

THE CIVIL BEAT  
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Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

**RE: Testimony in Support of H.B. 532 H.D. 1, Relating to Government Data**  
Hearing: March 28, 2019 at 10:15 a.m.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Brian Black. I am the Executive Director of the Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest, a nonprofit organization whose primary mission concerns solutions that promote governmental transparency. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **strongly supporting H.B. 532 H.D. 1.**

Progress toward more efficient and publicly accessible government requires personnel focused exclusively on government data. Open and transparent government data cannot be an afterthought or it will never happen. A chief data officer and data task force would be well-situated to ensure that Hawai'i has the appropriate infrastructure and policies to carry the State into a new era of more efficient, open, and data-driven government.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in **support** of H.B. 532 H.D. 1.