

# HB1020 HD2

RELATING TO THE ALOHA TOWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.  
Abolishes Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC). Transfers the ATDC assets to the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA). Establishes the Aloha Tower Complex under the jurisdiction of HCDA. Makes an appropriation. Effective on January 1, 3000. (HB1020 HD2)

March 14, 2011

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony opposing HB 1020 HD2 Relating to Aloha Tower Development Corp

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to present testimony opposing to HB 1020, HD2.

The Outdoor Circle agrees that the Aloha Tower Marketplace has not reached its full potential. We also agree that while the ATDC has been given ample opportunity and resources to succeed, it has not. However, after working with the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) over many years we are compelled to testify that in our opinion, placing the Aloha Tower Complex under HCDA will not solve the problem and might make it worse.

Can the members of this committee honestly look at HCDA's track record and believe that it is equipped to take additional responsibilities? And if given additional responsibilities what evidence is there that HCDA will manage them in a way that will be acceptable to the community and beneficial to the citizens of Hawaii?

In Kakaako Makai alone, for nearly a decade, HCDA has failed to balance competing interests and create a place that fulfills the community's vision. First it tried to sell this public asset and would have allowed it to be turned into a residential and commercial development serving our wealthiest residents and visitors. HCDA's performance was so bad and so alienated the community that the legislature passed laws to forever prevent residential development in the area and compel HCDA to create an acceptable mechanism to ensure a strong citizen voice in future Kakaako Makai plans.

In other words, instead of properly managing Kakaako Makai, HCDA was placed under strict statutory management. But still it is failing to follow the legislative mandates and is openly fighting to avoid having to even consider public input in future Kakaako Makai development.

We believe that placing ATDC under the HCDA will be throwing good money after bad. We further believe it will perpetuate a history of arrogant management and will result in carving community stakeholders out of any meaningful role in planning for the future of the critical public lands.

Please kill this legislation.

Respectfully,

Bob Loy  
Director of Environmental Programs  
The Outdoor Circle