



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
CIVIL DEFENSE DIVISION

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2521 HD1
A BILL RELATING TO HAZARDS TO PROPERTY

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MAJ GEN DARRYLL D. M. WONG
ADJUTANT GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF STATE CIVIL DEFENSE
February 19, 2014

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Major General Darryll D.M. Wong, State Adjutant General and Director of State Civil Defense. I am testifying in SUPPORT of House Bill 2521 HD1.

This measure will support Act 76, enacted in the 2009 Legislature. Act 76 is now section 128-10.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (Civil defense powers; mitigation of hazardous situations). Mitigation projects include:

- Cutting, trimming, or removing dangerous trees or branches that pose a hazard to other properties
- Stabilizing or removing unstable rock and soil hazards
- Cleaning streams and waterways to mitigate or prevent flooding or other disasters

State Civil Defense has supported Act 76 related activities since its enactment without increased personnel or dedicated funding. This appropriation will allow State Civil Defense to mitigate additional Act 76 situations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** the intent of HB 2521 HD1.



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BY

DOUG MAYNE
VICE DIRECTOR OF STATE CIVIL DEFENSE

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Doug Mayne, Vice Director of State Civil Defense. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 2521 HD1.

This bill will support the cutting, trimming or removing of dangerous tress or branches identified under Act 76, enacted in the 2009 Legislature. Act 76 is now section 128-10.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (Civil defense powers; mitigation of hazardous situations).

State Civil Defense has supported Act 76 related activities since its enactment in 2009 without increased personnel or dedicated funding. This appropriation will allow State Civil Defense to mitigate additional Act 76 situations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** the intent of HB 2521 HD1.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 1:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gordines@kauaiflowers.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2521 on Feb 19, 2014 14:00PM

HB2521

Submitted on: 2/18/2014
 Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John R. Gordines	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I Oppose this Bill; It adds Food costs to Hawaii residents who can least afford it. We are Food Insecure enough!!! 1 in 7 people receive food stamp assistance in Hawaii and this Bill will add to that number unnecessarily. Please DO NOT HEAR this Bill, it is bad for Hawaii and adds to our cost of living. Mahalo

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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February 18, 2014

Honorable Sylvia Luke
Chair, House Finance Committee
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Representative Luke and Committee Members:

RE: Hearing: February 19, 2014, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 308
House Bill No. 2521, HD1 Relating to Hazards to Property

I strongly support and urge that funds are appropriated to House Bill No. 2521, HD1, Relating to Hazards

to Property.

I am a homeowner with a hazardous albizia tree hovering over my home that grew another 10 feet this year; it also affects the homes above. This albizia tree is located in my neighbor's hillside property.

For years, neighbors have been unsuccessful to persuade the owner to trim the branches and tree. My family is afraid that one day a 15+ mile winds/rainstorm will cause huge branches or even the tree to fall and destroy my home. The roots from the tree is causing soil erosion and cracks in the drainage/culvert.

Current worldwide weather environmental changes, i.e., East Coast freezing conditions, vanishing, volcanic eruptions, are warning signs for the State Government to take corrective action by implementing revisions to its contingency emergency plans.

I contacted Steve Seigler of the State Civil Defense, Department of Defense, about my concerns. He inspected the tree, claimed it hazardous, and said nothing could be done. The law states that is the owner's responsibility. The Department of Defense has no funds available and would need the Governor's approval to declare it as 'emergency' to enter the property.

Representative Luke and Committee Members, I urge you to appropriate funds to this Bill and amend HRS 128-10-3., Civil Defense Powers, Mitigation of Hazardous Situations.

Mark Kikuta
Concerned Property Owner

LATE

Representative Sylvia Luke,

My name is Marvan Wakabayashi and I live in Pacific Palisades. I am in support of House Bill (H.B.) No. 2521 H.D. 1. Please accept this as my e-mail testimony. I am glad that this is being brought up since I believe my family and property are being affected by an albizia tree growing in the mini mall property adjacent to my house that overhangs into our property. The large trunk and branches creates some of these property and life threatening concerns: 1. Potential toppling of trunk and branches poses a danger to my family, grandkids and house 2. It threatens the safety of children from Palisades Elementary that use the area as a "short cut" as well as the mini mall building 3. The roots may have caused maintenance problems to the city sewer line 4. The large roots are damaging the concrete lined drainage swale 4. Leaves have clogged my gutter which require that I pay for the cleaning. The recent rain storms and exceptional high winds has increased our concerns Branches from the tree are always falling in my yard and I am worried about the safety of my children and grandchildren and my house. If they pose any kind of threat, the tree should be removed.

In February 2013 I sent a similar e-mail to Senator Clarence Nishihara pointing out the potential threat to my family and property.

On February 5, 2014, I sent a similar e-mail testimony to Representative Henry Acquino supporting House Bill No. 2521.

This ends my testimony on H.B. No. 2521 H.D. 1. Please feel free to contact me as follow:

Marvan Wakabayashi
2333 Aalii Pl., Pearl City
808-455-1296

Sincerely,

Marvan Wakabayashi



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Twenty-Seventh Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Finance



Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 18, 2014

H.B. 2135 - RELATING TO TAXATION

The Hawaii Government Employees Association supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 2135, which makes specific changes to Hawaii's tax law that will enable the State to tax Internet-based transactions through its participation in the national Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement (SSUTA). Participation in the SSUTA requires Hawaii to change its tax law to be in conformity with the agreement. If enough states agree to a uniform framework, taxing Internet transactions could overcome constitutional barriers against infringements on interstate commerce.

There are several compelling reasons for taxing Internet-based transactions. Retail trade has been transformed by the Internet. As the popularity of "e-commerce" grows, fairness dictates that Internet-based transactions should be treated in the same manner as other retail transactions. Retail transactions that are taxable by "bricks and mortar" retailers should also be taxable when sold through the Internet. People in Hawaii and across the country are going online to buy a variety of goods (clothes, furniture, computers and electronics) in an effort to save money. While buying such goods online may cost less than in a retail store, the purchases are costly to states and local government that miss the streamlined sales tax revenue.

Hawaii has already lost millions of dollars in Internet-based sales, and the losses will likely increase as the importance of the Internet continues to grow. This measure will allow the State to begin collecting use taxes that current exist under Chapter 238, HRS. Therefore, we support H.B. 2135 that makes the necessary changes to the tax code to comply with the SSUTA. The ongoing loss of millions in tax revenue from e-commerce is a problem that will get worse over time unless we take appropriate action. The revenues gained through the Internet sales may be used to fund important state priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: of8@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2521 on Feb 19, 2014 14:00PM



HB2521

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 19, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Flora Obayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please fund the state civil defense resources to deal with hazards. Mahalo nui

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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