

TO: Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Richard Dan, Kamaaina Loan, Wailuku

RE: SB 2249, planning for state offices in Wailuku

My name is Richard Dan and I have operated Kamaaina Loan And Cash For Gold on North Market Street in Wailuku for nearly 40 years, among the oldest continuous businesses in Wailuku. I am pleased to be able to support the intent of SB 2249, which will be good for Mauians in general and for my business in particular.

The State Office Building was built when Maui's population was about half what it is today. When Circuit Court Judge Joel August retired a few years ago, he told The Maui News that the Second Circuit Court building was obsolete the day it opened, and things have only gotten worse given present security concerns and IT infrastructure requirements.

You have statements from DAGS regarding the need for space for state offices.

Wailuku has always been and remains the government and financial center of Maui, and I believe it should continue as such. My business – which today occupies four storefronts on North Market Street – is a part of that complex. I have benefitted from the presence of state employees, private lawyers and others who do business in the courts and with state agencies as my customers.

I have also been impacted because state workers soak up so much of the public parking in downtown Wailuku, competing with private businesses that pay the taxes that keep the lights on in the state buildings. We public and private entities have had a long and mutually beneficial relationship here. It is time to modernize it.

I hope the coordination between DAGS and the Judiciary is close when the planning begins. In addition, parking is the lifeblood of Wailuku. The town was built before there were any cars that needed to be parked. Trying to fit modern facilities into a horse-and-buggy town will take care and skill.

There is no question that the state needs to modernize its operations in Wailuku. Equally, there is no question that Wailuku remains the central point for public services, as convenient as can be to the population centers of Lahaina, Kihei, Wailuku-Kahului and Upcountry.

Mahalo Richard Dan

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kmchugh@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2249 on Feb 26, 2016 09:45AM
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016 3:22:26 PM

SB2249

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2016 09:45AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly McHugh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this important measure, which would help Wailuku become a walkable, workable town once again, with better gov't facilities, parking, restaurants and entertainment and housing opportunities. This is so important.

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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2/26/16

From: Terri Erwin, PhD, 39 Central Ave, Wailuku, HI 96793

To: Senate Chairs and Committee Members: WAM

RE: IN FAVOR: SB2249

I am in favor of SB2249. I respectfully request that the Senate WAM Committee act in support of the bill as presented.

I am a small business owner in Wailuku, on Maui. Wailuku is a unique town, the only one on Maui whose purpose is almost exclusively to serve residents. It is the center of civic life for Maui County.

I believe it's an excellent use of public resources to study carefully how to enhance and expand the physical presence of the judiciary in Wailuku. For example, the former Bank of Hawaii building is currently vacant; putting it back in service to the public would be welcome to me as both a nearby business owner and also resident. Examining this location, among others, seems like a prudent course of action.

I ask the support of committee chairs, co-chairs and members for SB2249.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.