

**LIQUOR COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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March 20, 2015

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

**Hearing:** Monday, March 23, 2015  
2:45 p.m.; Room 325

**Position:** Support for SB 1154, Relating to the Liquor Commission

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Woodson, and Members:

The Liquor Commission, City and County of Honolulu (Commission), supports Senate Bill 1154, Relating to the Liquor Commission.

For liquor license applicants, the ability to obtain an approved liquor license is a critical step in commencing operations and generating revenue to offset the sizeable investment in capital and time required to start a liquor licensed business. At the same time, the minimum time between the notice of the public hearing on a license application and the public hearing itself set forth in Section 281-57(b) and -57(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), ensures that registered voters and owners/lessees residing within 500 feet of the proposed premises have adequate time to evaluate a proposed licensed premises that will impact their immediate surroundings and express concerns regarding the application, if warranted. The proposed measure will amend Section 281-57(b) and -57(c), HRS, to reduce the minimum "wait time" between the notice and the public hearing for Honolulu County applicants from 45 days to 30 days. This reduction will enable applicants to commence operations under an approved liquor license at an earlier opportunity, while still affording ample time to registered voters and owners/lessees to exercise their right to evaluate and comment on the application.

The Liquor Commission urges your support of Senate Bill 1154, Relating to the Liquor Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Franklin Don Pacarro, Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

FRANKLIN DON PACARRO, JR.  
Administrator

FDP:ACH

March 21, 2015

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Re: SB 1154 RELATING TO THE LIQUOR COMMISSION  
Monday, March 23, 2015 at 2:45 p.m.  
Conference Room 325  
**Testimony in Support of SB 1154**

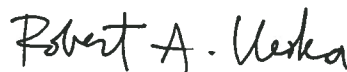
Chair Kawakami:

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 1154 RELATING TO THE LIQUOR COMMISSION. I am a licensed attorney in the State of Hawaii and I have been assisting with Liquor License Applications for over 14 years for various large retail stores, hotels, restaurants and other companies doing business in Hawaii.

I understand that SB 1154 allows the Public Hearing on a Liquor License Application not less than thirty (30) days after the first public notice of the hearing which would be a reduction from the current forty-five (45) day notice requirement.

- The thirty (30)-day notice requirement would be generally beneficial to Liquor License applicants since this would allow the required Public Hearing to be held fifteen (15) days earlier and allow Liquor Licenses to be issued earlier. Accordingly this would result in earlier opening dates for the employment of employees and revenue for the business.
- The thirty (30)-day notice requirement appears to allow members of the public sufficient time to submit opposition or support of the Liquor License Application.
- The thirty (30)-day notice requirement period is easier to calculate by members of the public rather than the forty-five (45)-day period which is generally more confusing to calculate.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT A. UEOKA