

# **SB 741**

RELATING TO INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

Authorizes the county liquor commissions to require training and certification for liquor servers.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII  
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February 15, 2011

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs; Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair; and members of the Committee

From: Arkie Koehl, Council Chairman – MADD Hawaii

Re: Senate Bill 741 – Relating to Intoxicating Liquor

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I am Arkie Koehl, speaking in support of Senate Bill 741 on behalf of the membership of MADD Hawaii.

Having been involved throughout last year with the working group on server training created by the House, we concur with the recommendations of the four county liquor commissions in response to HR 41 and support SB 741, which authorizes county-supervised certification for liquor servers.

We encourage the committee to pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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**TO:** Senator Will Espero  
Chair, Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military  
Affairs  
*Via Email: PGMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov*

**FROM:** Christine Ogawa Karamatsu

**DATE:** February 14, 2011

**RE:** **S.B. 741 – Relating to Intoxicating Liquor**  
**Hearing: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 2:45 p.m., Room 224**

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Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government  
Operations, and Military Affairs:

I am Christine Ogawa Karamatsu, appearing on behalf of the Distilled Spirits Council of  
the United States (“DISCUS”). DISCUS is a national trade association representing  
producers and marketers of distilled spirits sold in the United States.

S.B. 741 authorizes the county liquor commissions to require training and certification  
for liquor servers or sellers.

DISCUS supports S.B. 741 because such certification processes, if developed and  
implemented effectively, can ensure that those selling and serving liquor in Hawaii do so  
responsibly and with an understanding of relevant state laws. This can be an effective  
means of combating illegal practices such as underage drinking and drunk driving. These  
are important efforts of the Century Council, a not-for-profit organization funded solely  
by America’s leading distillers.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to present testimony on S.B. 741. We look  
forward to participating in further discussion on this measure.



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Hearing Date and Time: February 15, 2011 (2:45 PM)

Written Testimony

**The Honorable Will Espero, Chair**

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operation, and Military Affairs  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: S.B. 741 – Relating to Intoxicating Liquor**

Dear Chair Espero, Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

I am Roger Reeves, Centerplate's Director of Operations for the Hawai'i Region, testifying in support of S.B. 741. The bill would authorize county liquor commissions to require training and certification for liquor servers and sellers.

For 19 years, Centerplate has been the concessionaire for the Waikiki Shell and Neal S. Blaisdell Center, and for the past 10 years, we have been the concessionaire for the Aloha Stadium. We provide the food and beverages for events such as the KCCN Birthday Bash, Kokua Fest, and Jammin' Hawaiian Events, and concerts such as Jimmy Buffet, Bon Jovi, and Elton John.

Centerplate supports S.B. 741 because requiring liquor servers and sellers to be certified helps ensure that employees understand liquor laws and act responsibly. It should be noted that in some states (e.g., Texas, Florida), businesses are entitled to "Safe Harbor" protection from fines and penalties related to liquor server and seller employees' actions if those servers and sellers are trained and certified by liquor commission-approved certification programs.

Thank you for this opportunity to present written testimony in support of S.B. 741.

Sincerely,

Roger Reeves  
Director of Operations  
Centerplate – Hawai'i Region