bill would subsidize the development and implementation of the enhanced wireless 911 service through a monthly surcharge of 30 to 50 cents imposed upon all cellular telephone users. Providers and resellers of cellular telephone services would bill for, collect, and deposit the surcharge into the wireless enhanced 911 fund. The fund would be administered by the Wireless Enhanced 911 Board ("Board"), which would be administratively attached to the Department of Health. The Board would set the amount of the monthly surcharge. Providers and public safety agencies would apply to the Board to recover the costs of development and implementation of wireless enhanced 911 services from the fund.

The Department of Health does not have sufficient information and staff expertise to proceed with administering this project at this time. At the present time, the costs to establish and operate the system proposed by this bill are uncertain and the surcharges collected may not be sufficient to cover these system costs. Finally, although it requires a cost

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recovery system for enhanced wireless 911 service, the FCC has set no deadline for the establishment of such a system. Accordingly, this bill is premature at this time.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 661 without my approval.

Respectfully,


BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
Governor of Hawaii

P R O C L A M A T I O N

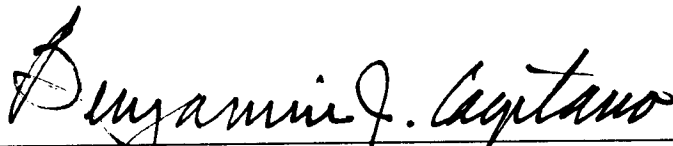
WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the Governor is required to give notice, by a proclamation, of his plan to return with his objections any bill presented to him less than ten days before adjournment sine die or presented to him after adjournment sine die of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 661, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Enhanced Wireless Emergency 911 Service," passed by the Legislature, was presented to the Governor within the aforementioned period; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 661 is unacceptable to the Governor of the State of Hawaii;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO, Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby issue this proclamation, pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, giving notice of my plan to return House Bill No. 661 with my objections thereon to the Legislature as provided by said Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution.

DONE at the State Capitol, Honolulu,
State of Hawaii, this 7th
day of June, 1999.


BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
Governor of Hawaii