



All Hawaii News * P.O. Box 612 * Hilo, HI 96721 * www.allhawaiinews.com

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From: Nancy Cook Lauer, publisher, All Hawaii News
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COMMENTS ON S.C.R. NO. 155, Requesting the Hawaii Professional chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists to establish a process to evaluate and identify sources of news that adhere to ethical and objective journalistic standards to help the public distinguish those that may proliferate misinformation

Senate Judiciary Committee

To the Honorable Chairman Karl Rhoads and Vice Chairman Mike Gabbard and the Committee:

All Hawaii News, a state government and political news aggregate and commentary blog covering Hawaii since 2008, offers the following comments on S.C.R. NO. 155.

In the interest of full disclosure, I will first state that I am vice president of the Hawaii Professional chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and have been for more than a decade. This testimony reflects my thoughts as an individual who has daily sifted through a myriad of news sources to compile All Hawaii News, and does not represent the SPJ Board.

Educating the public on how to evaluate the trustworthiness of news sources is indeed a noble goal. It is in the interest of both the media and the government to help the public become more informed on what is information and what is disinformation.

Many Hawaii news media subscribe to the SPJ Code of Ethics, as found at <https://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp> . But SPJ is not an accrediting agency.

Most importantly, caution should be exercised so that this noble idea doesn't venture into the creation of any government-sanctioned list of news sources. That is indeed dangerous territory in light of First Amendment concerns.

I look forward to further discussion of this interesting concept. Mahalo for the opportunity.

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/30/2024 9:59:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angela Melody Young	Testifying for CARES	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Committee,

CARES testifies in strong support with proposed amendment.

The focus of the resolution should be to set a standard of conduct for the journalism industry by evaluating the law relating to free speech. It is not the journalism industry's responsibility to filter social media news & Instagram feeds. It is the journalism industry's responsibility to adhere to ethical practices in its conduct of the mass proliferation of publishing information about public matters. So the resolution should be focused on the law of free speech & the law of journalism conduct.

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hawaii Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists is requested to establish a process to evaluate the operations of the journalism industry in Hawaii and to evaluate the law including subject matters of libel, defamation, actual malice & 1st amendment rights of free speech to create an updated code of conduct to adhere to ethical, fair & objective journalism standards. "

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/29/2024 8:39:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Don Baluran	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I agree with the intention of the bill as misinformation is rampant and truth and facts seem to becoming more and more subjective rather than objective. My concern with this bill is who from the Hawaii Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will be creating this process? Are they biased? Who is ensuring they are following their own code of conduct and ethics? Who determines what is misinformation and how do they come up with that conclusion? In today's society, it seems that "misinformation" can be loosely defined and used when you disagree with the truth and facts, or just have a different viewpoint or opinion.

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/30/2024 12:45:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
April Handog	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/30/2024 1:56:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **oppose** this Resolution and I urge all committee members to **vote NO**.

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/30/2024 3:22:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Nguyen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/31/2024 10:28:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Tabangcura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/31/2024 12:32:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james pirtle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not consent

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/31/2024 1:06:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Duclayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SCR155.

Mahalo,

Larry Duclayan

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/31/2024 8:25:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruben Ongos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill!!

SCR-155

Submitted on: 3/31/2024 8:29:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin Gusich-Batara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SRC155 and any legislation that refers to "misinformation". This is a subjective term that depends on who is making the determination of "misinformation". What may have been considered "misinformation" yesterday could be considered fact today.

One example is the effectiveness of the early use of Ivermectin as a treatment for Covid -19. In 2020, it was mocked as horse medicine, and yet now it is being recognized as an effective treatment. Think of how many lives could have been saved if the Ivermectin smear campaign did not prevent them from receiving treatment.

Having one group of people determining what is "misinformation" and subsequently controlling it is a violation of our First Amendment Right to free speech. People need to learn to research and determine what they believe to be true on their own.

Please do not pass this bill, which essentially is censorship.

Thank you allowing me to express my opinion. I hope it is not deemed "misinformation".

SCR-155

Submitted on: 4/1/2024 8:33:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/1/2024 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daryl Huff	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members-

The intent of this resolution is admirable, but the task is too formidable for any one organization to succeed.

I'd suggest encouraging public schools and the university to include media literacy as part of a mandatory civics education program.

As a former president of SPJ and a career journalist, I feel its the role of the individual consumer to decide who is credible and who is not, but many people don't have the tools to do so.