

Linking, Educating, Empowering People with Assistive Technology

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February 6, 2009 ATRC: 2009012

Honorable Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair House Committee on Labor and Public Employment State Capitol, Room 326 Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony on H.B. 1480 (Relating to Taxation)

Dear Representative Rhoads, Representative Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Barbara Fischlowitz-Leong, I am the Executive Director of Assistive Technology Resources of Hawaii ("ATRC"). ATRC is a nonprofit agency that assists disabled individuals in finding the right technology to accommodate their disability.

ATRC supports this bill because:

- 1. It conforms the definition with the federal definition and promotes uniformity.
- 2. Conformity simplifies compliance with for employers.
- 3. Having a definition that conforms to the federal definition will enable employers to look to federal law for guidance pending the publication of rules by the Civil Rights Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

Barbara Fischlowitz – Leong

**Executive Director** 

A non-profit organization 501(c)(3)