

AMENDED TESTIMONY: SUPPORT WITH REQUEST TO INSERT ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE



LATE TESTIMONY

Maui Hotel & Lodging

ASSOCIATION

Testimony of

Lisa H. Paulson

Executive Director

Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

on

SB1291 SD1

Relating To Liquor

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 9:15am

Conference Room 016

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee,

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry. Our membership includes over 175 property and allied business members in Maui County – all of whom have an interest in the visitor industry. Collectively, MHLA's membership employs over 25,000 residents and represents over 19,000 rooms. The visitor industry is the economic driver for Maui County. We are the largest employer of residents on the Island - directly employing approximately 40% of all residents (indirectly, the percentage increases to 75%).

MHLA supports with request to add additional language, SB1291 SD1, which amends statutory language on liquor license application and operating procedures for clarity.

The Bill proposes amendments to several sections of HRS Chapter 281 that clarifies the requirements in the liquor license application process and makes the process more efficient for both applicants and commission and doesn't diminish the oversight in the process.

This bill would streamline the liquor license application process for publicly owned companies which typically have a multitude of officers and directors, by title, even though only a select few are involved in the purchase, sale and service aspect of the liquor licensee's business. Requiring all officers to undergo the criminal clearance and personal history process is redundant and unnecessary for these companies and their solely owned entities, especially when just a select few directly supervise the liquor sale and purchase.

Additionally, MHLA would like to see language added to this Bill that was included in SB 278 in reference to Section 281-45:

"provided that when the applicant or the transferor or transferee, in the case of a transfer of a license, is actively challenging a tax assessment, penalty, or other proceeding that prevents the issuance of a signed certificate from the appropriate federal or state tax agency, the commission may issue a temporary license in accordance with section **281-32;**"

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Currently, if a business is challenging a tax assessment they are not able to renew their liquor license.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.