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June 1, 2013

Sent via e-mail emartin@honolulu.gov

City Council Chair
Ernest Y. Martin
530 South King St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

Re: Support for Bill 11 (2013), CD2 and the Dyslexia Tutoring Center of Hawaii, Inc.

Dear City Council Chair Martin:

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Dyslexia Tutoring Center of Hawaii, Inc. ("DTCH"). I have served as a board member since 2011. I support the DTCH's mission to serve and empower those who are dyslexic.

Before my joining DTCH, I knew very little about dyslexia, other than the (incorrect) idea that individuals with dyslexia simply "read backwards." I have since learned that almost one out of five individuals in Hawaii is dyslexic. Although it cannot be cured, people with dyslexia can be empowered with specific tools to address their dyslexia, which is what DTCH has been doing.

Since its inception, DTCH has provided its services to hundreds of individuals and served as a place with appropriate dyslexia tutoring services and a place for support for parents, grandparents, and guardians of children with dyslexia, as well as adults with dyslexia. DTCH has hosted numerous workshops/seminars since its inception to assist educators and professionals (DOE and private schools).

Raising dyslexia awareness is part and parcel to DTCH's mission. By raising awareness about dyslexia, more people with dyslexia can be identified, and they would know there is support from organizations such as DTCH.

DTCH needs its own property to allow it to facilitate all of the services it provides and to continue to put its mission of serving and empowering individuals with dyslexia into action. Providing DTCH with its own property will allow it to continue to provide invaluable dyslexia tutoring services to individuals with dyslexia and enable it to continue to engage in activities to raise awareness about dyslexia.

Based on the foregoing, I respectfully request that the City and County of Honolulu City Council vote in favor of Bill 11 (2013), CD2.

Sincerely,


Jerry P.S. Chang, Esq.