From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov To: TECTestimony Cc: <u>zkern@co.hawaii.hi.us</u> Subject: Submitted testimony for HB358 on Mar 19, 2013 13:25PM Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 9:37:59 AM Attachments: HB358.doc

HB358

Submitted on: 3/19/2013 Testimony for TEC on Mar 19, 2013 13:25PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zendo Kern	Hawaii County Council District 5 Representative	Support	No

LAIE

Comments:

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Planning Committee Chair

Environmental Management Committee Chair



March 19, 2013

Senator Glen Wakai Chair, Senator Clarence K. Nishihara and Members of the Technology and Arts Committee

Aloha Senators,

I am writing today in strong support of HB358 establishing video conferencing sites on neighbor islands to allow residents to present live testimony from remote locations state wide.

Being a Hawai'i County Council representative I can tell you first hand that this capability is not only efficient and cost effective, it is also greatly appreciated by the public at large. In Hawai'i County we currently have remote videoconferencing sites in Puna, Ka'ū and Waimea as well as permanent sites in the Council Chambers in East and West Hawai'i. Our remote sites are regularly used by the public to participate in and to view all of our Committee and Council meetings.

Our videoconferencing equipment is also used for trainings and workshops for government agencies and employees saving countless hours of travel time and increasing participation by individuals that would otherwise have not been able to make it.

I look forward to the implementation of this measure and thank you all for providing this important service.

Mahalo