

McCully Works

40 Kamehameha Ave.

Hilo, Hi. 96720

March 20, 2017

HB 1310, HD1: Testimony in SUPPORT

Senate Joint Committees: ETT/WTL

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Rhoads,

I'm a business owner in Hilo since 1976. With more than 30 businesses and 200 plus employees operating in the warehouses and buildings we operate, all developed on state lands, I can see the obvious benefits that HB 1310, HD1 can provide to our community.

The purpose of this bill is to establish the first redevelopment authority as described in HB1469, HD1, also in front of this committee. It is reasonable that the Banyan Drive area of Hilo should be the first district to enjoy the benefits that bill describes. The hotel and resort sector fell on hard times due to a lack of management by DLNR, unrealistic lease restrictions in HRS171-36, and unconcern for the economic welfare of our community. The establishment of the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District would address all of those failures and allow Hilo to fully enjoy the benefits of a vibrant tourism and recreational sector.

Public lands that are not used on an optimal basis are an obvious waste of our resources and statutory language that can correct these deficiencies is sorely needed. This bill, if preceded by the enactment of HB1469 would ensure a quick and efficient approach to curing the ills of years of neglect.

Please support HB1310, HD1 and I look forward to testifying on its behalf

Mahalo,

James McCully



HAWAII ISLAND REALTORS®

THE VOICE OF REAL ESTATE ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII

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March 17, 2017

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
State Capitol, Room 216
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Senate Committee on Water and Land
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
State Capitol, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: H.B. 1310 HD1 Relating to the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District

HEARING: Monday, March 20, 2017, at 2:45 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

I am Pat Halpern, 2017 President, offering testimony on behalf of Hawai`i Island REALTORS® (HIR), the voice of real estate on Hawai`i Island and its 550 members. Hawai`i Island REALTORS® speaks in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1310 HD1 which seeks to establish the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District, its planning committed and its revolving fund.

Revitalization of the Waiakea Peninsula in East Hawaii is long overdue. It is an embarrassment to our community to have Hilo's primary hotel area considered "blighted" under Hawaii's urban renewal law. The County of Hawaii, along with the Banyan Drive Hawaii Redevelopment Agency has drafted a plan for the redevelopment of this area that incorporates several exciting planning documents and addresses all of the uses of the area: recreation, tourism, cultural, harbors and commercial areas.

We look forward to the realization of the Banyan Drive Redevelopment plan and support legislation that makes the economic growth and revitalization of Hilo possible. Please pass this bill forward for full senate consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to **SUPPORT** the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Halpern, 2017 President

March 17, 2017

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB1310 HD1

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Rhoads,

Hawaii Planing Mill, Ltd. dba HPM Building Supply will be celebrating its 96th anniversary on August 8, 2017. We have over 320 employees and operate 8 facilities across Hawaii Island, Oahu and Kauai. Today we are a 100% employee-owned company and proud that all our success is returned to the communities we serve. Our roots are in Hilo, where HPM was founded in 1921. Since 1961, we have been a lessee of the State of Hawaii and were a recipient of one of the original “tidal wave” leases.

We respectfully ask for your support of HB1310 HD1. The opportunity to establish the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District, Planning Committee, and Revolving Fund is much needed for our town’s economic revitalization. We also appreciate that HB1310 HD1 operates on the foundation of HB1469, which establishes the procedures for designating planning committees, district redevelopment plans, and redevelopment district revolving fund appropriations. With these two bills in combination, Hilo has a real chance of finally taking the appropriate action and making the necessary investments to transform the Waiakea Penninsula into an area we can be proud of for our families and all that come to visit our town of Hilo. This also establishes an economic foundation and engine for future generations of our Hilo community to thrive.

Thank you for your support of this bill.

Mahalo,



Robert M. Fujimoto, Chairman of the Board Emeritus



Michael K. Fujimoto, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



Jason R. Fujimoto, President & Chief Operating Officer

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 5:12 PM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: russell@ginozarealty.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1310 on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM

HB1310

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for ETT/WTL on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russell Arikawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a lifelong resident of Hilo, I am in full support off this attempt to establish a much needed planning committee and revolving fund for the Waiakea Peninsula Redevelopment District. Our family had a successful restaurant, Sipper's Cove, in the Waiakea town before the 1960 tidal wave and this area is in need of redevelopment. Sincerely, Russell Arikawa President, Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i Board Member, Kanoelehua Industrial Area Association.

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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KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committees on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology and
Water and Land

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Date: March 10, 2017

Where: House Conference Room 414

TESTIMONY

By Kau'i Burgess
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chairs Wakai and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees

RE: **HB 1310, HD1, RELATING TO THE WAIĀKEA PENINSULA REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Aloha! My name is Kau'i Burgess and I am testifying in **support** of HB 1310, HD1, relating to the Waiākea Peninsula redevelopment district, on behalf of Kamehameha Schools.

This bill would expand the scope and formality of the existing Banyan Drive Redevelopment Agency and is intended as the first step toward creating a broader Hilo Community Economic District. The area business community favors the expansion of hotel and resort projects with amenities because these properties are nearly or fully occupied.

We, along with many, view the establishment of a Hilo Community Economic District as the preeminent way to preserve economic opportunity for future generations. We believe that the establishment of a revolving fund will help ensure that public improvements in the Waiākea Peninsula are up-to-date and attract more investment into the East Hawai'i economy by way of additional commercial tenants and aesthetically improved infrastructure. We are assured of a strong community voice in the planning in this district. In short, we support the efforts described in this measure.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:53 PM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: djr@teamdeluz.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1310 on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM*

HB1310

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for ETT/WTL on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Big Island Toyota, Inc./De Luz Chevrolet	Support	No

Comments:

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Honorable Representatives:

My name is Michael Shewmaker, My wife, Keiko and I own one of the most successful businesses in Downtown Hilo as well as two leasehold properties in the Hilo Industrial Area. Our nearly forty years of doing business in Hilo have given us a deep love and concern for our community.

We would most appreciate your support for HB1310 Relating to the Waiakea Peninsula Development District. This will allow those in our community to determine the destiny of our community. We have been held in limbo for too many years because nearly all of our commercial, industrial and resort zoned lands are leasehold properties held by the State of Hawaii and Hawaiian Homes.

As strange as it may seem Hilo suffers every day from the Tsunami of 1960. That dreadful wave cut through the heart of the city and stripped us of our vital, fee simple commercial and industrial lands. In order to insure survival of the city these lands were replaced by State owned leasehold parcels in the Waiakea area. This permanently removed the ability of the small business owner to build equity in their property; one of primary ways the small guy has always depended on to get ahead. Now there are just a few years remaining on these leases, the buildings are in disrepair and no viable way to refurbish the community is available to us. Without leasehold reform Hilo and more specifically the Hilo Industrial Area and the Banyan Drive area will remain stagnant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Shewmaker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:49 AM
To: ETT Testimony
Cc: cyamanak@outlook.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1310 on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM

HB1310

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for ETT/WTL on Mar 20, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caleb Yamanaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this measure. Designating a Waiakea peninsula redevelopment district will give Hilo and East Hawaii the opportunity to chart its own course in the redevelopment of the area.

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