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AE

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RE: S.B. NO. 2479 RELATING TO UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES

Aloha Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. My name is Angela Ellenwood and I am testifying in support of S.B. NO. 2479 RELATING TO UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES.


My interest in and support for this measure stems from a disappointing experience at a local venue that provided space for a Mainland promoter to hold an event that was horribly mismanaged and ultimately did not occur as advertised. As a consumer, I was frustrated by three different entities each blaming the other for the problem and taking no responsibility for refunds or reimbursement. Eventually, only the local venue—a location known for hosting quality performers and events—offered any compensation for the unfulfilled event.

Given our state's high volume and reliance on tourism, I would hate to have a visitor be tainted by a similar experience and leave Hawaii with the mistaken belief that a local business was responsible for not delivering on an event for which they had paid and looked forward to attending.

The proposed legislation of S.B. 2479 is reasonable, essential, and worthwhile to protect the interests of consumers and local businesses alike. I support this bill because clearly identifying those responsible for delivering public events safeguards the consumers and local venues that support the diverse entertainment and cultural performances we enjoy in the state. Passage of this bill may also provide security that inspires confidence in other local entrepreneurs, promoters, and venues willing to support or host such events.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter. Please pass this bill.

Sincerely,


Angela J. Ellenwood
