# LATE TESTIMONY



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February 3, 2010

Honorable Angus McKelvey Chair, House Committee Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs

Honorable Bob Herkes Chair, House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Re: <u>HB 2698, Relating to Technology - Support with Amendments</u> EBM/CPC Hearing, Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 2:30 pm - Room 325

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Chair Herkes and Committee members:

I am Cliff Miyake, General Manager for tw telecom ("TWTC"), which has operated in Hawaii since 1994, providing voice, Internet and data networking, and managing nearly 25,000 access lines to state and local governments, military, and businesses in the State. Thank you for the opportunity to share our comments on HB 2698.

TWTC supports the engagement of communication service providers to work with the state to promote and maximize availability of broadband services.

We see the need for this on a daily basis as evidenced in a current project that we are working on to provide enhanced broadband connectivity to a group of radiologist who relocated to Maui. These professionals moved from the mainland for the superior quality of life in our islands. They use broadband and IP to conduct their business viewing scans and imaging for their patients who are scattered across the country. This is one example of a current and effective use of telework and broadband connectivity that we believe will proliferate in Hawaii.

We wish to emphasize the importance of engaging in a public-private effort to help grow broadband technology in the state. There are certain barriers to market for some of our products. TWTC is interested in helping to overcome these obstacles and wishes to remain involved in this process.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you.

Sincerely, /s/ Cliff Miyake General Manager tw telecom - Hawaii

#### **HB 2698**

#### RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY

## KEN HIRAKI VICE PRESIDENT-GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

#### HAWAIIAN TELCOM

### **February 3, 2010**

Chair McKelvey, Chair Herkes and members of the House Economic Development, Business and Military Affairs and Consumer Protection and Commerce Committees:

I am Ken Hiraki, testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Telcom on HB2698- Relating to Technology. Hawaiian Telcom supports the intent of advancing broadband services within the State of Hawaii; however, we wish to propose the following amendment which, if enacted, will help to promote the expeditious and equitable deployment of advance broadband services in Hawaii:

• Level Playing Field- We believe that the governmental requirements for broadband providers should be applied fairly so as to not disadvantage one provider over another. On page 9 of the bill, we recommend that HB 2698 be amended to include as a goal, "Create a level playing field for broadband providers by rationalizing fees and requirements to the extent permissible under federal law." This language is taken directly from the recommendations found in the Hawaii Broadband Task Report and may have been inadvertently omitted in HB 2698.

In summary, Hawaiian Telcom supports the intent of HB 2698 and respectfully requests your full consideration of our proposed amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2698.