

TESTIMONY
HB 3173 HD1
LATE

testimony

From: RawcoHI@cs.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 8:20 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 3173 with refinement

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 3173 With Refinement

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capitol
Room 414 on Wednesday, 12 March 2008 at 1445

Chair Hee and Respected Members of the Committee:

My name is Reg white. I am a tenant and a resident of Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor. For the past fifty five years I have been a licensed U.S. Merchant Marine Officer. I have served as master aboard salvage tugs and am very familiar with the performance required to mitigate the potential damage from a grounded vessel. Time is of the essence here, and each bureaucratic delay increases the possibility of increased damage to our natural resources and pollution to our beaches and nearshore waters. It is important that this bill be passed in a form so that DLNR may remove grounded vessels before they become wrecks. The 72 hour waiting period for the owner to appear and/or take responsibility for the removal of his vessel is suicidal in length. If the owner is not able or willing to take responsibility immediately and/or the vessel cannot show that it is insured for the risk involved, then DLNR must be able to move immediately to mitigate the chances of damage and pollution. This expedient removal will also reduce the cost to the state coffers as it's much less expensive to tow off a grounded vessel than it is to clean up the debris of a wreck. This bill seeks to cut the red tape and allow immediate removal of grounded vessels, thereby reducing the potential to increase the annual number of wrecks that must be removed because of the delays to action under the present system. Please modify it by eliminating the 72 hour delay so that this goal may be achieved and then pass this much needed bill.

Please give this bill your support.

Thank you,

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testimony

From: rhardlydavison@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 2:52 AM
To: testimony
Subject: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 3173 With Refinement

LATE TESTIMONY

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hawaii State Capitol
Room414 on Wednesday, 12 March 2008 at 1445

Chair Hee and Respected Members of the Committee:

My name is Richard Davison and I have been a licensed U.S. Merchant Marine Officer for over 20 years. I will be working on the water today and will not be able to give testimony in person.

I have done salvage work in Honolulu and Maui and it is from this perspective that I speak. Time is of the essence in salvage work and any delay increases the possibility of increased damage to our natural resources. Removing a grounded vessel depends on the tides and weather, and you may only have one shot when the weather and tides are right to remove a vessel and it would be sickening to see that opportunity wasted because of a 72 hour rule.

It is important that DNLR have the authority to act immediately if a grounded vessel's owner(s) fail to act. This bill must be modified and passed so that DLNR may remove grounded vessels before they become environmental disasters. Every hour counts in salvage work!

Please modify HB 3173 by eliminating the 72 hour delay so that this goal may be achieved and then pass this much needed bill.

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(END)