

LATE

EXPEDITIONS

658 Front Street #127
Lahaina, HI 96761
(808) 661-3756
1-800-695-2624
Fax (808) 661-0544

March 21, 2011

VIA EMAIL AS NOTED:

Committee on Transportation
Representative Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

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Finance Committee
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

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Committee on Transportation & Internal Affairs
Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

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Ways & Means Committee
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

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RE: HB 1239/SB 1127, State Ferry System

Senators and Representatives:

On February 19, 2011, we, the owners of Hone Heke Corporation, dba Expeditions Ferry submitted a letter questioning the current drafting of the above mentioned bills because they failed to address the two operating ferry systems in Maui County. We submit this testimony and suggested amendment to the bill because we still believe strongly our concerns need to be addressed.

We have also talked to various of you and have been told that the bills do not relate to our ferry operations. While it does seem that the intent of the bill is to institute a "High speed ferry vessel" capable of operating at thirty knots and of carrying 500 passengers and two hundred cars, the current language specifically allows a small ferry between the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai (*See* § -3 (b)).

We would propose that §3(b) be amended to read:

(b) At minimum, the authority shall operate one high speed ferry vessel.

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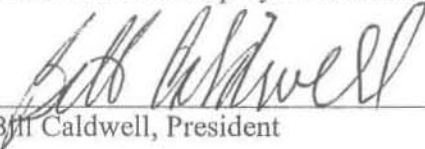
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We also question the wisdom, in light of the Superferry issues, of creating an exception for the need to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity. This bill's exemption of the new ferry service from having to comply with PUC requirements gives it an unfair competitive advantage and does not help local businesses or create the opportunity for appropriate public participation and input.

Again, while we support the concept of a state wide ferry service, this bill must be amended. We need to keep what works in place; repair the infrastructure to support current use; and then create a self-sustaining ferry system to support *new and different* markets than those already being served.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

The Owners & Employees of Hone Heke Corp.



Bill Caldwell, President



Steven Knight, Vice President



Nancy Hoffner, Secretary

Ken Christopher, Owner

Hal Pestana, Owner

Alan Steed, Owner

Al Malone, Owner

Mat Holtvedt, Owner



Corinna Nakagawa, Owner

Mark Birdsall, Owner

Stephen Beresford, Owner

Jerry Pintur, Owner

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Lani Delatori, Owner

Brad Curtis, Owner

Michelle Delzer, Owner

Roger Hargreaves, Owner

Attachments: February 19, 2011

cc: Senator Rosalyn Baker, senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov
Senator Shan Tsutsui, sentsutsui@capitol.hawaii.gov
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