

# LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Cabanilla of the Committee on Housing & Chair Ito of the Committee on Water,  
Land, & Ocean Resources

In support of SB442 SD2 HD1

Wednesday March 25, 2009

9:45am, House Conference Room 325

Art Minor, Masters of Social Work Student, University of Hawaii - Manoa  
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My name is Art Minor and I am a Masters of Social Work student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am testifying in support of SB 442 SD2 HD1 relating to transit oriented development. I am in strong support of the preservation of open spaces, the protection of watersheds and agricultural land as transit oriented development will contribute to these issues. Not only will this bill promote a mass transit system to alleviate traffic and pollution, it also promotes affordable housing, an issue affecting a large portion of the people of Hawaii. Many of the clients I work with are in need of affordable housing as they have lost their jobs or have had their benefits reduced or cut. In 2006 the Hawaii Public Housing Authority reported that there were over 15,000 homeless individuals in the state of Hawaii. With the current financial crisis looming there will be a rising demand for affordable housing as the number of those in need will surely increase.

SB 442 can also promote economic growth, through the creation of jobs to repair and upgrade public infrastructure, the promotion of construction and development of a mass transit system and the development and construction of affordable housing. For these reasons I support SB 442, thank you for your time.