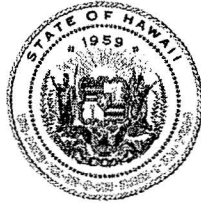


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Friday, February 18, 2011
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1198
RELATING TO OCEAN RECREATION**

House Bill 1198 amends the definition of a "sailing school vessel" and requires every vessel, 20 feet or longer, operated by a qualified entity providing sailing instruction to have a valid certificate of inspection issued by the United States Coast Guard. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.

The Department's Boating and Enforcement divisions have enjoyed a long, fruitful relationship with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) in maintaining safety on the waters of the State. Our rules pertaining to boating safety standards and carriage requirements closely mirror federal regulations. The Department is secure in saying that vessels inspected by the USCG meet or exceed the standards for vessel safety on our waters.

The added requirement of the certificate of inspection is yet another reminder to the students of these sailing schools that safety is paramount and that regular inspection of any ocean-going vessel they may board and/or operate is vitally important to the crew and passengers.

Regular vessel inspections for safety and seaworthiness also benefit the environment, helping vessel owners and operators avoid accidents, sinkings and groundings due to mechanical failures. For these reasons the Department supports the passing of House Bill 1198.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

har3 - Megan

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 12:30 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: concernedboater@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1198 on 2/18/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/18/2011 9:00:00 AM HB1198

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: comments only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Robert Winter
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: concernedboater@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/17/2011

Comments:
Recommend you change the definition of a sailing school vessel.

While I am in favor of having large sailing school vessels inspected by the coast guard, I believe you should change the definition of a sailing school vessel that requires Coast Guard inspection.

Generally speaking, Coast Guard regulations require vessels that carry more than six passengers for hire (not counting crew and/or instructors) to be inspected.

The Coast Guard does not require vessel carrying six or fewer passengers for hire (again not counting crew and/or instructors) to be inspected, although they do require that they be under the command of a Coast Guard licensed operator.

I would recommend that you change the definition in the proposed bill to apply to vessels carrying more than six students (not including instructors or crew).