



LATE

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT HB 2272 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

The Senate
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator, Rosalyn Baker
Senator Michelle Kidani

Dear Senators:

Our agency, **Isle Interpret, LLC** of Honolulu, HI, urges you to lend support to HB 2727 and vote in favor of it.

What would it be like to go to a foreign film without English captions? Suppose everyone in the audience understood the foreign language spoken but an audience member did not. Would that audience member be entertained and engaged? Would they feel excluded? Would they want to wear special glasses with the "possibility" that they could read English captions? If the captions are available, why not turn them on so the audience member can "experience" the movie in a way that is as close to the other attendees as they can?

Our names are Tamar Lani and Susan Kroe-Unabia. We are co-owners of Isle Interpret, LLC, a scheduling agency that works with the Deaf community and schedules sign language interpreters.

Isle Interpret support requiring movie theaters to provide open movie captioning for at least two showings a week and audio descriptions upon request for all movies for which such accommodations are available and to provide public notice if such accommodations are not available for certain movies. This theatre access affords deaf, hard of hearing and blind patrons equal access to enjoy movies in the theater like hearing counterparts. The Deaf and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning. These devices are inconvenient and often experience technical glitches that negatively impact the viewing experience. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies. Providing Blind customers with audio descriptions also affords them the same access to the movies as sighted patrons.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

Mahalo, Tamar Lani, MBA, CI, CT, NIC, SC:L, President
Susan Kroe-Unabia, CI, CT, Vice President

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT HB 2727 RELATING TO MOVIE THEATERS

The Senate
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health
Senator, Rosalyn Baker
Senator Michelle Kidani

LATE

Dear Senators:

I support HB 2727 and ask for your vote to be in favor of it.

I support movie theaters to provide open movie captioning for at least two showings a week and audio descriptions upon request for all movies for which such accommodations are available and to provide public notice if such accommodations are not available for certain movies.

Please change Section 3 to "upon approval" so the bill will take effect when the Governor signs it. I support open captions to continue past Jan. 1, 2018.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

Susan Kroe-Unabia
Sign Language Interpreter
Isle Interpret, Owner

LATE

March 28, 2016

HB2727 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
CONSUMER PROTECTION, and HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Brian Nakamoto. I am writing this testimony to express my support of HB2727 HD1. I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies at the theaters. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film tremendously. I did not have to walk to the cashier's window and wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased about the fact that Hawai'i is the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed-captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed-captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing people should not be forced to wear any special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access for us when it comes to watching movies, just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear any special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill 2727 HD1 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. I also support equal access for the Blind people when they attend the movies theaters.

Sincerely,

Brian Nakamoto
Pearl City, HI

LATE

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Dina Dela Pena. I am writing this testimony in support of HB2727 HD1. I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill 2727 HD1 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I also support equal access for the Blind to movies theaters.

Sincerely,

Dina Dela Pena
Waipahu, HI

LATE

Senator Rosalyn Baker
Chair, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Hawaii State Capitol
Room #230
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Galinda K. Goss-Kuehn. I am writing this testimony in support of HB2727 HD1. I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill 2727 HD1 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I also support equal access for the Blind to movies theaters.

Sincerely,

Galinda K. Goss-Kuehn
Kapolei, Hawaii

LATE

March 27, 2016

HB2727 HD1 TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, and HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn Baker

Chair, Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Hawaii State Capitol Room #230

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Bryce Takaki. I am writing this testimony in support of HB2727 HD1. I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill 2727 HD1 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I also support equal access for the Blind to movies theaters.

Sincerely,

Bryce Takaki

Honolulu, Hawaii

WME

Dear Senator Baker,

My name is Shannon McMahon. I am writing this testimony in support of HB2727 HD1. I have enjoyed watching open captioning movies. The experience of not wearing special devices have helped me to appreciate the film. I did not have to wait for the cashier to get the special device.

I am pleased of the fact that we are the first state to provide open-captioned films in all movie theaters instead of having to wear closed captioning devices such as glasses, or a rear-view plastic panel mounted on a flexible stalk to view the captioning, and other types of closed captioning devices. I would like to go to a movie theater with open captioning displayed on the screen without a device.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing should not be forced to wear or use special equipment to read the captioning ever again. Open captioning provides equal access to watching movies just like hearing people watch movies with audio.

Hearing people are not required to wear or use special devices to listen and watch the movie. The passage of House Bill 2727 HD1 will provide equal access to movie theaters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I also support equal access for the Blind to movies theaters.

Sincerely,

Shannon McMahon
Kaneohe, HI 96744

baker1 - Chris

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:21 AM
To: CPH Testimony
Cc: krispagano@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2727 on Mar 29, 2016 09:00AM*

LATE

HB2727

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for CPH on Mar 29, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kristine	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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