BILL026(22) Testimony

MISC. COMM. 299

EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

## **EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jul 26, 2022 @ 01:00 PM Support: 0 Oppose: 0 I wish to comment: 1

Name: Zhizi Xiong	Email: alohadivinedesign@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
CARES Community Art Recreation	I wish to comment	Jul 26, 2022 @ 12:30 PM
Education Services		

## Testimony:

I'm testifying with comments on behalf of CARES Community Art Recreation Education Services, our afterschool art class is registered with the Hawaii Afterschool Alliance. HAA drafts and testifies for legislations at the Capitol in regards to education.

Panda's are gifts given from China to other countries as a gift of diplomacy. The US Diplomacy Center has a collection of gifts given to other countries that symbolizes esteem and culture. There was a resolution in the state legislature about international nations exchanging gifts and that to not accept a gift is embarrassing for the other nation. According to that legislation, nations exchanging gifts is seen as a positive action, an act to facilitate positive relations of nations working together towards mutual goals.

Yet, there are those who view gifts as bribery. When our after school art class gives away a card or a lei or a treat, we hope that the students work has made a difference in someone's lives. Our intention is that the recipient will get to hear about our efforts in the community. There is no obligation of reciprocation and rejection is something we are use to.

When we look at the very essence of law & policy, it seeks to protect the people and enhance the people's rights to equity and justice. When policies no longer facilitate genuine community and instead create barriers for true community to flourish, that is when one should ask, is it right or is it wrong?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.