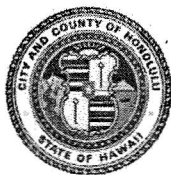


HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

636 South Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: www.honolulu.gov/hfd

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



KENNETH G. SILVA
FIRE CHIEF

ALVIN K. TOMITA
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

March 19, 2008

The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Committee on Human Services and Housing
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 406
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Committee on Health
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 327
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Shimabukuro and Green:

Subject: House Concurrent Resolution (H.C.R.) 118/House Resolution (H.R.) 100 -
Relating to Developing Emergency Evacuation Plans for Condominium
Associations

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports H.C.R. 118/H.R. 100, which would urge the association of apartment owners throughout the state to develop emergency and evacuation plans that include the special needs of senior and medically fragile residents.

Knowing what to do in an emergency can minimize panic and prevent tragic consequences for natural and manmade disasters, including fire. Critical minutes elapse from the onset of an emergency until emergency responders arrive and commence operations. Building occupants can provide the immediate actions necessary to evacuate and assist residents in a safe, orderly manner, which has proven to save lives and minimize property damage.

The HFD is available to provide guidance and assist the condominium association of apartment owners in developing their emergency and evacuation plans and requests your committees' support on the passage of H.C.R. 118/H.R. 100.

The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
The Honorable Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Page 2
March 19, 2008

Should you have any questions, please call HFD Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth G. Silva".

KENNETH G. SILVA
Fire Chief

KGS/LR:bh

**PRESENTATION OF THE
REAL ESTATE COMMISSION**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

AND

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2008

Thursday, March 20, 2008
11:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 118 AND HOUSE
RESOLUTION NO. 100, URGING ASSOCIATIONS OF APARTMENT OWNERS AND
CONDOMINIUM UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS IN THE STATE TO DEVELOP
EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PLANS FOR RESIDENTS, INCLUDING PROVISIONS
FOR SENIORS AND RESIDENTS WITH SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS.**

TO THE HONORABLE MAILE S. L. SHIMABUKURO, CHAIR,
TO THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, M.D., CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Bill Chee and I serve as the Chair of the Real Estate Commission's ("Commission") Condominium Review Committee, and I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 118 and House Resolution No. 100. House Concurrent Resolution No. 118 and House Resolution No. 100 address an important subject. The Commission, however, has some administrative concerns with the resolutions.

The resolutions, among other things, require the Executive Director of the Real Estate Commission to transmit copies of House Concurrent Resolution No. 118 and House Resolution No. 100 to the chairperson of the board of each registered association of apartment owners and condominium unit owners' associations. However, the resolutions fail to:

- Identify whether the transmittal to each registered association of apartment owners and condominium unit owners' associations are to those currently registered with the Commission or registered with some other entity. If the resolutions are intended to

refer to only associations and unit owners associations registered with the Commission, then the scope of the resolutions should be made consistent with this intent. There are a number of associations of apartment owners and condominium unit owners' associations not registered with the Commission and which are virtually indiscernible but are recorded at the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Bureau of Conveyances; and

- Specify when the printing and mailing of the resolutions shall be completed. If the printing and mailing is to be completed in this fiscal year with funds from the Condominium Education Trust Fund ("CETF") the Commission's budget would increase but without raising its budgetary ceiling level. This may require the Commission to reduce or eliminate programs under its present budget proposal. Further, the condominium law mandates the Commission expend monies from the CETF for the benefit of the condominium community, especially the condominium owners and developers who contribute to the fund. The resolutions' use of the CETF may benefit those citizens outside of the registered condominium community. This may present a problem as to the Commission's fiduciary duties.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Concurrent Resolution No. 118 and House Resolution No. 100.

TO: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING
Representative Maile Shimabukro, Chair
Representative Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Representative Josh Green, M.D., Chair
Representative John Mizuno, Vice Chair

FROM: Eudice R. Schick
PABEA (Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs)

SUBJECT: HCR 118; HR 100

HEARING: Thursday, March 20, 2008 11:00 a.m. conf. rm. 329

POSITION: Support of HCR 118; HR 100

I am offering testimony on behalf of PABEA, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, which is an appointed Board tasked with advising the Executive Office on Aging (EOA). My testimony does not represent the views of the EOA but of the Board.

HCR 118 and HR 100 are vital for the health and well being of all residents of multi-unit buildings. Disabled persons of any age, as well as the elderly dearly need this information and assistance in times of an emergency. I would like to see that HCR 118 and HR 100 be amended to include **ALL** multi-unit buildings and not be limited to condominiums and their associations. The need exists everywhere. I am disabled and live in a high rise building. I would greatly appreciate knowing that there would be someone that would be made aware of my need at the time that an emergency evacuation is deemed necessary.

I am asking for your support of HCR 118 and HR 100.

Eudice R. Schick

From: Ruthtutu@aol.com [mailto:Ruthtutu@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 2:00 PM
To: HSHtestimony
Subject: Testimony

FROM----Ruth Dias Willenborg, Board Member, Editor, ALOH(Assisted Living Options Hawaii)

House of Representatives-
Committee on Human Services and Housing
Committee on Health

Thursday, March 20,2008, 11 a.m. Conf. Rm. 329, State Capitol

H.R. 100 and H.C.R. 118

"Urging Associations of Apartment Owners and Condominium Unit Owners' Associations in the State to Develop Emergency and Evacuation Plans for Residents, including Provisions for Seniors and Residents with Special Health Needs"

IN FULL SUPPORT--and with requirements for training!

(also as a Senior Condo Resident, Caregiver to my husband with NPH(Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus) myself with Emphysema, and both other physical needs, and have participated in Kupuna Caucus and the Jt. Leg. Committee on Caregiving and many other groups of support)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

:

As a Board member of ALOH, we were instrumental in first bringing "Aging in Place in Condos" to the attention of our legislators a few years back. We did have a successful and well attended meeting in the Capitol Auditorium, of all parties to condo living and the approaching needs of those residents in Condos who might need special services or attention, as they grow older and special needs arise. In my building, I did arrange for t the Fire Dept. to send Speakers, which they did, with some residents and our then Resident Manager attended as well. The Fire Department was to work with them on a "Fire Plan" which never happened. I also wrote an article for our ALOH Newsletter regarding this need for many emergencies of residents, such as ambulance, hurricanes, fire, etc.

I was successful in organizing about seven condos and their residents, who made some progress for this Aging in Place special attention, along with some Managers, a very few Board members--but always the older residents great interest and hope that each Condo, with it's unique needs, could be accommodated in some way..

The Recodification of the Condo Law included some things that should help, but as a NOW Elderly Disabled Condo Resident of twenty years, who has been caring for her husband for 5 years, we have found that in our Condominium, Poinciana Manor,(Kailua Gardens) Kailua, a new Board and NEW management company(Touchstone) has now decided that they do not even have to abide by ADA laws(also HUD). The new Mediation Section to which we made a complaint and report after the Board would not let us even have a folding grocery cart in our Parking space, BUT allows Bikes and they built special racks for Kayaks and surfboards.! This comes under "reasonable need"according to ADA, but I have had no luck in reaching other people to help us.

Recreation items OK, but not items for the disabled! It has taken months for us to apply to the Mediation Specialists--Board ignored their calls, and finally through Touchstone "refused to mediate".!!! Now with our many other health problem and trips to specialists, etc.etc., I am in

"burn out stage" and need help to get some action. Not only for us, but for others in need and not even getting any according the ADA LAW!

What good is the "Condo Specialist" if you can't get mediation or help when the management and Boards are ignorant of their responsibility to their residents???

For this reason I do not think that we will get much, IF any, VOLUNTARY action in this regard. However, it is greatly needed, and must be done in some way that is "REQUIRED", as well as the new Condo Law much be brought to their attention with training, that they are NOT in compliance and that some sanctions should be taken. Voluntary---unfortunately in this day and age, does not work.

We salute you for your endeavors and serving your community

Ruth and Hal Willenborg
1015 Aoloa Pl. #360
Kailua, Hi. 96734 Ph.261-1046 Ruthtutu@aol.com

Some of you may be aware of the years that I have been an advocate for Senior Needs and those of the aging population and caregivers for the last twenty years, beginning with my volunteer efforts with AARP, as Oahu Community Coordinator. The the AARP volunteer State Legislative Committee, it's Chair, as well as Capital City Task Force and appeared many times with supporting testimony, as well as serving and being named to special Committees and Task Force, to prepare our community for the escalating needs of those AGING In :Place or . already disabled and in need of the many services

Create a Home Theater Like the Pros. [Watch the video on AOL Home.](#)