

Council Chair
Danny A. Mateo

Vice-Chair
Joseph Pontanilla

Council Members
Gladys C. Baisa
Robert Carroll
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
G. Riki Hokama
Michael P. Victorino
Mike White




COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/council

Director of Council Services
Ken Fukuoka

Call

February 14, 2011

TO: Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
Committee on Tourism

FROM: Don Couch 
Council Member

DATE: Monday, February 14, 2011 at 10:20 a.m.

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HR 10, URGING THE GOVERNOR TO PRESERVE THE
COUNTIES' SHARE OF THE TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS TAX**

I support HR 10 for the reasons cited in testimony submitted by the Maui County Council Chair, and urge you to support this measure.

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Call

February 14, 2011

TO: The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
House Committee on Tourism

FROM: Joseph Pontanilla *Joseph Pontanilla*
Council Member

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2011; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HR 10,
URGING THE GOVERNOR TO PRESERVE THE COUNTIES' SHARE OF THE
TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS TAX**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor to preserve the counties' share of the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT).

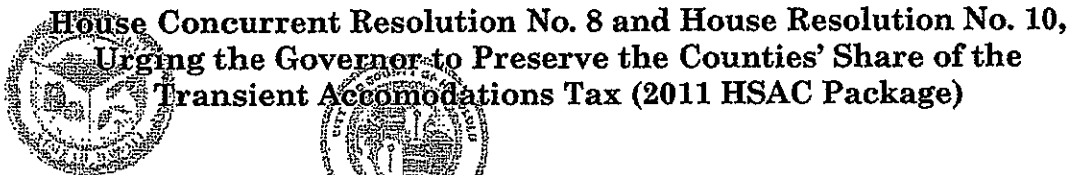
I am aware that the President of the Hawaii State Association of Counties (HSAC) has submitted testimony on behalf of HSAC in support of this measure, which is in the HSAC Legislative Package. As the Treasurer of HSAC, I concur with the testimony submitted by the President, and urge you to support this measure.

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Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)
Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i, and City & County of Honolulu

TESTIMONY OF DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI
PRESIDENT, HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011 AT 10:20 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 312, STATE CAPITOL



House Concurrent Resolution No. 8 and House Resolution No. 10,
Urging the Governor to Preserve the Counties' Share of the
Transient Accommodations Tax (2011 HSAC Package)

The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair, House Committee on Tourism and Committee Members:

My name is Derek S. K. Kawakami, and I submit this testimony in support of H.C.R. 8 and H.R. 10 in my capacity as President of the Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC).

The Hawai'i State Association of Counties is in support of H.C.R. 8 and H.R. 10, as both resolutions were included in the 2011 Hawai'i State Association of Counties Legislative Package. The purpose of Act 185, Session Laws of Hawaii 1990, was to provide a more equitable method of sharing state revenues with the counties rather than continuing with the system existing at the time whereby the counties requested financial assistance through "grants in aid" from the State. The counties' share of the transient accommodations tax (TAT) also provides a stable revenue source and enables counties to properly plan when balancing their annual budgets. Maintaining the current allocation of the TAT would assist counties in continuing to provide essential government services to both visitors and residents alike. Losing the current allocation of the TAT would require the counties to consider significantly raising property taxes, increasing fees, and cutting programs and services that benefit both residents and visitors.

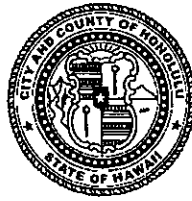
Thank you for this opportunity to provide this supporting testimony.

Mahalo nui loa,

Derek S. K. Kawakami
Derek S. K. Kawakami, President
Hawai'i State Association of Counties

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR

February 14, 2011

The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
House Committee on Tourism
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

RE: Testimony of Mayor Peter Carlisle on H.C.R 8/ H.R. 10; Urging the Governor To Preserve the Counties' Share of the Transient Accommodations Tax

Chair Brower and members of the House Committee on Tourism, Mayor Peter Carlisle submits the following testimony in support of HCR 8 and HR 10.

The purpose of these resolutions is to urge the Governor to preserve the counties' share of the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT).

The Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) is an integral and essential part of the counties' base budgets. The TAT was created as a more equitable method of sharing state revenues with the counties in recognition of the greater impact of the visitor industry on county services such as police, fire protection, parks, beaches, water, roads, sewage systems and other tourism-related infrastructure. The legislature also noted that the distribution of the TAT to the counties was meant to provide a stable and continuing source of revenue for the counties.

The City and County receives a 44.1% share of the TAT allocated to the counties which amounts to approximately \$45 million dollars for the City and County. These funds provide services such as police, fire, lifeguards for visitors as well as the infrastructure for trash disposal, water and sewer services necessary to support them. Without the current level of TAT funding, the counties would find it difficult to maintain services and infrastructures without shifting the burden to property owners.

For this reason, we strongly support the adoption of HCR 8 and HR 10 and thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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February 12, 2011

TO: The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair
House Committee on Tourism

FROM: Danny A. Mateo
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danny A. Mateo".

HR 8 +

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2011; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HR 10,
URGING THE GOVERNOR TO PRESERVE THE COUNTIES' SHARE OF THE
TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATION TAX.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor to preserve the counties' share of the Transient Accommodation Tax (TAT).

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. This resolution is instrumental in facilitating the State and counties' economic recovery and acknowledges the importance of long-term intergovernmental cooperation and vision.
2. The continued 44.8 per cent distribution of TAT revenues to the counties will allow the counties to more fully and expeditiously assist in our shared interest of a sustainable and effective economic recovery.
3. This resolution recognizes the rational nexus between the visitors' impact on county infrastructure and the distribution of county-earned TAT revenue.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

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