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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF H.B. No. 1943, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health Wednesday, April 4, 2018 10:30 a.m.

Conference Room 211

CHAIR DELA CRUZ, VICE CHAIR KEITH-AGARAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii supports the passage of H.B. No. 1943, HD1, SD1 and the recommendation to appropriate funds relating to the Office of Language Access.

In the last thirty-six years, Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii has provided legal assistance to the low- and moderate- income community of Hawaii; many who identify themselves as English not being their first language and/or being limited in English proficiency. Our office recognizes the needs for interpreter and translater resources to continue serving the multi-ethic and multi-cultural community of Hawaii, and to provide all residents of Hawaii meaningful access to justice.

I support H.B. No. 1943, HD1, SD1 to increase staff at the Office of Language Access. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Angela Kuo Min Executive Director

