



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**THEODORE E. LIU**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS CONCERNS  
AND  
AGRICULTURE**

Tuesday, February 5, 2008  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of  
**HB 2736**  
**RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS BILL OF RIGHTS**

Chair Yamashita, Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Brower and

Members of the Committees:

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports the purpose of House Bill 2736, "Relating to the Small Business Bill of Rights," however, we believe that a statutory basis is not the most effective way to set forth these rights. We concur with the Small Business Regulatory Review Board which has developed another approach as to the form that these important rights should take.

This bill is the result of an initial effort that began in the 2003 legislative session. It led to the adoption of SCR 76, asking the small business regulatory review board (review board), administratively attached to DBEDT, to provide such a "Bill of Rights" for consideration in the 2004 legislative session. This is a far-reaching measure that affects nearly all state and county agencies, many boards and commissions and a large

number of businesses defined as “small” for these purposes. We note the difficulty that many agencies may have in determining whether a business that has been cited or denied a permit has fewer than one hundred (100) employees and thus would not know if that business was entitled to these rights as compared to larger companies, not specifically entitled to them. It would appear to require that a central registry be established so that agencies could verify the size of any entity they are dealing with.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



**Before the House Committee on  
Economic Development & Business Concerns**

DATE: Tuesday, February 5, 2008

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 309

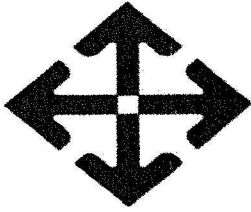
**Re: HB 2736  
Relating to the Small Business Bill of Rights  
Testimony of Melissa Pavlicek for NFIB Hawaii**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. On behalf of the thousands of business owners who make up the membership of the National Federation of Independent Businesses in Hawaii, we ask that you pass HB 2736. NFIB supports this measure in its current form.

The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest advocacy organization representing small and independent businesses in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. In Hawaii, NFIB represents more than 1,000 members. NFIB's purpose is to impact public policy at the state and federal level and be a key business resource for small and independent business in America. NFIB also provides timely information designed to help small businesses succeed.

We believe that a small business bill of rights will be an important step toward supporting Hawaii's small businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# The Hawaii Business League

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February 5, 2008

Testimony To: House Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns  
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons  
President

Subject: H.B. 2736 – RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS BILL OF RIGHTS.

Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, President of the Hawaii Business League, a small business service organization.  
We support this bill.

We are not sure that there is much in this bill, by way of granting rights to small businesses that they do not already have however, we think that a clear and concise statement enumerating those rights is very much in order. As the bill points out, small businesses are the "driving engine" behind Hawaii's economy and anything we can do in order to provide clarity as to procedures when they are dealing with government, we think will be an asset.

Based on the above, we support this bill.

Thank you.