

**LATE**

**Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association  
222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401  
Honolulu, HI 96813-2453  
(808) 531-4551**

February 4, 2015

Senate Committee on  
Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi  
Hawaii State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 1151 Relating to Liquor

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Committee Members:

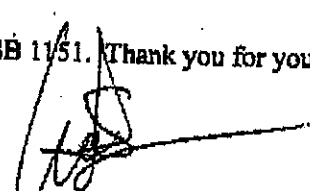
The Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association ("HLWA"), respectfully submits the following written testimony in opposition to SB 1151 relating to intoxicating liquor, which is to be heard by your Committee on February 5, 2015.

This bill would permit restaurants and retailers to sell beer, malt beverages, wine or cider for off premises consumption provided the liquor is sold in a sealed or covered container sold to or provided by the patron not exceeding one half gallon. There are no safeguards provided as to how retailers would obtain the liquor, dispense or store same safely in accordance with law. The liquor laws and rules of each Liquor Commission must be adhered to before any consideration should be given to allow sale of liquor by restaurants and retailers in this fashion.

The bill also would permit brew pubs and small craft producers to sell malt beverages purchased from other manufacturers, wholesalers, brewpubs, and small craft producers to consumers in growlers not exceeding one gallon for off premises consumption. Current law already allows brew pubs and small craft producers the right to sell malt beverages manufactured on the licensee's premises to consumers. This bill goes much beyond that and would give brew pubs and small craft producers almost the same authority as a wholesaler. This would be a further derogation of the three tier system, where the roles of manufacturer, wholesaler and retailer are kept separate. Brew pubs and small craft producers have already been given much favored treatment on the pretext that because they are making their product using local ingredients in the State of Hawaii they should be allowed to sell their product directly to the consumer and other licensees. They should not be allowed to sell other licensee's product. No further unfair and unwarranted advantages should be given.

For the foregoing reasons, we respectively oppose SB 1151. Thank you for your consideration of the foregoing.

Very truly yours,



HAWAII LIQUOR WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION