DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

MUFI HANNEMANN MAYOR



GORDON J. BRUCE DIRECTOR & CIO

January 28, 2009

The Honorable Faye P. Hanohano, Chair and Members of the Committee on Public Safety State House of Representatives State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hanohano and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 203
Relating to Wireless Enhanced 911 Service; Surcharge

As representative of the Oahu Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), we object to the following:

- Limits on expenditures the Wireless Enhanced 911 Board's desire is to raise the spending ceiling to meet increased demand in support of services to support Next Generation 911;
- Surcharges should be required. The Wireless Enhanced 911 Board should be tasked with determining appropriate fees and distribution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Gordon J. Bruce

Director and Chief Information Officer



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January 29, 2009

The Honorable Representative Rep. Fave P. Hanohano Chair, Committee on Public Safety Hawaii State Legislature

RE: E911 Legislation (HB 10, HB 203 and HB 205)

Dear Rep. Hanohano and Members of the Committee on Public Safety:

AT&T commends the Hawaii Legislature for carefully examining the status of the state's E911 fund. The fund and 66-cent surcharge were established to provide valuable cell phone location technology that helps first-responders provide emergency and sometimes life-saving services to our customers. AT&T supported the establishment of this program, however, it is also important to ensure that wireless customers are not over-taxed and that the fund has been set at the appropriate level. It is also important that audits are conducted to ensure that the surcharges collected are being used as intended in the original E911 law.

The three bills before your committee today – HB 10, HB 203, and HB 205 – each take a different approach to these issues. In deciding the correct action to take, we urge the committee to:

- ensure that adequate funding is provided to the E911 operators to support emergency location technology:
- the E911 surcharge is set at the appropriate level to provide this funding; and
- a careful and regular review is conducted of E911 operations to ensure that funds are being spent properly.

AT&T will continue to follow this legislation carefully and we are available for any questions you might have about E911 services and policies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Youmans Director, External Affairs AT&T