



LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony on HB 1443 HD 1 Relating to Home Occupation

**House Committees on Housing and Water, Land & Ocean Resources
Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 9:15am
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

Dear Chairs Cabanilla and Ito, Vice-Chairs Chong and Har, and Members of the Committees,

I am writing to provide testimony on HB 1443 HD 1.

The issue of home occupations continues to be a hot topic on Maui and the Maui Chamber of Commerce seeks legislation that is more inclusive and allows home occupations that do not have serious negative impacts on residential areas. We feel home occupations greatly contribute to the economy and should be encouraged, particularly in these economic times.

We support the intent of this bill to permit appropriate home occupations and appreciate the revisions made to date to make it clearer and explain what is allowed. However, given that Counties have been addressing this issue up to now through local zoning ordinances, we can see concerns over "home rule" being expressed. It is a tough issue as we seek to legitimize those who are currently operating out of their homes, stimulate the economy, support entrepreneurial start-ups, help those who are out of work obtain legitimate alternate income, and continue to protect and enjoy our residential areas.

We believe that home occupations should be allowed in all zoning areas as long as they do not have serious negative impacts on residential areas and that any restrictions on home occupations should be based on addressing significant residential concerns (such as loud noises that are not compliant with existing County noise control laws, obnoxious smells, noxious fumes, on-street parking, traffic impacts, etc.).

We encourage government to apply reasonable rules to mitigate such concerns and allow suitable home occupations to operate legitimately and pay appropriate taxes, unless and until there are verified complaints that the operator is operating outside of the rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please feel free to contact us for additional information and input on this issue as we have been working to allow home occupations on the local level for some time.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

House Committee on HSG
March 4, 2009 9:15 AM CR 325
In Support of HB 1443 HD1 – Home Occupations

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Aloha Chair Cabanilla and Vice Chair Ito and members of HSG committee.

I am Ilalo Parayno and retired educator and administrator and a resident on the Leeward coast.

I support this bill as it promotes small businesses that do not have or have very little impact on the residential neighbors.

The rush hour traffic from the Leeward Coast where I live to town has reached a crisis proportion. I am having to wake up at 4:00 AM in the morning in order to get to town on time.

Home based business help alleviate the traffic jams.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.