

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
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KENNETH S. HARA
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TESTIMONY ON ITEM D-7
ISSUANCE OF REVOCABLE PERMIT TO SUBCOM, LLC, FOR UNDERSEA
CABLE DEPOT PURPOSES; SAND ISLAND, HONOLULU, OAHU, TAX MAP
KEY (1) 1-5-041: PORTION OF 333

PRESENTATION TO THE
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

BY

FRANK J. PACE
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAII OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

August 26, 2022

Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

I am Frank Pace, Administrator for the Hawaii Office of Homeland Security (OHS). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of the issuance of a Revocable Permit to SubCom, LLC, for undersea cable purposes on Sand Island on Oahu.

As the sole provider of undersea cable services within the state, SubCom LLC provides a vital function supporting the continuity of communications infrastructure for Hawaii. Undersea cables provide nearly all the intercontinental communication services that connect Hawaii to the rest of the world, and between our counties.

Any disruption of these cables, natural or human-caused, can have devastating effects. For example, in January 2022, the intercontinental undersea cable connecting Tonga was severed by volcanic activity and took nearly a month to repair. The lack of communication severely delayed the international community's ability to respond and assist Tonga with tragic impacts on life and property. By keeping its presence in Hawaii, SubCom LLC would maintain the ability to immediately respond should Hawaii sustain a similar disruption.

The mission of OHS is to coordinate with partners (public and private) to prevent, prepare, mitigate, and respond to threats to the residents and critical infrastructure of Hawaii. As such, maintaining the ability to respond to any significant disruption to our communications infrastructure in a timely manner is a matter of public security and a priority for OHS.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of the issuance of a Revocable Permit to SubCom, LLC.

Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@Hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570

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