

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

JANUARY 25, 2013 HEARING  
Conference Room 325  
8:30 AM

**HOUSE BILL 191**  
**RELATING TO SMALL BOAT HARBORS**

House Bill 191 proposes to anoint the HCDA with the power to assist and advise the DLNR on "planning, developing, operating, administering, and maintaining small boat harbors" throughout Hawai'i. While the DLNR's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation has had its problems, instead of improving this long-standing functional division, HB 191 proposes to plant the fox in the henhouse.

For the past few years, following the State DOT Harbors Division's surrender of Honolulu's Kewalo Basin Harbor to the HCDA, the HCDA has demonstrated during their assigned stint in managing Kewalo Basin that they remain development-bent toward the highest bidder at the expense of the public interest.

HCDA does not manage harbors. In fact, due to this inability they have found it necessary to sub-contract their harbor management assignment to chosen private parties, thus layering the cost of managing the Harbor and increasing the cost to taxpayers. Such parties have demonstrated that they do not work well with the traditional harbor users or issue boat slip permits in a timely and agreeable manner, yet have leased condemned docks to incoming yacht owners. For this the HCDA is now offering them a 55-year lease of the Harbor.

Such practices and policies should not be expanded to our treasured small boat harbors elsewhere on O'ahu and throughout the State. Further, DLNR should not be subjected to diluting or relinquishing their public-interest mandate.

MS Matson  
Honolulu