

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 10, 2010

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Deputy Directors
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 2942, SD 2 RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (DOT) offers the following comments on this bill, which will abolish the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) and transfer its functions to the Hawaii Community Development Authority and to the Department of Transportation.

The DOT's foremost interest is in ensuring the continued expedited implementation of the Harbors Modernization Plan (HMP). The bill addresses this concern by placing the Harbors Modernization Group in the Department of Transportation with continued jurisdiction over HMP. To ensure uninterrupted implementation of HMP, DOT would prefer to see a provision providing for an Executive Director and staff, along with a transition period. This governance structure provides assurances that the priorities established in the HMP will continue to receive the DOT's full attention, energy, and focus.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

LINDA LINGLE
Governor
SIDNEY A. QUINTAL
Chiairperson
SANDRA PFUND
Chief Executive Officer

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Statement of
Sandra Pfund
Chief Executive Officer
Aloha Tower Development Corporation
before the

Committee on

TRANSPORTATION

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 309 in consideration of

SB2942, SD2 RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair Souki, Vice-Chair Awana and Members of the House Committee on Transportation.

The Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) opposes this measure.

According to Senate Standing Committee Report No. 2583, the Senate Committee on Ways and Means reports this measure is attempting to achieve efficiencies by transferring the functions of the ATDC to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) without unnecessarily delaying any of the needed improvements to the State's harbors.

The ATDC believes this bill will have the opposite effect than that intended for the following reasons:

The ATDC is fully special funded and is a revenue generator for the State.

The proposed abolishment of the ATDC and transfer of its various responsibilities to the HCDA and Department of Transportation (DOT) does not result in any general fund savings and instead has the immediate effect of stopping or severely slowing all progress ATDC has made in implementing its statutory mandated initiatives. The ATDC consists of two programs: 1) oversight over the Aloha Tower Project Area and Complex, and 2) implementation of the

statewide Harbors Modernization Plan (HMP) in partnership with the Department of Transportation – Harbors Division (DOT-H).

Furthermore, this measure proposes to appropriate general funds to implement HMP initiatives. ATDC's current operations are fully special funded.

Steady progress has been made under ATDC and HMP initiatives and organizational restructuring will impede continued progress.

Under the ATDC jurisdiction, steady progress has been made to resolve all past development impasses and disputes that have hampered moving forward with new planning and development efforts. We have resolved all but one pending legal matter and are on the verge of settling that remaining item. With a clean slate with respect to its lands, ATDC can move forward with its short and long-term development concepts outlined in its Strategic Plan and Development Framework, which are expected to be finalized this month.

ATDC has also made tremendous progress with respect to the statewide HMP projects that were desired by this Legislature pursuant to Act 200, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008. This Act gave ATDC statewide jurisdiction to partner with the DOT-H to implement much needed commercial harbor infrastructure improvements on an expedited timetable. The program was established as an eight-year initiative that began on July 1, 2008 and sunsets in 2016. Considerable time was spent in establishing procedures to ensure proper management and collaboration with DOT-H on all aspects of project implementation. A restructuring of the program will require re-establishment of operating functions and hamper project progress on what was envisioned to be a fast track endeavor.

ATDC has moved statewide harbor projects forward by executing fourteen (14) design, planning and construction contracts valued at approximately \$6,366,000 to date, and is expecting to execute an additional four (4) planning and design contracts by March 31, 2010 valued at approximately \$1,601,000. These planning and design contracts are scheduled to result in bids for construction contracts and new construction jobs statewide in 2010 to 2013 valued at approximately \$67,040,000.

A transition period is not provided for these significant organizational changes.

An effective transition period and plan to implement ATDC's mandates, particularly projects under the Harbors Modernization Plan, which include ongoing projects in planning, design and construction, must be provided to avoid disruption and impairment of ATDC's contractual obligations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



March 10, 2010

The Honorable Joseph Souki, Chair and Member Committee on Transportation State House of Representatives State Capitol, Room 309 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki, and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. SB 2942, SD2, Relating to the Aloha Tower

Development Corporation

My name is Lance Wilhelm, President of the Hawaii Developers' Council (HDC). We represent over 200 members and associates in development-related industries. The mission of Hawaii Developers' Council (HDC) is to educate developers and the public regarding land, construction and development issues through public forums, seminars and publications.

It is also the goal of HDC to promote high ethics and community responsibility in real estate development and related trades and professions.

HDC opposes S.B. No. 2942 SD 2, as presently drafted.

The purpose of this measure is to reorganize the administration and function of certain state agencies to maximize efficiencies by:

- Transferring the Aloha Tower Development Corporation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority;
- Transferring the harbors modernization group to the Department of Transportation;
- Placing the commercial harbors modernization plan under the harbors modernization group; and
- Appropriating an unspecified sum for consultant services to implement the commercial harbors modernization plan.

The intent stated in this bill is that the Legislature needs to reexamine and adjust the structure of state government to ensure that all state functions are performed as efficiently as possible in the current unfavorable financial and economic crisis. The Legislature believes that it can achieve efficiencies by transferring the functions of the Aloha Tower Development Corporation to the Hawaii Community Development Authority without unnecessarily delaying any of the needed improvements to the State's harbors.

We support the need to consolidate and restructure government in order to save money and provide for more efficiency in government operations. Unlike other government functions, the HCDA and ATDC are responsible for enhancing the state land assets under their control. It is questionable how much more efficiency will be gained or funds saved by simply consolidating two separate and unique entities into one.

A more objective approach would be for the legislature to identify the primary role of State Government, and eliminate programs or functions that fall outside of the basis "core" functions of state government. We would encourage a more comprehensive approach to achieve real efficiency and savings rather than consolidation of one or more agencies.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our views.



HAWATI BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

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PETER GANABAN Leborara International Union of North America Local 388

VAUGHN CHONG Roders, Waterproters & Atled Workers United Union of Roofer Loggy 221 March 9, 2010

Honorable Rep. Joseph M. Soukl, Chair Honorable Rep. Karen Leinani Awana, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Transportation Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF SB 2942

RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORP. Hearing: Wed., March 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Room 309

Dear Chair Souki, Vice Chair Awana, and the House Committee on Transportation:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for the Hawali Bullding & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our Council is comprised of 16-construction unions and a membership of 26,000 statewide.

The Council SUPPORTS <u>SB2942</u>, which transfers responsibility for the Aloha Tower site to the Hawaii Community Development Authority and reorganizes harbor modernization across Hawai'i.

We also agree with HI/DOT that SB2942 should be amended to provide for an executive director and staff who will expedite implementation of the Harbors Modernization Plan. This structure will help assure that the priorities established in the HMP continue to receive the DOT's full attention, energy, and focus.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of <u>5B2942</u>.

Sincerely,

William "Buzz" Hong Executive Director

WBH/hm



Hawaii Harbors Users Group

Gary North Executive Director

Mar Labrador Horizon-Lines, LLC Board Chairman

Vic Angoco Matson Navigation Company, Inc. Board Vice Chair

Douglas Won Sause Bros., Inc. Board Vice Chair

Glenn Hong Young Brothers, Ltd./Hawaiian Tug and Barge Secretary/Treasurer

Grant Karamatsu NCL America, Inc.

Richard Maxwell Aloha Cargo Transport, Division of Northland Services, Inc

Robert T. Guard McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co., Ltd.

Jeff Brennan Hawaii Stevedores, Inc.

Lance Tanaka Tesoro Hawaii Corporation

Stephanie Ackerman The Gas Company

Eric Yoshizawa Ameron Hawaii

Nate Lopez Hawaiian Cement

Scott Vuillemot American Marine

Steve Kelly Kapolei Property Development

Captain Steve Baker Hawaii Pilots Associate Member

SB 2942 SD2 RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MAR LABRADOR CHAIR HAWAII HARBORS USERS GROUP

MARCH 10, 2010

Chair Souki and Members of the House Committee on Transportation:

I am Mar Labrador, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii
Harbors Users Group (HHUG), on SB 2942 SD2, "A BILL FOR AN
ACT RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION."

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG) is a non-profit maritime transportation industry group comprised of the following key harbor users: Matson Navigation Company, Horizon Lines, LLC, Young Brothers/Hawaii Tug & Barge, Norwegian Cruse Line, Sause Brothers Inc., Aloha Cargo Transport (ACT), Hawaii Stevedores, McCabe Hamilton & Renny Stevedores, Hawaii Superferry, Tesoro Hawaii Corporation, The Gas Company, Ameron Hawaii, Hawaiian Cement, American Marine, Kapolei Property Development, and the Hawaii Pilots Association.

As an island State, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded movement of cargo in and out of our State. At present, it is estimated that 98% of Hawaii's imported goods pass through our harbors including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of Hawaii's harbors, it is imperative that the State provide harbor infrastructure and services to support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling industries to service our residents and businesses.

In light of the looming shortage of port facilities in Hawaii due to the significant growth in intra and interstate cargo over the past twenty years, the State is in the process of implementing a statewide Harbors Modernization Plan (HMP) to construct much needed harbor infrastructure improvements. At present, the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) is statutorily authorized to implement the HMP. If the State abolishes the ATDC, HHUG believes it imperative that another entity be empowered with the jurisdiction and responsibility to continue the coordination and implementation of the HMP.

This bill establishes a four person Harbors Modernization Group (HMG) to be administratively placed under the Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation to oversee and implement the HMP. We believe that this administrative alternative, coupled with an appropriation for adequate management and support staffing, will enable the continued coordination and implementation of the HMP.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.