

har3-Megan

From: Cheryl Lewis [clewis@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2010 4:48 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: SB 2409, HD 1 - Relating to Marine Life Conservation Districts
Attachments: image001.gif; SB 2409, HD1.pdf

Please deliver on behalf of Tim Lyons, Executive Director of the Ocean Tourism Coalition to the House Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 325.

Thank you,

Cheryl K.L. Lewis
Century Square
1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003
Honolulu, HI 96813-3304
clewis@hawaiiantel.net



Ocean Tourism Coalition

The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
Century Square-1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003
Honolulu, HI 96813-3304
(808) 537-4308 Phone (808) 533-2739 Fax
timlyons@hawaiiantel.net

March 9, 2010

Testimony To: House Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources
Representative Ken Ito, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, CAE
Executive Director

Subject: S.B. 2409, HD 1 - RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

Chair Ito and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, Executive Director of the Ocean Tourism Coalition and we support the passage of this bill.

This bill relates to the fact that commercial boat operators who operate at Molikini were recently given the "short end of the stick" when it comes to renewal of their conditional use permits for Molokini Shoals. The new permits contained a variety of new conditions that many operators felt had not been ever discussed or had not been properly vetted.

Additionally, because the new permit conditions were set to expire on December 16, 2009 and were extended for a month but then operators were urged to return their signed permits

agreeing to the conditions by January 4, 2010, there was not sufficient time, particularly over the holidays in order to discuss them, let alone react to and incorporate them.

As a result operators feel that the conditions of these use permits should be subject to advanced notice so that there is sufficient notice and discussion of new permit conditions.

Based on the above, we concur and recommend your support.

Thank you.