

LIQUOR COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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February 19, 2014

Representative Tom Brower, Chair
Representative Romy M. Cachola, Vice Chair
Committee on Tourism

Hearing: Monday, February 24, 2014
10:30 a.m.; Room 312

Position: Support HB286 HD1, Relating to Tourism

Dear Chair Brower, Vice Chair Cachola, and Members:

The Liquor Commission, City and County of Honolulu, supports House Bill 286 HD1, Relating to Tourism.

We have been advised by representatives of the hospitality industry that the trend in modern hospitality practice is for certain properties to forego maintaining a commercial kitchen and dining room unless necessitated by an established banquet business, and instead to rely on separately licensed restaurants to provide meal service for guests. The proposed measure will amend Section 281-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make the condominium hotel and hotel kitchen and dining room an optional feature, rather than a mandatory requirement. As such, the proposed measure will conform legal requirements to modern business practice and hospitality trends and should be an encouragement, rather than an impediment, to new and existing condominium hotel and hotel licensees. The Commission will not experience regulatory difficulties from the eliminated requirement.

The Liquor Commission urges your support of House Bill 286 HD1, Relating to Tourism. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,


ANNA C. HIRAI
Acting Administrator

ACH:



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM
Representative Tom Brower, Chair

2/24/2014
Rm. 312, 10:30 AM

HB 286, HD 1
Relating to Hotel Class Liquor License

Chair Brower and Members of this Committee, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels Hawaii, in support of HB 286, HD 1.

The Hotel & Hotel-Condo Class Liquor Licenses allows the serving of liquor for room service, mini bars in rooms, serving of liquor at weddings and other events on the property and the catering of liquor for off premises events such as weddings, luaus, company receptions, conventions and other off-site events.

The current statues for a hotel & hotel-condo properties, requires that it includes a restaurant with a kitchen and dining room as currently defined in Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 281-1.

However, the hotel industry has changed. Most of the new transient accommodations now being built, timeshares & condo-tels usually do not have a restaurant, full kitchens or dining rooms to serve meals, they primarily have meeting rooms. The removal of the kitchen requirement would allow timeshares and condo-tels to offer another service, liquor room service to its clients.

Removing the requirement for a kitchen for a hotel or condo-tel license in this bill, would also help smaller hotel operations who do not have the resources or the space available to maintain a restaurant with a kitchen and dining room on the hotel property.

Mahalo for allowing use to testify and urge your passage of this bill.



HAWAII LODGING & TOURISM
A S S O C I A T I O N

Testimony of George Szigeti
President & CEO
HAWAII LODGING & TOURISM ASSOCIATION
Committee on Tourism
Hearing on February 24, 2014, 10:30 A.M.
HB 286 HD 1 Relating to Tourism

Good Morning Chair Brower, Vice Chair Cachola and Members of the Committee. My name is George Szigeti and I am the President and CEO of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association is a statewide association of hotels, condominiums, timeshare companies, management firms, suppliers, and other related firms that benefit from and strengthen Hawai'i's visitor industry. Our membership includes over 150 lodging properties, representing over 48,000 rooms, and approximately 470 other Allied members. The lodging industry alone employs over 38,000 workers across the state of Hawai'i and generated over \$5.7 billion in annual sales in 2012. As part of the broader visitor industry – which employees 1/6 of all workers and 1/5 of those in the private sector, and generated \$14.4 billion in visitor spending in 2012 – we represent one of Hawai'i's largest industries and a critical sector of the economy.

On behalf of HLTA, permit me to offer this testimony regarding HB 286 Relating to Tourism. This bill amends the definitions of "hotel" and "condominium hotel" by removing the need to have a kitchen and dining room in order to meet the requirements set forth under HRS Section 281-1.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association **supports** this measure because it streamlines the requirements for both a hotel and condominium hotel to obtain a Class 12 hotel liquor license. We feel that the inclusion of a kitchen and dining room should not be a prerequisite for consideration as a condominium hotel or hotel when applying for a Class 12 license.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.