

February 29, 2012

LATE TESTIMONY

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Public Hearing: February 29, 2012, 2:30 p.m. Room 308

Re: HB2682 HD1, Relating to Commercial Activities on Ocean Waters.

Dear Chair Oshiro and members of the Committee on Finance,

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii supports HB 2682 HD1 which provides that all commercial activities that occur on our ocean waters receive permits and not just those which depart from state harbors or marinas.

The mission of DLNR is to:

“Enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii’s unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of visitors and the people of Hawaii nei in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.”

Without the complete and total tools to allow DLNR to manage our natural resources by understanding and controlling the uses of our resources may contribute to their inability to fulfill their mission.

All commercial users of our common ocean resources should operate by the same rules. It is not appropriate that some individuals who do not use public resources for either launching their boats or mooring their vessels should be allowed to circumvent the management of DLNR on our common ocean resources.

DLNR needs the tools to be able to do their job, protect our resources now and for future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Cynthia K.L. Rezentes
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai’i