

Honorable Rida T.R. Cabanilla  
Madam Chair, Committee on Housing

Testimony of Lito Alcantara  
Group Builders, Inc.

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**In strong support of HB 309 HD 1**

Madam Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee on Housing,

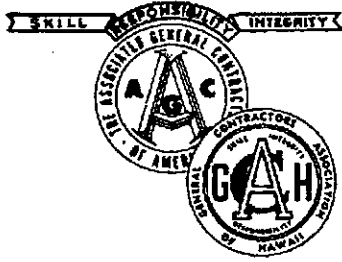
My name is Lito Alcantara of Group Builders, Inc. I am testifying today in strong support of this bill, which would exempt qualifying high-rise dwelling projects with affordable rental units from height restrictions.

Developing high density projects in the urban core of Honolulu helps to fight urban sprawl and is in line with the overall sustainability plan of the City and County of Honolulu. This incentive for developers will provide more affordable housing units which will help the increasing number of individuals and families facing economical hardships due to the current economy.

As a builder, this is a perfect example of a partnership that would benefit the public as well as the private sector.

I ask that you pass HB 309 HD 1 unamended.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



## GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

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# LATE TESTIMONY

February 16, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE RIDA T. R. CABANILLA, CHAIR  
AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE JERRY L. CHANG, CHAIR AND  
MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

SUBJECT: H.B.309, HD1 - RELATING TO HOUSING

### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 16, 2011

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

Dear Chairs Cabanilla and Chang and members of this Joint Committees:

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA), an organization comprised of over five hundred and eighty (580) general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms, **supports** the passage of H.B. 309, HD1 Relating to Housing.

H.B. 309, HD1 will increase the availability of affordable rental housing. The increase in affordable housing will assist the less fortunate and needy and give them a place to call home. This measure provides another option that can be used to increase the housing needs of Hawaii's families.

The GCA recommends that the House Committee on Housing and Water, Land & ocean Resources **supports** the passage of H.B. 309, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**Housing Committee on Housing**  
Representative Rida T.R. Cabanilla, Chair  
Representative Pono Chong, Vice Chair

# LATE TESTIMONY

**House Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources**  
Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair  
Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 309 H.D.1**

Relating to Housing

Submitted by Nani Medeiros, Co-Founder, Hawai'i Housing Alliance

February 16, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 325

The Hawai'i Housing Alliance supports House Bill 309 House Draft 1. This bill provides a mechanism to address affordable housing needs in the City and County of Honolulu using a targeted density incentive for a corridor bound by Kapiolani Blvd., South Beretania Street, South Street, and Kalakaua Avenue. Density incentives have been suggested for decades in Hawai'i as a way to provide housing for our workers and has received support at both city and state levels of government as a tool. Honolulu's city council passed a resolution, introduced by former Councilmember Charles Djou, urging the city building permit department to allow more flexible height limits in Honolulu's urban core.

Increasing density in the urban core to provide affordable housing prevents urban sprawl, encourages the use of public or pedestrian transportation, decreases the traffic burden on roads, and improves workers' quality of life.