

LATE TESTIMONY

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Chair Will Espero
Chair Mike Gabbad

The Right Honorable Members of the Senate Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs; & Energy and Environment

Dear Senators,

We support the original intent of SB 2749 as it was submitted for discussion by your joint committee hearing today.

As we see the previously submitted written testimonies (15 ea), it appears that agencies, and companion county agencies, were in opposition. The concept of "home rule" by the various counties goes without saying and due consideration.

However, most, except for one (1) individual testimony submitted were in support. Of those four Senators excused for their absences, three (3) were the co-sponsors-but, the various Senators who were not present to vote are either Chairs or Co-Chairs of committees that may have relevant amendment language that they may prefer to entertain: CPN, HTH, HMS, & PSM.

A major testimony submitted either yesterday or today is by the former Acting Director of the State Dept. of Health. The incoming Director is yet to be confirmed, & her hearing confirmation can not be assumed to be a "slam-dunk" done-deal.

The testimony from Pulama Lanai (Lynn P. McCrory), and all individual testimonies (less one in opposition) must/should be considered in the interest at least for the island of Lanai.

We were spending some time on around the island bus rides on Monday and came to an ATM machine near a Mexican/Latino food establishment. Apparently a wastewater plumbing had backed up and requirement emergency attention by a contractor crew.

Not everything that is true of tried & true for the County seats or the Capitol City relevant agencies would and should equally apply to rural areas and the smaller islands like Molokai, Lanai, Niihau, or the less populated zones found in the mountains and the under-served districts where the utilities' are uneven in reliability.

SB 2749 Relating to Wastewater, must be discussed further, even with one or additional amendments for Counties that should be permitted to "op-out". But an either or option should be permitted with accountability and extra funding, especially in places such as Lanai, Molokai, or Kahoolawe (the smaller islands that are sparsely populated).

Thank you for hearing this worthwhile measure and supporting it for a Senate floor debate, & additional discussion inside the Committee on Health (The Right Honorable Senators Josh Green, Rosalyn H. Baker, Clarence K. Nishihara).

Sincerely,

Arvid Tadao Youngquist
Spokesman and Founder
The Mestizo Association (est. 1982)