

SB583

Measure Title: RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.

Report Title: Cable Television Systems; PEG Access Organizations

Description: Allows the director of commerce and consumer affairs to designate an access organization to oversee public, educational, and governmental channels on cable television.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPN, WAM



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
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KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
INTERIM DIRECTOR

EVERETT S. KANESHIGE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2011

Date: February 11, 2011
Time: 8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON S.B. 583 - RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Everett Kaneshige and I am the Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the "Department") and am testifying in support of S.B. 583.

The Department recognizes the importance of PEG access to democracy and the exchange of ideas and the opportunity for the public to share their ideas, using a media that would be otherwise cost-prohibitive for most people.

Therefore, the Department supports an exemption from HRS chapter 103 for the designation of access organizations for public, educational, and governmental (PEG) access channels as described in lines 4-10 on page 1 of the bill. The Department's position is consistent with its previous requests to the State Procurement Office in 2005 and 2006 for a similar exemption and also the recommendations of the H.C.R. 358 Task Force Report to the 25th Legislature on December 16, 2008.¹

The remainder of the bill addresses the procedure to be used by the Department in conjunction with designation of the PEG access organizations. The Department points out that these procedures are already contained in section 16-131-70 of the Hawaii Administrative Rules and therefore it is not necessary to add similar provisions to HRS chapter 440G.

¹ Recommendation #1 of the H.C.R. 358 Task Force Report to the 25th Legislature states, "The Legislature should exempt the designation of PEG access organizations from the provisions of the State Procurement Code."

Furthermore, in the event this bill is enacted, HAR section 16-131-70 will need to be revised to delete the current language which requires the Department to comply with HRS chapter 103. Revisions to this section would require public hearings and will provide the Department with the opportunity to work with the PEG access organizations and our shared public, educational and governmental constituents, to develop rules which could address not only the designation of organizations but also specific terms and conditions of the agreements between the Department and the PEG access organizations.

If, however, this Committee decides to pass out this measure and include provisions on the designation procedure, the Department has concerns with the language in S.B. 583 and suggests technical amendments and clarifications be made so that the bill's provisions conform to existing statutory provisions and include proper technology. The Department would be happy to work with the Chair and her staff to come up with amendments to this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. No. 583.



**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 119
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<http://hawaii.gov/spo>

**TESTIMONY
OF
AARON S. FUJIOKA
ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

**TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 11, 2011

8:30 AM

SB 583

RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Taniguchi, and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 583.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) opposes the amendment in SECTION 1 which proposes to exempt from HRS chapter 103D the designation of access organization for public, educational, or governmental access channels.

As historical background on this issue, in 2007 Maui Circuit Court ordered the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) to adopt a rule specifying method, factors and criteria used to designate and select a PEG access organization. Subsequently DCCA initiated rulemaking process, held public hearings in Sept 2008, and HAR §16-131-70 became effective Dec. 2008. DCCA amended its Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) chapter 131, Subchapter 16 on *Access Organizations* for §16-131-70, *Designation and selection of access organizations* (see Attachment), that states in part, "...director shall comply with the applicable provisions of chapter 103D, HRS, when designating and selecting an access organization to oversee the development, operation, supervision, management, production, or broadcasting of programs on PEG channels obtained under chapter 440G, HRS."

Another solicitation was issued on May 20, 2010 by SPO on behalf of DCCA, Cable Television Division, and is currently proceeding through the request for proposal (RFP) process. RFP-10-007-SW is for the services to *Operate, Maintain, and Manage Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Access Channels, Funds, Facilities, and Equipment*, and generally contains the items listed in the proposed bill for the director to consider such as the public need for the proposed services, qualifications and financial responsibility of the applicant, etc.

SB 583
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
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The solicitation and amendments can be viewed at: <http://hawaii.gov/spo/hawaii-public-procurement-code-chapter-103d-hrs/solicitations/peg/public-educational-and-governmental-peg-access-channels-funds-facilities-and-equipment-rfp/>.

Public procurement's primary objective is to give everyone equal opportunity to compete for Government contracts; to prevent favoritism, collusion or fraud in awarding of contracts. The true nature of competition gives government agencies the benefits of knowing that the acquiring of goods and services were conducted in a fair and objective manner. Meeting this objective requires a single set of statutes and rules that define and mandate the use of selection processes that are competitive, efficient, fair, transparent, open and impartial.

Statutory exemptions for specific agencies are contrary to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code, section 103D-102, HRS, on the applicability of the chapter that states in part ". . . shall apply to all procurement contracts made by governmental bodies whether the consideration for the contract is cash, revenues, realizations, receipts, or earnings, . . ." Any governmental agency with the authority to expend funds should be in compliance with chapter 103D, which promotes the policy of fair and equitable treatment of all persons who deal with the procurement system; fosters effective broad-based competition and increases public confidence in public procurement.

The SPO opposes statutorily exempting specific agencies from the Code, as it is not in the best interest of government, the business community, and the general public. The Code establishes a time-tested, fair, and reliable process for award of contracts. The competitive procurement processes of the Code are to insure that all potential providers are afforded the opportunity to compete for the required services. To the extent agencies may need specific purchases to be exempted from Code requirements, the Code provides an exemption process on a case by case basis as opposed to a total blanket statutory exemption.

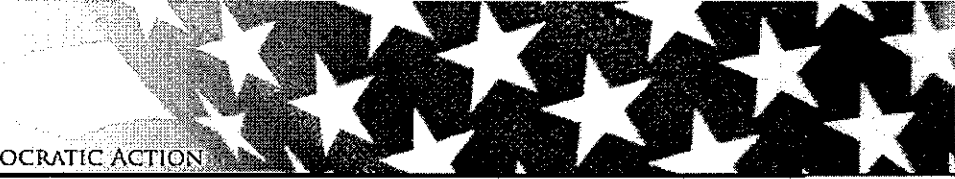
The Code should not be viewed as an obstacle to a purchasing agency's mission, but rather as the single source of public procurement policy to be applied equally and uniformly. It was the legislature's intent for the Code to be a single source of public procurement policy. If individual agencies are exempted and allowed to develop their own individual processes, it becomes problematic and confusing to vendors, contractors and service providers that must comply with a variety of different processes and standards. Fairness, open competition, a level playing field, and government disclosure and transparency in the procurement and contracting process are vital to good government. For this to be accomplished, we must participate in the process with one set of statutes and rules. To legislate that any one entity should be exempt from compliance with the procurement code conveys a sense of disproportionate equality in the law's application.

If the Legislature intends to exempt specific programs or funds from the Code, the exemption should include assurances that the agency's exempt process includes fair and open competition, disclosure, transparency, due process for aggrieved parties, a defined selection and awards process, and the various elements contained in the Code to ensure public confidence that the exempt procurement process is as fair as the Code.

There is no compelling reason to exempt the procurement of contracts to manage and operate PEG access channels, funds, facilities and equipment from fair and open competition. We request that SECTION 1 be deleted. Thank you.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION



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February 9, 2011

TO: Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair ; Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

FROM: Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii
Barbara Polk, Legislative Chair

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 583 RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS

Americans for Democratic Action/Hawaii supports this bill because it offers a method of selecting PEG access providers that takes into account a wider variety of public interests and needs that does the standard procurement procedure.

Public access cable TV gives members of the public a way to air their concerns and interests, in addition to providing access to the political process and to educational programming. In an era of increasing media consolidation, it is important that public access channels continue to be guided by public interest. We believe that SB 583 provides a process that appropriately allows for greater public input and consideration in selecting the providers. We urge your support for the bill.

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Michael J. Duberstein

Organization: AAkaku: Maui Community Television

Address: 34 Iliwai Loop Kihei

Phone:

E-mail: iliwai34@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Aloha kakou

I am writing as a Board member/Treasurer of Akaku: Maui Community Television since 2007. I urge you to pass this measure not only to assist Akaku and the related community access programs throughout Hawai'i, but also as a signal to legislators in other states who will follow your lead to protect the freedom of speech.

Our efforts over the past two years to deal with how Akaku would keep going in the face of pure political posturing by enemies of free speech deflected our ability to do what we are supposed to be doing—offering the widest access to members of Maui Nui not only to present their voices in open forums, but also in the ability to teach communication skills throughout our county.

I applaud those legislators who have the forward perspective to create this bill. Once it clears the legislature and is signed into law by the governor—as I am sure it will be—never again will there be any confusion about how permission to operate community access programs in our state.

Aloha, mahalo and malama pono

Michael J. Duberstein

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday, February 11, 2011, 8:30am, Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

I thank you for the opportunity to provide this brief testimony in support of SB583. I am J Robertson, resident of the County of Kauai.

For several years the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs along with the State Procurement Office have struggled through an unnecessary and wasteful exercise in determining the management of PEG resources in our islands. SB583 will provide an immediate and positive solution towards this goal. More importantly the bill will create and provide the strongest accountability and identify standards of performance for these vital and necessary community media operations.

Hawaii's non-profit community media operations are truly an integral part of the fabric and language of our islands. This bill goes the distance in creating a lasting future for the community development opportunities that have been cultivated for the past 20 years. Today there is no more diverse programming or wide range of subject matter on any broadcast television channel. PEG is the voice of the people of our islands including our local governments, our schools, and most importantly the very people you have been elected to serve. We must move forward in a deliberate and crafted manner. SB5863 will insure that PEG operations remain vibrant and engaged within their communities and provide the State with the desired oversight and measures of accountability.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this bill, I strongly urge this committee to pass SB583 for the continued success and growth of the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully,

JS Robertson

J S Robertson
Managing Director
Ho'ike: Kauai Community Television, Inc.

Maui Film Festival

P.O. Box 790669 H Paia, HI 96779 H T.808.579.9996 H F.808.579.9552

February 8, 2011

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Barry Rivers, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583.

For many years now, it has been more than obvious that commercialized information delivery systems—especially broadcast and cable television in the hands of so few owners—should not be the fundamental organizing principle of a vibrant culture. With rare exception, they cater to the reptilian rather than enlightened realms of human behavior and limit the scope of meaningful debate and discussion on the issues of our times.

Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television are the antidote to the all-too-often myopic vision of the nation's mass media.

We need all of them to thrive so that together we can turn the glimmer of eclectic programming that they deliver into a brightly shining torch that both inspires open minded creative content and sparks important conversations about the direction of the communities we call home.

I urge you to please support SB583 and know that the strong accountability and performance standards that it mandates will only help to ensure that the right organization (named above) continue to be able to provide their much needed and much appreciated services to their respective communities.

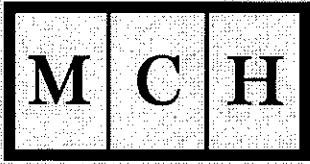
Thanks for you time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barry Rivers, President
Maui Film Festival, Inc.

These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be

fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.



Media Council of Hawai'i *Since 1970*

February 8, 2011

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U Win Tin

To: Senator Baker, Chair, Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB 583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

As president of the Media Council Hawaii, I testify in support of SB 583.

The content of this bill incorporates draft rules of the 2008 HCR 358 Legislative Task Force which recommended that this reasonable method of PEG Access designation be used in lieu of an inappropriate state procurement process. Recommendation 3 of the HCR 358 Task Force Report states:

"The Task Force recommends that in place of competitive procurement, the DCCA be charged with adopting Administrative Rules that guide a new process for the designation of a PEG Access organizations in a manner that is similar to the process used by DCCA for cable franchises, a process that is already well understood by the DCCA and the public. This process should provide ample opportunity for input by the public on each island within the local franchise area and allow for interested parties to intervene

SB 583 provides for a necessary and fair regulatory framework to govern selection, evaluation and continuation of PEG Access services and will permit Community Television to flourish. I respectfully request that your committee give approval to this legislation. Thank you.

Aloha,

Chris Conybeare, President
Media Council Hawaii

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

76 North King Street, Suite 203, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
Phone/E-mail: (808) 533-3454/communityallianceonprisons@hotmail.com



COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Chair

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011

Room 229

8:30 a.m.

SB 583 - STRONG SUPPORT for PEG Access

CPNtestimony@Capitol.Hawaii.gov

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative working on prison reform and justice issues in Hawai'i for more than a decade. We respectfully offer our testimony always being mindful that Hawai'i has some 6,000 people behind bars with almost 1,800 individuals serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones and homes – the ancestral homes for a disproportionate Native Hawaiians.

I am also the producer and host of *Hawai'i Injustice*, an 'Olelo community television show that airs the first Tuesday of every month at 8:30 pm and every Thursday morning at 8 am on Channel 54.

SB 583 allows the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) to designate an access organization to oversee public, educational and governmental channels on cable television.

Community Alliance on Prisons stands in strong support of this measure that preserves the community voice and clarifies Chapter 440G, outlining the criteria the Director must consider before letting a contract from PEG access.

This is important because the community voice is part of the Director's criteria for selection. This is especially vital in challenging economic times. We the people must always be vigilant that the government doesn't corporatize public assets. These assets are known as The Commons.

PEG (Public, Education, Government) access is a vital part of a thriving democracy. It provides access to information that is, in some cases available nowhere else. Access to current information is even more important for Hawai'i, as many of our communities are separated by ocean. Access to technology facilitating information to connect our islands is not yesterday's luxury – it is today's necessity.

This bill ensures that the public has a voice in keeping public access, well, public! Public access (and we mean PEG access) is

- a public right
- democracy in action
- a way to create a more informed citizenry
- a way to build strong, involved, and committed communities

- a window for policymakers to see, hear and understand issues important to their constituents

When we say public access is a public right, we mean just that. This is the rent - and it is indeed low rent considering the corporate benefit cable television operators gain from the use of public-rights-of-way - for the use of public space.

A vibrant democracy demands participation

Many people feel left out of the mainstream media. The community's voice is often relegated to a 30 second sound bite, if anything at all.

Public access/community media provides a venue for the discussion of issues important to the community. This education encourages participation in the democratic process.

Public access/Community media is vital in Hawai'i because we are a multi-cultural society

We have many immigrants who come to Hawai'i and desperately want to connect with what is going on, but find it very difficult to determine how to do this. Mainstream media do not do much to help people fit in.

Freedom of speech is a vital component of democracy

The Constitution has been under siege, and one of the most important freedoms enshrined in the Bill of Rights is freedom of speech. Public Access/community media provides an uncensored venue for our community to learn about issues, to find ways to participate in their communities, and to be more active contributors in shaping Hawai'i's future. Public access promotes the first amendment!

Community media increases civic literacy

Hawai'i has pitiful voting numbers. We rank at the bottom for voter participation. It is obvious from our dismal voting numbers that people feel disenfranchised and separated from the government. Yet we are the government. Public access/community media brings issues to the people and calls for their participation. In election cycles, the community can tune in and hear from candidates running for office. This creates a more engaged and educated voter.

Keep Public Access PUBLIC! We support this measure that ensures the public will have a voice in the PEG process that is made clearer with the amendment to Chapter 440G.

A vibrant democracy demands an involved citizenry and every effort to educate and involve the citizens on important issues should be wholeheartedly supported by our government.

Preserving, enhancing, and amplifying the public, educational, and governmental voices
is what *We the People* is all about!

Mahalo for this chance to share our thoughts.

February 11, 2011

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker
Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN)
Hawaii State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 231
Honolulu, HI 96813

COMMUNITY MEDIA

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Steve Sombrero
Gerald Sumida

Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Interim President/CEO

Dear Chair Baker and Members of the CPN Committee;

**Subject: Letter in Strong Support of SB 583 Relating to Cable
Television Systems**

My name is Roy Amemiya, Chief Operating Officer and Interim President/CEO of 'Ōlelo Community Media, the PEG Access Provider for Oahu. I am writing to strongly support SB 583 Relating to Cable Television Systems. This bill would change the State's procurement process of PEG Access service providers by designating a new process within HRS 440G that is modeled after the process used to procure cable franchises.

The genesis of this measure actually began in 2008 with the unanimous House and Senate enactment of HCR 358, HD1 which established a task force to "solicit public input and examine methods other than public procurement code process to oversee PEG organization expenditures and ensure proper checks and balances". The resolution text is also clear that this body felt that procuring PEG access using HRS 103D has many shortcomings and that another method should be explored by the task force.

Members of the 12 person task force consisted of representatives from the DOE, the UH, the cable advisory committee, all four county governments, all four PEGs, and the state cable administrator. I served on the task force and was an 'Ōlelo board member at the time.

The task force met a total of 7 times and debated multiple procurement options. These meetings were open to the public and testimony was received from members of the community at each meeting. In the end, all task force members agreed on the option that is recommended in the HCR 358 Task Force Report to the 25th Legislature and is proposed in this bill. Briefly described, the concept is to take the existing process for both new and renewing cable franchise applicants and apply a similar process to PEG access providers. That process, among other things, requires that a public hearing be conducted on the application. In that way, it is much more transparent than the current RFP process. It also allows the DCCA to get an understanding of the needs of the community. This, I believe would be very beneficial in crafting concrete contract

terms and conditions, as well as performance measures – something that is very elusive in the current RFP process.

Adoption of this bill will eliminate the challenges that the House and Senate identified when it passed the aforementioned concurrent resolution and replace it with an existing and proven process that was unanimously agreed to by a diverse group of stakeholders. Accordingly, I ask that you support this measure by moving it out of committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am pleased to answer any questions that you may have.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Interim President/CEO

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Jay April, I am a resident of Maui County, President and CEO of Akaku: Maui County Community Television and a member of the HCR 358 Legislative Task Force. I offer my testimony in strong support of SB583

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These community-anchor non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse and civic engagement throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of those respective local communities, the DCCA and the state.

The content of this bill incorporates draft rules from your own 2008 HCR 358 Legislative Task Force which recommended that this reasonable method of PEG Access designation be used in lieu of a fatally flawed state procurement process initiated six years ago by the previous Administration, an ongoing RFP process has cost the PEG Access organizations and the state many thousands of dollars with no end in sight.

Recommendation 3 of the HCR 358 Task Force Report states:

"The Task Force recommends that in place of competitive procurement, the DCCA be charged with adopting Administrative Rules that guide a new process for the designation of a PEG Access organizations in a manner that is similar to the process used by DCCA for cable franchises, a process that is already well understood by the DCCA and the public, This process should provide ample opportunity for input by the public on each island within the local franchise area and allow for interested parties to intervene

HB 112 provides for a regulatory framework that will silence even the harshest critic of the current PEG access designation. We would like to respectfully request that your committee approve HB112 which will grant Akaku and the other community media organizations a sense of certainty they have earned from decades of dedicated community service. This will allow these community-based organizations to continue to expand and build upon their only mission: to provide extended media opportunity and a vibrant voice for all the people of Hawaii Nei.

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to testify before you today.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Amanda Taulere, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

AKAKU HAS STRONGLY ENABLED ME TO PROVIDE A VOICE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND OFFER MY SKILLS TO THE COMMUNITY IN WAY NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT THIS ORGANIZATION. The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state. .

Warmest regards,
Amanda Taulere
Producer & Director
The Comedy Hui
www.comedyhui.com

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Brian Murphy

Organization: MCCFDIA

Address: 777 hana Hwy. 108 Paia Hawaii 96779

Phone: 808 344-2991

E-mail: bmurphy420@msn.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

aloha

I would like to give my SUPPORT for SB583. Being a community Activist I have used Akaku, PWT & MCCFDIA have used the public access, without our voice would not be heard KEEP PUBLIC ACCESS at AKAKU Brian Murphy

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senate of the State of Hawai'i

Lance D. Collins, Ph.D
Law Office of Lance D Collins

Friday, February 11, 2011
Support SB No. 583, Relating to the Cable Television Systems

My name is Lance D. Collins. I am an attorney in private practice on the island of Maui and testify on my own behalf. I **support** this bill.

I helped draft the language in this bill which was originally offered in Senate Bill 1789 during the Twenty Fourth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i then, in similar form as Senate Bill 2387 during the Twenty Fifth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i.

This bill helps resolve some of the consequences of the unusual policy decisions made in the last five years by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs regarding cable access and access organizations.

The bill does not address the dearth of appropriate regulatory oversight of cable access and leaves too much of the important public policy decision-making regarding cable access to state educational departments, incumbent access organizations and the county governments.

For example, the important policy considerations related to the diversion of franchise fees to the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Education should not be left to the outcome of the unequal bargaining between those state departments and the incumbent access organizations.

Nevertheless, the bill creates a level of stability and clear procedure for the director to exercise her discretion in designating access organizations and may help resolve some of these other issues.

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

Mahalo.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN STRONG SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Linda Ruth Puppolo. I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in strong support of SB583.

The first point of this bill is that it allows for the Director of the DCCA to have the power to designate PEG access providers in Hawaii and oversee the development, operations, management, production & broadcasting of the service exempting providers from 103D (basically procurement of the lowest bidder).

The knowledge gained from eighteen years of the development of strategic nonprofit & County Government partnerships, ensuring the availability of video equipment and experience in training the community in video literacy is the cornerstone of Akaku's (Maui County's PEG Access provider) commitment to the community. This knowledge and the social capital that has been realized over the years are irreplaceable.

In serving as a communication network with a vision to promote free speech and expression through access to communications technology, resources and training, Akaku facilitates the dissemination of information that is relevant to the community with an emphasis in preserving the host culture's traditions, rights and practices to enable the culture to be archived for the benefit of the residents of Maui County.

Akaku has recently been awarded a Federal \$132,000 Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) Grant to service the rural communities in Maui County. This 2 ½ year grant gives opportunity to youth and young adults to learn, master and possibly create careers in the field of technology. Despite the five years of instability created by the RFP process that the state has tried to impose, Akaku has continually rallied by producing cutting-edge programs that have raised the level of PEG access services. This bill would provide the stability that PEG needs to grow and expand.

While the bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards, it is important to note that each PEG Access Media Center in Hawaii provides the state with a comprehensive independent audit and comprehensive operational plan & annual report each year always exhibiting a level of strong accountability and high performance standards.

It is also important to note that there have been no complaints about Akaku services from the residents of Maui County and that when the DCCA conducted a site visit for potential bidders for the RFP; only the DCCA attended. The previous meeting the DCCA conducted had over 150 people in attendance to discuss rule changes with 75 people testifying in support of Akaku services and one person opposed. It is pretty clear that the residents of Maui County value and want Akaku

to be the service provider of PEG Access Services. Please pass SB583 and help us stabilize the economic base of an excellent nonprofit during these times of dwindling donations and competitive grant funding. An RFP would disrupt an essential service that is performing well.

The time is now and thank you so very much for this time to testify. I am available to answer any questions that you might have by email or phone.

Linda Ruth Puppolo
Administrative Services Director
Akaku: Maui Community Television
808-283-8390
linda@akaku.org

David DeLeon
335 Waiama Way
Haiku, Hi. 96708
808-281-3269
gad@ramauai.com

February 9, 2011

Testimony submitted to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
February 11, 2011 Conference Rm 229

RE: Testimony in Support of SENATE BILL 583

TESTIMONY

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 583. This bill will formally end the debate over whether DCCA must follow the procurement process in selecting PEG Access providers. While the state procurement process is an important part of the way the state acquires services from a wide variety of vendors, PEG Access is literally the round peg that does not fit into the procurement code's square hole. PEG Access – and especially the Public or "P" element of the equation -- is a unique service, providing a free speech channel that serves our democracy. Trying to "procure" it, in the same manner that we procure a bus service for school transportation or a roofing job on a building, simply will not serve the best interests of our community.

I am a former Member of the State Cable Advisory Council. As such I took the opportunity to thoroughly review the first draft of the proposed Request for Proposals put out by the state Procurement Office. The impression given is a process that leaves the PEG agencies little room to grow or even to have a clear identity of what they are. While it is always valuable to question how we do business, we should not lose sight of the fact that these agencies grew out of their host communities, with much nurturing and aloha. They are not for-profit agencies, and for better or worse, they provide an independent voice – an increasingly important voice –and by doing so, they meet their intended purpose. They are not governmental agencies and should not be forced into that role. But the RFP seemed to make them out to be oddly subordinate governmental agencies, even requiring them to follow Chapter 92 while ignoring the First Amendment implications of this service. The RFP declared that the State shall own all PEG property and assets, and leaves the PEGs with no sense of ownership or any incentive to grow their agencies to better serve our community. That's not a recipe for building a strong PEG system.

SB 583 puts the Director of Commerce and Consumer Protection in charge of making sure the proper agency is selected and is given appropriate oversight. That's what our community would like to see happen and an approach that I support. Mahalo.

baker2 - Kelli

From: Rick Hanson [rick_hanson_@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 1:13 PM
To: CPN Testimony
Subject: SB583 - Relating to Cable Television Systems

Richard L. Hanson
P.O. Box 957
Makawao, HI 96768

February 9, 2011

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM, Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Richard L. Hanson. I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583.

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

I am seeking your assistance in maintaining a valuable asset for the Maui community and the rest of the State of Hawaii. I am supporting SB583 and I request that you support it as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Hanson

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Shane Albritton, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

As I understand it, the bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

Aloha,

--

Shane Albritton

TO: Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
RE: SB 583
From: Nancy Aleck

In Support

Friday February 11, 2011 8:30 AM Room 229

Aloha Senators Baker and Taniguchi and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

I am hopeful that you will consider, pass, and champion Senate Bill 583.

It provides for strong accountability of community-based public access television throughout the islands. It is a fair process that allows the public a voice and PEG providers a level playing field. The recommended process parallels that currently used and workable for Cable franchises. And it will end a process that has been unfair, unworkable and actually stuck and costly for a number of years.

The more the people have a voice and direct access to media, the greater our democracy.

Thank you,

Nancy Aleck
Honolulu, Hawaii

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lawrence P. Carnicelli
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: LPC@LahainaMaui.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Aloha Chair Baker and Vice Chair Taniguchi,

My name is Lawrence P. Carnicelli, I am a resident of Maui County, a coach at Lahainaluna HS, a member of the Realtors Association of Maui, and a member of the Government Affairs Committee for RAM... and I want to state my support of SB583

This bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

It is imperative in these times that we pass this bill for the betterment of the community.

Mahalo,
Lawrence

Dear Senator's;

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for SB 538. I am a Merchant Seaman by profession and having such a position in society, it does not allow me to be involved in many Community functions on a regular basis. I do get to travel alot and currently get to see many parts of Alaska that are limited to most people. I am a Maui Resident and have children in Kamehameha School and Baldwin High.

Having Akaku on Maui has allowed myself and my Family to attend classes by Akaku and learn the art of filming, editing and production.

From this I have two Productions I am very proud of. The first being titled "Kennicott Tales-Seldovia" about my ship visiting Seldovia, Alaska on the 4th of July and having a Old Fashioned Good Time by all. The other my Family was involved in the Hawaii Allstate Marching Band that went to the Rose Parade for 2009 I discovered that no one was recording this historic event and proceeded to film all the work those kids did and create my own production. Both of these were shown on Akaku after many many hours of production time. For me it was a chance to perform Community Service that fit my schedule and a labor of love.

One of the Grandma's who watched the Hawaii Allstate Marching Band production on Akaku told me that everytime she sees the production it makes her cry, she is so happy. Probably my greatest compliment.

I have produced many sports games since then and also shown a Sea Rescue involving the US Coast Guard, US Air Force and my ship the MV Kennicott an Alaska Marine Highway Vessel. This was seen on no other network TV, only Akaku. Many Rescue Organizations in Alaska use it as a Training film now.

In my short time as a Producer I feel I owe my successes to the training I received at Akaku and the open access to produce and play on the Akaku Station.

I believe that SB 583 is a step in the right direction to support Akaku and allow the Management and Staff to focus on improving the quality of training Producers and Programming. It seems a liability to some but To have Free Speech is truely a gift we should all enjoy.

I thank you for your time.

Jeffrey S. Donohue
526 Pohai St.
Kahului, Hawaii 96732
808-873-8556

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Nathan Perreira, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, OIelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

--

Nathan Perreira
30 Ami St.
Haiku, HI. 96708
Ph: 808-572-1234

Ms. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and Members of the Hawaii Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee, I'm Robert Stiver, a retiree from Pearl City. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill No. 583, which addresses allowing the director of commerce and consumer affairs to designate an access organization to oversee public, educational, and governmental channels on cable television.

I'm interested in Bill No. 583 from the following perspectives:

--Although I wouldn't presume to call myself "unique," I do have some elements of my background and current situation that I believe are pertinent here:

----I'm an 'Olelo viewer, a regular consumer of the varied and valuable programs offered by the public-access TV medium.

----I'm a trained 'Olelo cameraperson, editor and producer. I've (together with two co-producers) aired hundreds of programs on 'Olelo – typically on Channels 49 and 54 – since late 2005, or five-plus years.

My experience with 'Olelo executive, administrative, and technical people has always been one of satisfaction. It is my distinct pleasure to interact with a staff that has a big-picture sense of what public-access TV is and how it should best be pursued in making free speech and expression a daily part of life in our community.

----I'm a retired Federal civil servant whose career, starting in 1968, was in the procurement and contracting field. I retired in 1999, so I had some 30 years of procurement experience.

For five years or so now, I've observed, and participated in, the long-term discussions over whether a new procurement contract for operation of public-access TV services should be undertaken, through competitive RFP (Request for Proposals) procedures. My position has been fairly simple and straightforward: whereas,

in the Federal sector, people like me were responsible for expending the taxpayers' money properly through stringent contracting rules and procedures – typically, *via* price and/or technical competition – the services provided by 'Olelo for over 20 years do not fit that category. (I note in passing that, in 1984, the concept

of "competition" was enshrined in Federal law via the Competition in Contracting Act, or CICA. CICA became

the "go to" statute governing every procurement, and as far as I know it is still given at least lip service,

despite misadventures some of us may have read about in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.) My cable franchise fee, and the fees of others, which are allocated in part to make public-access TV a reality on 'Oahu and on the neighbor islands, are not "taxpayer" dollars – and thus the common competitive environment

via a procurement channel does not pertain.

It is thus my firm belief that Senate Bill 583, which would delegate responsibility to secure and oversee the operations and management of a public-access TV provider to the competent technical folks at DCCA, is the needed step in the right direction.

Thank you for your attention.

Robert H. Stiver, 98-434 Hoomailani Street, Pearl City 96782

Tel. 455-9823; E-mail stiver-aloah@hawaii.rr.com

(Prepared February 8, 2011)

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Teresa Cartwright
Organization: Individual
Address: 235 S. Church Street Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: 8082983031
E-mail: tess@vacation-maui.com
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB583 - Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Teresa Cartwright, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations are very special to their respective communities and throughout the state. Their continued success is highly prized our community. I offer my support of SB583 in the hope that this valuable asset will continue as a voice for those that otherwise may not be heard.

Sincerely,

Teresa Cartwright

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Earl F. Snyder

Organization: Individual

Address: 479 Kolohala Drive Kula, Hawaii

Phone: (808) 214-6506

E-mail: esnyder@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

aloha

I am writing to you today to ask for your support of SB 583.

The great American experiment in Democracy was created by the voices of the people. Today, technological advances make it easy for all of us to express ourselves and tell our stories. Please do not allow legislative mishaps to negate those advances and rob the people of our voice in the community.

mahalo

Stuart Hirotsu

808 280-5424

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Federal Reserve Brown

Organization: Individual

Address: box 1132 haiku hi 96708

Phone: 8082834350

E-mail: corporatecrimeofthecentury@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

stop trying to close down community television,,, stop allowing corporations to influence it be done.START respecting freespeech PLEASE.

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Mary Overbay

Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone: 808-280-9636

E-mail: mary@mauivortex.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Sayble Bissen

Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone:

E-mail: ainokeababie808@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I'm a Maui-born resident who supports SB583. Keep public access, PUBLIC.

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Diane Texidor

Organization: Individual

Address: 814 Kinau Street #308 Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 808 536-5427

E-mail: deetex123@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I am writing to submit testimony in support of SB 583 and HB 122. These bills would put an end to the 5 year old RFP Process by giving the power to the DCCA Director to designate PEG Providers in the same way Cable providers are designated. The process would allow for public hearings prior to designating a PEG provider. I hope that you will support Bills SB 583 and HB 122.

Thank you,

Diane Texidor

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Noel Ching-Johnson
Organization: Individual
Address: 109 Waimele Place Kula, Hawaii
Phone: (808)-283-1752
E-mail: chivocj@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Public and Government Access Television, Provided in Maui County by Akaku: Maui Community Television, is a Vital part of our cable service. Akaku allows County citizens to make and air programs that are important to the community. It would not be possible to get these programs aired without Akaku. Our State Government does not have the right to send a vital non profit like Akaku out to bid, Nor does it have the right to steal the money provided by Federal Law from the Cable Company. The State or DCCA would not pick on the Cancer Society, Kidney Foundation or other non profits by sending them out to bid, and has no Right to so with Akaku. I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB583.

MAHALO

Noel Ching-Johnson

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Linda Dorset, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

These access organizations are the only Locally-Based television stations on the Outer Islands and provide the only local programming.

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Theresa Roberts

Organization: Individual

Address: 143 Alanuilili Pl Kula, HI 96790

Phone: 808-385-3253

E-mail: suntrops@aol.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Stongly support SB 586 concerning the sale of pseudoephedrine by prescription only.

My Name is Ron Sambrano I support Akaku TV, SB 583

Mahalo
Ron Sambrano
1336 Kahoma St.
Lahaina Maui
808-385-7667

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: timothy lara

Organization: Individual

Address: po box 1721 kihei, hi

Phone: 808-283-2470

E-mail: tim_lara@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

As a regular user of the media lab at Akaku, I wanted to let you know that i am in support of the bill SB583. With Regards. Tim lara

February 9, 2011

TO:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

RE:

Friday, February 11, 2011 8:30 AM Room 229
Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB583 – Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Karee Carlucci, resident of Maui County, and I offer my testimony in support of SB583.

As an employee of Maui Arts & Cultural Center and as one who frequently collaborates with Akaku Maui Community Television to promote the arts and Hawai'i's culture in Maui County, I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Community Television, as well as the community-based public access television providers serving O'ahu ('Olelo Community Television), Hawai'i Island (Na Leo O Hawai'i) and Kaua'i (Hoike Community Television).

It's imperative that these public access broadcast channels survive, thrive and remain accountable to their respective communities so that residents continue to have the option of free speech and an alternative to mass media.

These nonprofit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than 20 years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and State of Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Karee Carlucci

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Robert

Organization: Individual

Address: 101 C. Kuau Bch Pl Maui Hi. 96779

Phone: 808 579 8700

E-mail: robhilbun@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

would like to keep the DCCA and any other government, college, cable
company, county government, all of them completely out of public access
..... public only

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Leah Tunkara

Organization: Individual

Address: PO BOX 888 MAKAWAO Hi.

Phone: 808 572 4109

E-mail: poetdance@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Stephen Luksic

Organization: Individual

Address: PO Box 73 Kula, HI

Phone: 808-875-2008

E-mail: Tree@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

I support SB583 as it will allow the non-profit public access outlets through out the state to continue to support our local community. We need a law that will protect what have for now and the future. There are several grants that are in process now with Akaku: Maui Community Television, that could be in jeopardy if the this bill is not passed.

Please approve this bill for the benefit of the citizens of Hawai'i.

Stephen Luksic

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Peter King
Organization: Individual
Address: po box 1216 kihei
Phone: 808-875-4413
E-mail: p420haze@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:

Akaku public access is a vital part of Maui and serves as a checks and balance for Maui politics and business issues. This bill will ensure protection for Akaku against government takeover.
Thank You!

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Courtney Bruch
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O. Box 735 HI
Phone: 808 283-6837
E-mail: usmaui@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2011

Comments:
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Friday February 11, 2011, 8:30 AM Room 229

Testimony IN SUPPORT of SB583 - Relating to Cable Television Systems

My name is Courtney Bruch, I am a resident of Maui County and I offer my testimony in support of SB583

The bill is intended to provide strong accountability and performance standards for Akaku, Maui County's Akaku Community Television, as well as, the community-based public access television providers serving Oahu, Olelo Community Television, the Big Island, Na Leo O Hawaii and Kauai, Hoike Community Television. These non-profit public access organizations have been a vibrant part of our public discourse throughout the state for more than twenty years and this bill will ensure that they continue to be fully accountable and responsive to the needs of their local communities, the DCCA and the state.

Mahalo,
Courtney Bruch

Aloha,

I support SB 583. If you don't I will vote against in the next election. I have the persuasion of over 5,000 that vote the way I suggest. It is up to you politician.

Think before you vote. We do.

Captain Ronald S. Stebbins II

Skeeter@LovelyMauiHomes.com

e-PRO, Certified International Property Specialist Candidate

www.LovelyMauiHomes.com

(808) 870-9813

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Faith Chase

Organization: Individual

Address: 15790 Haleakala Hwy Kula, HI

Phone: 213-221-8054

E-mail: faithdesigns@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

From: Bill or Bobbie Best [bestb002@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:29 PM
To: CPN Testimony
Subject: We support SB 583

Mahalo,
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Best
280 Hauoli St.
Wailuku, HI 96793

From: Gordon Fuller [gordon@cavu.us]
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:58 PM
To: CPN Testimony
Subject: SBN583 Support Testimony

Plead support this bill as it is critical to the future of Hhawaii. I am a resident of Honolulu and my testimony is attached as a video file.

Mahalo

Gordon Fuller
500 Lunalilo Home Rd 23k
Honolulu HI 96825

Sent from my iPad

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 3:57 PM
To: CPN Testimony
Cc: nikhilananda@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB583 on 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM

Testimony for CPN 2/11/2011 8:30:00 AM SB583

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: NIKHILANANDA
Organization: Individual
Address: P.O. BOX 1704 MAKAWAO MAUI, HAWAI'I
Phone: 808-572-8787
E-mail: nikhilananda@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

To: Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

I wish to add my support for SB583, relating to Cable Television Systems.

This bill provides performance standards and accountability for the State's public access television providers. These organizations have been under attack for way too long; it is time to put an immediate end to this situation.

The service that they provide should be lauded and supported by the State, as the communities in each County have. Free Speech and access to media should NOT be put out to bid nor sold to the lowest bidder.

Please not only put this on your committee's agenda, but also pass it on to the full Senate and let us see it pass the legislature this year without further delay.

Mahalo and aloha from the northshore of Maui

Nikhilananda
P.O. Box 1704
Makawao Maui, Hawai'i
96768-1704
nikhilananda@hawaiiantel.net
808-572-USUS(8787)