

**COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES****Representative Jerry Chang, Chair  
Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair****Friday, February 25, 2011****11:15 a.m.****Room 325****STRONG SUPPORT****HB 1654**

**Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee.**

**My name is Florinda McCloud and I am in Strong Support of HB 1654.**

**Group living facilities are licensed by the Department of Health and are authorized to operate in the neighborhood through the conditional use permit process. The intent of the Conditional Use Permit is to provide essential services to members of our community and fulfill vital community needs. However, there is a limit to the amount of permits issued. Therefore, if one has a conditional use permit but is not using it, it prevents anyone else from providing the much needed services within that area. This is a major problem. Without the services that the group living facilities offers, individuals, families, and the community suffer. Therefore, I am in Strong Support of HB 1654 which will let the conditional use permits expire if the group living facility ceases operation or fails to start operations within a year, whichever is sooner, thus allowing for operational group living facilities to establish and provide vital services in the previously serviced area.**

**Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.**

Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources

Representative Jerry Chang, Chair

Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair

Friday, Feb. 25, 2011

11:15 am Room 325

**STRONG SUPPORT**

**HB 1654**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee my name is Demetria Waduge. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1654.**

This measure would amend the Land Use Ordinance to put a termination date on conditional use permits issued by a county agency that are not being used for their intended purpose. As the ordinance currently stands, there is no provision for the City or the State to terminate a Conditional Use Permit even though it is not being used. By amending the ordinance to include an expiration date on permits that are not currently being used, this would allow others to obtain a permit that would be put to good use.

These conditional use permits allow for group living facilities with eight or fewer residents and are licensed by the state. Many of these group living facilities are vital half-way homes or Clean and sober Homes.

For those needing the assistance to re-integrate into the community, these can be vital tools for rehabilitating these individuals to become productive member of society. If there are those willing to house these individuals, they should not be stopped by a permit that is not currently in use.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Representative Jerry Chang, Chair**  
**Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair**  
**Friday, February 25, 2011**  
**Room 325**  
**STRONG SUPPORT**  
**HB 1654**

**Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee,**

**My name is Liwaili Ka'awa and I am in Strong Support of HB 1654.**

**My niece and I are interested in opening a Group living facility. We are qualified both by virtue and experience to open such facility. The Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has funding for these types of endeavors. Both my niece and I spent some time in jail and so we know the dilemma in finding a home after incarceration. We want to provide these services and we feel the community has a need for these homes.**

**We looked for a facility in Waipahu but because there are so many Care Homes, the 1000 feet limit between facilities becomes a hindrance. It is next to possible to find a place. But I found that there are those in possession of Conditional Use Permit issued by the Department of Health and the Department of Health will allow to discontinue it but the City who issue the Conditional Permit do not have a policy to cancel it if the holder of the agree will not agree to it.**

**This measure will allow the City to cancel their CUP permit if they are no longer using it for its permitted use.**

**I see that it is easier to get a conditional use permit if the neighborhood has approved it even it means going through the process again..**

**Thank you and I ask that you pass this measure forward.**

**COMMITTEE ON Water, Land, and Ocean Resources**

Representative Jerry L. Chang, Chair

Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Friday, February 25, 2011

11:15 am

Room 325

**STRONG SUPPORT**

**HB 1654 HD 1**

Good Afternoon Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rose Martinez and I am in Strong Support of HB 1654 HD1. The types of facilities that use conditional use permits serve a vital community need. There is a geographical limit on these facilities through the permits and it is highly problematic when one does not use their conditional use permit as it prevents anyone else from providing much needed services. This bill will solve this problem by allowing conditional use permits to expire in these instances when they are not being used and thus are stopping anyone else from helping the people of Hawaii. I am in strong support of HB 1654 HD1.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this matter,

Rose Martinez