

THE BEAT

Hawaii's Public Access Room Gets Swiss Broadcasting Attention

The legislative service, now in its 25th year, is recognized for practicing the concept of “direct democracy.”

JULY 17, 2015 • By Chad Blair   

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If you've ever needed help figuring out the Hawaii Legislature — which is just about everyone, including reporters like me — a good place to go is the Public Access Room on the fourth floor of the state Capitol.

It's a free service that provides folks with information resources, facilities and services to navigate the sometimes mysterious legislative process.

How can I look up bills? How can I testify? What does it mean when legislation is recommitted or deferred? What did Joe Souki just say?



PAR Director Virginia Beck and assistant director Keanu Young meet with Bruno Kaufmann of the Swiss Broadcasting Company.

These are the types of questions the Public Access Room can help answer. (Well, maybe not that *last* one.)

PAR, as it's known, also holds workshops and training sessions, including on the neighbor islands.

This week, as PAR celebrates its 25th year, Bruno Kauffman of the Swiss Broadcasting Company interviewed PAR staff.

“The SBC has been focused on the concept of ‘Direct Democracy’ and has been highlighting organizations across the world that demonstrate good practices in connecting legislation with the public,” according to a press release from the House of Representatives.

For more about PAR, [click here](#) or call (808) 587-0478.

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About the Author



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Frank De Giacomo

The one teeny tiny itsy bitsy socialized service that we have that the Swiss don't?

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Toni Auld Yardley · Works at Lanikini Productions, Kanakamaoli Religious Institute

EO - "KA LAHUI HAWAI'I" - THE HAWAIIAN NATION - WHO LOBBIED FOR "PUBLIC ACCESS" - IN 1990.

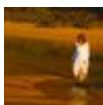
SWISS RECOGNITION - 25 YEARS LATER - PROVES HOW WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN - ON THE CUTTING EDGE WITH INNOVATIVE THINKING AND PROGRESSIVE ACTION - BEFORE KING KALAKAUA AND NOW.

PUBLIC ACESS TO THE SHORELINE - CAME IN 1995.
PUBLIC ACCESS TO OUR MOUNTAIN SUMMITS IS ARRIVING NOW.

IT IS TIME NOW - FOR THE PUBLIC - TO RECOGNIZE - THE HAWAIIAN NATION AND OUR HAWAIIAN NATIONALITY - TO FREE US ALL - FROM LAWLESSNESS RUNNING WILD.

STAND UP TOGETHER - FOR OUR CIVIL RIGHTS. WE SHOULD NOT NEED TO CALL FOR THE SWISS RED CROSS - TO PROTECT US.

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Christina Fisher · Consulting, Strategist. Community Educator at Self-Employed

Bruno is wonderful. Met with him on Maui.

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