

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &

BUSINESS CONCERNS

Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Chair
Rep. Glen Wakai, Vice Chair

**March 25, 2008, Committee Hearing
Conference Room 325
9:00AM**

**Senate Bill 3166
Relating to The Hawaii Community Development Authority**

Chair Yamashita and Committee Members:

I support the passage of Senate Bill 3166 because it will clearly state the intention of the 2006 Legislature to include community members on the Hawaii Community Development Authority(HCDA) board.

I am Dexter Okada. I am the president of U. Okada & Co., Ltd., a third generation small family business that has been located on Queen Street in Kaka'ako for over fifty years. I also represent the Kaka'ako Business and Landowners Association, a group of small businesses and small landowners. As a result of Act 252, I am also a member of the HCDA board.

In the 2006 session, I supported SB2487(Act 252) because I believed that there should be more community representation on the HCDA board. In 2007 because of my involvement with small business community issues in Kaka'ako, House Speaker Say put my name in for nomination to the HCDA, the Administration nominated me, and the Senate confirmed me. Since Act252 did not clearly state the Legislature's intent and a question of conflict of interest was brought up, a letter from Senate President Hanabusa and House Speaker Say was sent to the Hawaii State Ethics Commission to clearly state the Legislature's intent to put two community members on the HCDA board. But then, the Attorney General's office advised that the letter of intent was not enough and that the two community members not participate until the Section 206E-3 was amended or new law passed.

I hope that SB3166 resolves this problem and if the Governor selects me to be one of the two small business representatives, I can fulfill my purpose for accepting the nomination to be on HCDA board, to represent the small businesses community.

Thank you,

Dexter Okada

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Chair Yamashita and Committee Members:

I support the passage of Senate Bill 3166.

I am Lucy Kunimura and I'm a concerned citizen. I'm concerned about the small businesses in Kakaako and believe they should be represented.

I was happy to hear that Act 252 was passed because I believe that community representation on the HCDA board is so important to the small businesses and small landowners in Kaka'ako. Who better to understand the needs and problems of a community than a community member!

I was shocked to hear that the two community members on the HCDA board had to remove themselves from issues dealing with Kaka'ako. Each of you on this committee represents your community. I believe the community HCDA board members should also have this honor to represent their community by allowing them to vote.

SB3166 corrects the omission of community participation in Act 252 and also provides for a safeguard for DIRECT conflict of interest.

Please pass SB3166.

Thank you,

Lucy Kunimura

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CONCERNS

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Rep. Glen Wakai, Vice Chair

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Senate Bill 3166
Relating to The Hawaii Community Development Authority

Dear Chair Yamashita and Committee Members:

I support the passage of Senate Bill 3166.

My name is Gary Onishi and I'm a small business owner in Kaka'ako. Kaka'ako has been home for my family for many years. A couple of years ago HCDA planned ID-11 a street widening and systematic improvement project. The plan was done with out any community input. Because of the magnitude of the project, small businesses like mine voiced our concern to on the impact it would have on our businesses. HCDA told us, "This is a freight train and you can't stop it."

Last year with the help of concerned legislatures, we were fortunate to have Act 252 passed. This allowed community members to be part of the HCDA's board so they are able to speak on behalf of the community. I was shocked to hear that the two community members on the HCDA board had to rescues themselves from issues dealing with Kaka'ako. Community representation is important. Each member of the legislature represents his community. Likewise, our Kaka'ako board members should be allowed vote and express their opinions on how our community should be like. SB3166 corrects the ambiguity of the law that is preventing them from representing us.

Please pass SB3166.

Thank you,

Gary Onishi

House of Representatives
The Twenty-Fourth Legislature
Committee on Economic Development and Business Concerns
Tuesday, March 25, 2008
9:00 a.m.
Room 325

S.B. 3166

Dear Chairman Yamashita, Vice Chairman Wakai
and Committee Members:

I am a small business owner and landowner in the Kakaako District and I am in strong support of S.B. 3166.

There are many small businesses in the Kakaako district that are being adversely affected by the rapid development of the area. Rising property taxes, increased density, looming assessments on infrastructure improvements and the impact of mass transit, etc., are just some of the issues that are or will be negatively impacting these businesses.

Recent studies completed by HACBED (Hawaii Alliance for Community Based Economic Development) showed that businesses in the Mauka area, which is comprised of mostly small businesses, contribute 3.9% of the State's economy and employs over 16,000 workers. These figures are a testament of the impact of these businesses to the State of Hawaii.

Therefore, there needs to be a coordination of the State and City to assure that these businesses are not forced to close their doors. The first step is to have representation of community members on the HCDA board that understands the needs of small businesses. Dexter Okada and Paul Kimura are two long-time community members and small business owners. They will fulfill this need of small business representation and should be able to vote on issues that affect Kakaako. Therefore, I urge you to support S.B. 3166, which is the first step in assuring the survival of small businesses in the area.

Thank you.

Christine Kaneshiro
845 Queen Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Comm on
Economic Dev +
Business Concerns

Tuesday 3/25/08
9:00 am
Room 325

SB 3166: allows two small business owners on HCDA Board (State agency that has jurisdiction over Kaka'ako) to vote on issues regarding Kakaako.

SB3167 provides a short-term GET credit for small businesses in Kaka'ako located on real property designated as an industrial district, provided that the property is in use for light industrial, wholesaling, or service and commercial operations.

We, the undersigned businesses in Kakaako, are in SUPPORT of SB 3167 and SB 3166:

Signature	Business	Address
1. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>Jon Yamashiro</u>	<u>Hawaii Automotive Repair Clinic, LLC</u>	<u>862 Ilaniwai St. Honolulu, HI 96813</u>
2. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>REGGIE TON DONEY</u>	<u>834 ILANIWAI ST</u> <u>LET'S SERVICE INC</u>	<u>834 ILANIWAI ST</u>
3. <u>MEL ARIYAMA</u> Print name: <u>FURTIS KUWANA</u>	<u>MARUE + GEEZ</u> <u>CHIKARA AUTO</u>	<u>825 ILANIWAI ST</u> <u>814 ILANIWAI ST</u>
4. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>LAUTON BOO</u>	<u>825 ILANIWAI ST</u>	<u>825 ILANIWAI ST</u>
5. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>Chad Furukawa</u>	<u>AUTO AIR + ACCESSORIES</u> <u>LXS Hawaii</u>	<u>HON HI 96813</u> <u>825 ILANIWAI ST.</u>
6. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>TUSHAR DUBEY</u>	<u>HOKULANI BAKESHOP</u>	<u>Hon., HI 96813</u> <u>500 Ala Moana # 413 96813</u>
7. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name:		
8. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>Kimberly...</u>	<u>Pacific Motor Inc</u>	<u>505 ...</u>
9. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>Angela Park</u>	<u>Volx German</u>	<u>812 ILANIWAI</u>
10. <u>[Signature]</u> Print name: <u>SANDY UHEDA</u>	<u>...</u>	<u>AIR ...</u> <u>847 ILANIWAI</u>
11. <u>DEREK KALANI PAVAO</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>ILMELC / ISIV</u> <u>836 Ilaniwai St</u>
12) <u>Janelle Dief</u>	<u>Kapuakea Products</u>	<u>439 Kamin St.</u>
14) <u>Meh T. Chung</u>	<u>Meh T. Chung</u>	<u>449 Kamin St. 96813</u>

Thomas J Carter

204 Concordia St

RODNEY TAKAMATA - ROD'S AUTO SERVICE 972 KALANIAHO ST

~~Rodney Takata~~

Kluian Lee Wrenchy's A/c 535 CUMMINS

Jeff Sandbon Diamond Parking 439 KALANIAHO ST

Paul Yamamoto Auto Pro Inc. 766 ILANI WAI ST

Hawaii Automotive Repair Clinic LLC
805 Ilaniwai St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

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