

LATE TESTIMONY



February 9, 2012

Representative Jerry Chang
Chairman of the House Water, Land and Ocean Resources Committee
Hawaii State Capital Room 435
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Chang,

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Island Contractors Association, which represents over 130 businesses on the island of Hawaii. We are in support of future House Bill 2366 which would create a redevelopment district in East Hawaii. This bill would allow for public/ private partnerships which would create economic opportunities for East Hawaii businesses.

Hilo is in dire need of a higher level of lodging, especially for the tourists that come over on the current direct flight from the West Coast. If nothing is done soon, we run the risk of losing these flights and more importantly revenue for our County.

Thank you for introducing this bill into the Hawaii State Legislature. If it passes, the impact on the community will be tremendous. Please convey my wholehearted support to the relevant legislative committees and leaders of each chamber.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Takamine
President Hawaii Island Contractors Association 2011-2012

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February 9, 2012

Representative Jerry Chang
Chairman of the House Water, Land and Ocean Resources Committee
Hawaii State Capital Room 435
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Chang,

I am writing on behalf of the Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association, which represents over 240 businesses in East Hawaii. We are in support of future House Bill 2366 which would create a redevelopment district in East Hawaii. This bill would allow for public/ private partnerships which would create economic opportunities for East Hawaii businesses.

Hilo is in dire need of a higher level of lodging, especially for the tourists that come over on the current direct flight from the West Coast. If nothing is done soon, we run the risk of losing these flights and more importantly revenue for our County.

Thank you for introducing this bill into the Hawaii State Legislature. If it passes, the impact on the community will be tremendous. Please convey my wholehearted support to the relevant legislative committees and leaders of each chamber.

Sincerely,

Craig S. Takamine
Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association Government Affairs Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 4:01 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mizunob001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2366 on 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM HB2366

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Barry Mizuno
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mizunob001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:

I live in Hilo and I support this bill. This is a step in the right direction to re-develop this valuable property in an expeditious manner. Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 4:11 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: lee.wilson@hpmhawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2366 on 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM HB2366

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lee Wilson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lee.wilson@hpmhawaii.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:

The Banyan Drive area is a complete embarrassment to Hilo. It was once and could be again a beautiful resource for local residents as well as an asset able to attract tourist and the investment necessary to update and expand Hilo's Visitor industry infrastructure, specifically quality hotel rooms.

From its current state it is obvious that the existing management system has no incentive for improvement. I urge you to put the management of the resource into the hands of the people who know the area best and have the most to gain by maximizing the value for all.



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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KALAELOA

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Chairperson

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LATE TESTIMONY

STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Friday, February 10, 2012

9:45 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

H. B. 2366 – RELATING TO THE EAST HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Purpose: Establishes the East Hawaii Community Development District and board. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (“DLNR”) to deed certain leases to the board.

Position: The Hawaii Community Development Authority (“HCDA”) takes no position on this proposal and offers the following comments:

- While the proposal to establish the East Hawaii Community Development District is consistent with our function, the HCDA defers to the Public Land Development Corporation (“PLDC”) and the DLNR, who have together expressed an interest in developing the area as their own development district.
- Should the PLDC be tasked with establishing this district and community in accordance with the development guidance policies set out in this proposal, the HCDA will endeavor to assist in an appropriate manner.

- In the event that this proposal advances without amendment, the HCDA will work closely with the PLDC and DLNR to coordinate the development of the East Hawaii Community Development District.
- Finally, while I understand that membership of the Authority might have to be expanded to ensure that community perspectives are represented, the proposal as currently drafted might create a very unwieldy Authority. If the proposal were to advance, I would request an opportunity to present ideas for another governance structure that provides for both efficiency, local participation and conformance with the current statutory structure of the Authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this proposal.

LATE TESTIMONY



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

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Jon Miyata

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Donald Straney
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Barry Taniguchi
Ron Terry
Steve Ueda
Carol VanCamp
William Walter
Noreen Yamane

February 9, 2012

Submitted On-Line at <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/submittestimony.aspx>

Honorable Jerry L. Chang, Chair
House Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 2366 East Hawaii Community
Development District

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jon Miyata and I am the President of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce. With more than 230 member businesses and over 500 member representatives, the Chamber serves as an important voice of business in Hawaii.

The Chamber **strongly supports** HB 2366 which will create an East Hawaii Community Development District with a local governing board.

I apologize for being unable to testify in person on this very important issue to the entire community of East Hawaii, the Island of Hawaii and the State of Hawaii. This issue is **important to all interests** in our community because it deals with a critical issue – the infrastructure of our visitor industry.

I don't need to tell you that East Hawaii suffers from a lack of sufficient hotel rooms and meeting space. It is no secret that Banyan Drive, once a jewel of the visitor industry on the Big Island, has fallen on hard times and has suffered from a lack of investment in upkeep and management of the properties. As far as I know, we are the only community in the State of Hawaii that has virtually its **entire inventory** of hotel space on land managed by the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

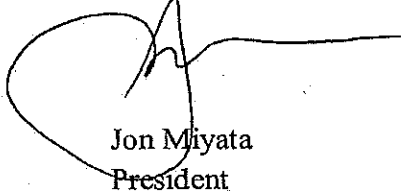
117 Keawe Street, Suite 205
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Phone: (808) 935-7178
Fax: (808) 961-4435
E-mail: admin@hicc.biz
www.hicc.biz

While the DLNR does many wonderful things, we believe that it would be better for both the State and the people of Hawaii for the Banyan Drive area to come under a governing board comprised of local community members that HB 2366 would provide. Such a board comprised of community members would be more responsive to the needs of the area and have a vested interest in the revitalization of this jewel of the visitor industry.

Please support HB 2366.

We look forward to the day when visitors come to East Hawaii as a destination rather than a transit point for a visit to the Volcano. Please free Banyan Drive to be restored to and surpass its former glory!

Very Truly Yours



Jon Miyata
President