

SB 2216

Measure Title: RELATING TO A SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY.

Report Title: Sports and Entertainment Authority; Special Fund; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Establishes the sports and entertainment authority to coordinate and develop an entertainment and sports industry in the State, including oversight of the stadium; attracting local, national, and international events; and developing state-of-the-art facilities for the benefit of professional, amateur, and youth athletes. Establishes the sports and entertainment authority special fund and appropriates funds. Repeals the stadium authority.



WRITTEN ONLY

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR

RODERICK K. BECKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

P.O. BOX 150

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT,
AND TECHNOLOGY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2216

February 10, 2016
1:25 p.m.

RELATING TO A SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY

Senate Bill No. 2216: establishes the Sports and Entertainment Authority; repeals the Stadium Authority; and establishes the Sports and Entertainment Authority Special Fund. The bill also authorizes the deposit of \$10 million in transient accommodation tax revenues annually into the special fund.

In addition, the bill authorizes the deposits of gifts, grants, appropriations by the Legislature, and funds collected by the Sports and Entertainment Authority from the operations of a State sports and entertainment complex into the special fund. Moneys in the special fund may be used by the Authority for administrative expenses, capital improvement projects, and for operations, maintenance, promotion, and management of Aloha Stadium and related facilities.

The Department of Budget and Finance does not take any position on the proposed Sports and Entertainment Authority; however, as a matter of general policy, the department does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3 of the HRS. In regards to Senate Bill No. 2216, it is uncertain if there is a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue and if the special fund will be self-sustaining.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JAMES K. NISHIMOTO
DIRECTOR

CINDY S. INOUE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

February 9, 2016

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND
TECHNOLOGY AND SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

For Hearing on Wednesday, February 10, 2016
1:25 p.m., Conference Room 414

BY

JAMES K. NISHIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Senate Bill No. 2216
Relating to the Sports and Entertainment Authority

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TO CHAIRPERSONS WAKAI AND KIM, VICE CHAIRPERSONS SLOM AND IHARA JR., AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

The purpose of S.B. 2216 is to establish the sports and entertainment authority to coordinate and develop a thriving entertainment and sports industry in the State, including oversight of the stadium and attracting local, national and international events, as well as developing state-of-the-art facilities for the benefit of professional, amateur and youth athletes. The bill establishes the sports and entertainment authority special fund. The bill also repeals the stadium authority and transfers jurisdiction over stadiums and related facilities and the Kapolei recreational sports complex to the sports and entertainment authority.

The Department of Human Resources Development has **comments** on the proposed transfer. To protect the rights and benefits of the employees to be transferred, the language for the transfer of employees and officers from one agency to another in Section 7 should read:

“All rights, powers, functions, and duties of the stadium authority are transferred to the sports and entertainment authority.

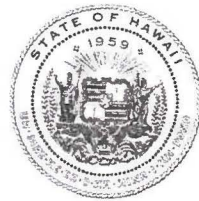
All employees who occupy civil service positions and whose functions are transferred to the sports and entertainment authority by this Act shall retain their civil service status, whether permanent or temporary. Employees shall be transferred without loss of salary, seniority (except as prescribed by applicable collective bargaining agreement), retention points, prior service credit, any vacation and sick leave credits previously earned, and other rights, benefits, and privileges, in accordance with state personnel laws and this Act, provided that the employees possess the minimum qualifications and public employment requirements for the class or position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable, provided further that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and compensation laws.

Any employee who, prior to this Act, is exempt from civil service and is transferred as a consequence of this Act, may continue to retain the employee's exempt status, but shall not be appointed to a civil service position as a consequence of this Act. An exempt employee who is transferred by this Act shall not suffer any loss of prior service credit, vacation or sick leave credits previously earned, or other employee benefits or privileges as a consequence of this Act, provided that the employees possess legal and public employment requirements for the position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable

employment and compensation laws. The sports coordinator, deputy manager and stadium manager of the sports and entertainment authority may prescribe the duties and qualifications of such employees and fix their salaries in conformity to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes with the exception of the secretary who shall be exempt from the requirements of chapters 76 and 89.”

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR

PAULA A. YOUNGLING
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Telephone: (808) 587-4700
e-mail: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY
AND
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

February 10, 2016, 1:25 PM

Senate Bill No. 2216
RELATING TO THE SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice-Chairs Slom and Ihara, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2216. The State Procurement Office takes no position on the intent of this bill, but opposes the exemption language on SECTION 2, page 21, lines 17 to 20; and page 22, lines 1 to 2.

Statutory exemptions are contrary to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code (Code), section 103D-102, HRS, on the applicability of the chapter that states in part "...shall apply to all procurement contracts made by governmental bodies whether the consideration for the contract is cash, revenues, realizations, receipts, or earnings..." Any governmental agency with the authority to expend funds should be in compliance with chapter 103D, which promotes the policy of fair and equitable treatment of all persons who deal with the procurement system; fosters effective broad-based competition; and increases public confidence in public procurement.

The Code should not be viewed as an obstacle to a purchasing agency's mission, but rather as the single source of public procurement policy to be applied equally and uniformly to obtain its requirements, which was the legislature's intent for the Code. If individual agencies are exempted and allowed to develop their own individual processes, it becomes problematic for the administration and vendors/contractors that must comply with a variety of processes. Most agencies agree that fairness, open competition, a level playing field, and government disclosure and transparency in procurement and contracting process are vital to good government. They believe that for this to be accomplished, we must participate in the process with one set of statutes and rules.

One of public procurement's primary objectives is to provide everyone equal opportunity to compete for government contracts, to prevent favoritism, collusion, or fraud in the awarding of contracts. Another critical objective is to ensure disclosure and public visibility into the way tax-payer dollars are being spent. As such, along with open competition the Code provides safeguards to ensure procurement integrity,

determination of fair and reasonable pricing, public notice, and transparency. The Code also provides consistency in the manner in which purchasing agencies procure goods, services, and construction.

The National Association of State Procurement Officials state: "Businesses suffer when there is inconsistency in procurement laws and regulations. Complex, arcane procurement rules of numerous jurisdictions discourage competition by raising the costs to businesses to understand and comply with these different rules. Higher costs are recovered through the prices offered by a smaller pool of competitors, resulting in unnecessarily inflated costs to state and local governments."

Exemptions to the Code mean that all procurements made with taxpayer monies for this authority, will not have the same oversight, accountability and transparency requirements mandated by those procurement processes provided in the Code. It means that there is no requirement for due diligence, proper planning or consideration of protections for the State in contract terms and conditions, nor are there any set requirements to conduct cost and price analysis and market research or post-award contract management. As such, the authority can choose whether to compete any procurement or go directly to one contractor. As a result, leveraging economies of scale and cost saving efficiencies found in the consistent application of the procurement code are lost. It also means the authority is not required to adhere to the Code's procurement integrity laws.

When public bodies are removed from the State's procurement code it results in the harm described above. As these entities create their own procurement rules, businesses are forced to track their various practices. Moreover, a public body often can no longer achieve the benefits of aggregation by using another public body's contract because different state laws and regulations may apply to the various public bodies making compliance more difficult.

The Code enables the legislature to impose specific requirements to eliminate practices that are detrimental to the public's perception of government procurement. The legislature passed and the governor signed into law, Act 52 (2003), amending section 103D-304, HRS, to require that all contract awards to professional service providers be made based upon the merits of the provider, and not upon any other factors; thereby reaffirming the public's understanding that professional service contracts are not awarded to companies based on political affiliation or amount of political contributions. The Code also enables legislature to promote specific segments of the State's economy and encourage the development of new products and technologies through preferences allowed by the Code. However, preference programs apply only to agencies subject to the Code, and exempt agencies are not subject to the legislature's designated preferences.

To provide fairness and consistency, and due process for vendors/contractors, the Code offers a legal and contractual remedy process to resolve protested solicitations and awards, which includes impartial reviews by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs administrative hearings process and the ability to request judicial review. The protest process also protects agencies and taxpayers from onerous and baseless protests, minimizes delays and disruptions in the award of contracts, and supports a prompt resolution.

To ensure all vendors/contractors who seek public contracts compete on equal footing they are required to demonstrate compliance with Hawaii laws. The Code requires potential vendors/contractors to comply with Hawaii laws prior to award of a contract, i.e. DOTAX Tax Clearance Certificate including IRS certification, DLIR Certificate of Compliance; DCCA Certificate of Good Standing; or Hawaii Compliance Express (HCE) Certificate of vendor compliance. Upon completion of goods provided or services performed, and before final payment is made, a vendor/contractor is again required to demonstrate compliance with Hawaii laws, thereby assuring that public funds are paid to compliant vendors/contractors.

Each year new procurement laws are applied to state agencies causing state agency contracts to become more complex and costly, while other public bodies, such as agencies with strong legislative influence, are exempted. Relieving some public bodies from some laws by exempting or excluding them from compliance with a common set of legal requirements creates an imbalance wherein the competitive environment becomes different among the different jurisdictions and the entire procurement process becomes less efficient and more costly for the State and vendors.

Open bidding procedures assures that the State obtains value, and potential vendors/contractors are treated fairly. Those who lack a working knowledge of the Code, may view it as a cumbersome process. The SPO believes that it is vital to good government to have a fair and consistent process to award government contracts that hold agencies responsible and accountable for their actions.

The SPO is against exempting specific agencies from the Code, as it is not in the best interest of government, the business community, and the general public. The Code establishes a time-tested, fair, reliable set of rules and processes for award of contracts. In conclusion, there is no compelling reason to statutorily exempt the sports and entertainment authority from chapter 103D. The SPO recommends that SECTION 2, page 21, lines 17 to 20; and page 22, lines 1 to 2 be deleted.

Thank you.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY
AND
ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
FEBRUARY 10, 2016

S.B. 2216

RELATING TO THE SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY

Chair Wakai, Chair Kim, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on S.B. 2216. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of S.B. 2216 (the measure).

We support the intent of this measure to establish Hawaii as a premier destination for entertainment and sporting events, and training environments for youth, amateur, and professional athletes provided it does not increase the size of government and administrative burden. However, we recommend these goals be met without creating a new Authority.

In the interest of utilizing and leveraging our current agencies staffing and financial resources we offer the following comments on the bill.

1. The objectives of the sports and entertainment authority should be placed into the statutes of the Hawaii Tourism and Stadium Authorities if they are currently not present to leverage the current capabilities of the agencies. This will eliminate the

need for the sports and entertainment authority and not increase the size of government.

2. Modify statutes to provide for an ex officio member representing the Stadium Authority on the Hawaii Tourism Authority.
3. Modify statutes to provide for an ex officio member representing the Hawaii Tourism Authority on the Stadium Authority.

Our last two comments are provided to ensure a formal communication mechanism between the two agencies so that they are able to work jointly to achieve the objectives of this bill.

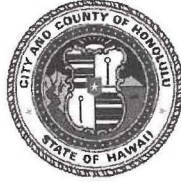
Lastly, we support the intent of this bill provided it does not have a negative impact on the administration's executive supplemental budget and initiatives submitted for fiscal year 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 * HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 * FAX: (808) 768-4242 * INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR.
MANAGING DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY
AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 1:25 P.M.

TO: The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment,
and Technology

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

The Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu respectfully **opposes** SB2216, which establishes a Sports and Entertainment Authority. We take no position on: (1) whether a Sports and Entertainment Authority should be created; and (2) whether a Sports and Entertainment Authority should assume the role of the Stadium Authority.

We oppose this measure because it allocates \$10 million from the transient accommodation tax (TAT). The State-County Functions Working Group, established by the Legislature in Act 174, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, has worked for over a year on the allocation of the TAT and recently submitted its findings and recommendations to the Legislature. The Working Group's final report presents a wholistic view of how the TAT should be allocated. Making ad hoc decisions such as using the TAT to fund a Sports and Entertainment Authority before decisions have been made on the larger question of the allocation of the TAT is premature. We urge this committee to hold SB2216 until the Legislature has wrestled with the recommendations of the State-County Functions Working Group.

Again, we oppose SB2216 at this time and recommend that you hold it for a discussion on the merits of the idea of establishing a Sports and Entertainment Authority at a future date. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment
and Technology and Committee on Government Operations
Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 1:25 P.M.
Conference Room 414, State Capitol**

**RE: SENATE BILL 2216 RELATING TO A SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
AUTHORITY**

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Slom and Ihara, and Members of the Committees:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **strongly supports** SB 2216, which establishes the sports and entertainment authority to coordinate and develop an entertainment and sports industry in the State, including oversight of the stadium; attracting local, national, and international events; and developing state-of-the-art facilities for the benefit of professional, amateur, and youth athletes. Also establishes the sports and entertainment authority special fund and appropriates funds and repeals the stadium authority.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Sporting events draw massive spending and can have great economic impact. The Sports and Entertainment Authority (SEA) will be able to tap into Hawaii's unique location and potential as an entertainment and sporting destination of the Asia Pacific region. A Sports and Entertainment Authority (SEA) can be an enhancement to the work of the Hawaii Tourism Authority as it could help with research and attracting events during the tourism shoulder months.

Some statistics are listed below.

- 2014 National Sports Industry Visitor spending \$8.96 billion. (NASC 2014)
- 2014 National Sports Industry Visitors 25.62 million. (NASC 2014)
- In 2014 of the 8.1 million visitors to Hawaii only 105,839 visitors came for a sporting event that is only 1.3% of the overall visitor arrivals in 2014. (DBEDT)
- Sports Tourism has an economic impact of \$150 to \$200 million a year. (HTA)
- The Honolulu Marathon is the state's largest participatory event, with 22,615 registered runners in 2011. About 85 percent of the non-Hawaii runners were from Japan. Generated about \$5 million in taxes. (Honolulu Marathon Association)
- The Maui Invitational attracted nearly 5,000 visitors and generated \$13.3 million in visitor spending, an increase of nearly five percent from 2013, for the island of Maui in 2014. In all, the Maui Invitational has contributed more than \$190 million to the



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

local island economy since the Tournament's inception in 1984, welcoming 108 different schools from 40 states and Washington D.C. to the county of Maui. (Kemper Sports Management Inc.)

- A Markrich Research Ironman Triathlon study said participants stay about eight days on the Big Island and a total of about 12 days statewide. The athletes don't come alone, the study said, but bring, on average, 2.6 companions.
- In 2014 data collected by the City and County of Honolulu showed revenue to the city for the Lion King and Bruno Mars's performances in March and April brought in close to \$1,000,000.
- Wicked and Lion King estimated local economic impact was more than \$30 million and Bruno Mars was \$370,000.
- Touring Broadway shows brought in \$3.4 billion into the U.S. economy, and for every dollar spent on a ticket for a touring Broadway show, another three dollars is generated in the local marketplace. (Anthology Group)

We believe that there is an opportunity for the State to benefit from such an authority that can plan, coordinate and market to strengthen this industry and at the same time offer the facility to host these events.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: Fink, John <JFink@kfve.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 11:49 AM
To: EET Testimony
Subject: Senate Bill 2216 relating to a Sports and Entertainment Authority

February 2, 2016

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology:

I strongly support SB 2216, which establishes the sports and entertainment authority to coordinate and further develop our entertainment and sports industries in the State of Hawai'i. For far too long now, there have been silos related to the myriad sports and entertainment events that take place in this state. To simplify things for all events and event coordinators and promoters, to allow for greater coordination, to ensure that all parties are talking to one another and working together rather than independently, to let outside interested parties know there is a central call to be made, I believe the time is long overdue to have a state-sanctioned and -funded Sports and Entertainment Authority.

There are countless examples around the country of cities and states that have enhanced greatly the opportunities for participation and viewership of major and minor events for both a local constituent base and for visitors alike through the establishment of a single entity that works to identify, coordinate, and oversee sporting and entertainment events year after year.

The National Association of Sports Commissions, the sports industry's trade association, estimates that there are about 110 of these special sports organizations today. Some are affiliated with a destination marketing organization (DMO) or a chamber of commerce. Most are independent organizations. The National Association of Sports Commissions also estimates that of the 110 sports commissions about 20 are affiliated with a DMO. The other 90 markets have both: a DMO and a sports commission.

Annually now, we hear of concerns of big time events leaving our shores- the Pro Bowl, the Sony Open, the LPGA, et al. We see major entertainment acts bypassing Hawai'i (largely due to costs, of course) whereas in the 1970s - 1990s, acts would more routinely include Hawai'i in their concert itineraries when going to or coming from Asia or Australia. We need partnerships and alliances; we need an entity that can meet with major and minor entertainment promoters and sporting entities on the mainland and elsewhere to plan, advocate, promote and work through workable ROIs to ensure that the people of Hawai'i and our guests have access to the best sporting and entertainment activities available to people in other cities and states.

I respectfully ask that you pass the measure out of committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

John L. Fink
General Manager



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
A S S O C I A T I O N

Testimony of

Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Committee on Government Operations
Senate Bill 2216: Relating to a Sports and Entertainment Authority

Chair Wakai, Chair Kim, and members of the Economic Development, Environment, and Technology Committee and Government Operations Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of Senate Bill 2216, which calls for the establishment of a sports and entertainment authority, to include the administration of Aloha Stadium and similar facilities.

Our state has succeeded in creating or attracting major sports events over the years, among them the Honolulu Marathon, National Football League Pro Bowl, Sony Open and other professional golf tournaments, and college athletics. These events have showcased the beauty of Hawai'i to national and global television audiences and brought teams and fans to our shores. We have also been the venue of some major concert and entertainment shows and productions through the years. Despite these successes we can do better as we have also missed out on opportunities to attract marquee sports events and have fallen short on executing and implementing these events successfully.

Unlike other states and municipalities, we have not had a strong statewide advocate for sports and entertainment; nor have we had a focused and coordinated approach as we have experienced with our film and TV industry. Some recent controversies over our ability to host major events offer evidence that more effective, coordinated leadership will be necessary for this sector of our economy to succeed. These shortcomings point to the need to establish a state sports and entertainment authority, more so since we have witnessed the loss of some of these events to other locals and venues.

Having been personally involved in both public and private sector negotiations to keep the NFL Pro Bowl in Hawaii, fund sports competitions, and attract film and television productions, I can attest to the importance of having an authoritative representative or body convey the innumerable benefits of coming to Hawaii, follow up with the organization or promoter, offer a first-hand introduction to our excellent facilities, and assist with requirements before, during, and after an event. Teams, entertainers, and fans should want to return to the islands because of our involvement and their positive experiences. Certainly, the renovation of the Aloha Stadium should be a high priority of the proposed authority. A sports and entertainment authority, with sufficient funding and creative leadership, would not only provide this much-needed expertise, but provide the catalyst for the development and future growth of this industry.

Mahalo.

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: Duane Kurisu <duanek@wkfinc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 11:45 AM
To: EET Testimony
Subject: SB 2216 Relating to a Sports and Entertainment Authority

Please accept my testimony in support of SB 2216 relating to a Sports and Entertainment Authority. Like other major cities in the United States, sports can be an economic engine and bring relevance and stature to cities. As we compete globally to attract major sporting events, we need to do it strategically and in a focused and concentrated matter. We can accomplish this only with an entity, such as a Sports and Entertainment Authority, empowered and dedicated to do so. Thank you,
Duane Kurisu

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 11:03 PM
To: EET Testimony
Cc: hawaiiifishingfanatic@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2216 on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM

SB2216

Submitted on: 1/31/2016

Testimony for EET on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In full support of the legislation to institute a Sports and Entertainment authority that is sorely needed in Hawai'i. Living on the East Coast, I was fortunate to work for several professional and amateur sports & entertainment entities, including Comcast Spectacor (previous owners of the Philadelphia 76ers and current owners of the Philadelphia Flyers hockey team) and the Philadelphia Eagles. I have seen great financial gains to both the City of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania and businesses that have thrived in this industry. I urge the Committee to pass this legislation for an economic engine that'll provide for years to come.

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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