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Hawaii's only statewide airport shuttle and private car service, operating on O'ahu, Maui, Big Island and Kauai

LATE

State of Hawaii Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018; 10:00am
Support for HB 2007
Testimony comments of Cecil Morton, SpeediShuttle

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Ways and Means Committee,


My name is Cecil Morton, CEO of SpeediShuttle. Our company is the leading provider of airport and private charter transportation on Maui, Oahu, the Island of Hawaii and Kauai. We are proud to work closely with rotor-wing companies who directly service the visitor industry just as SpeediShuttle does.

I am writing to express my support for HB 2007, which amends the definition of "aircraft" under HRS section 237-24.9 to include helicopters. We believe that HB 2007 will provide needed parity in tax treatment for all aircraft including helicopters. We appreciate your support.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

SpeediShuttle Hawaii



Cecil Morton
President & CEO

1020 Ulupono Street, Honolulu, HI 96819 Corporate Office 808-772-5700 Reservations 808-242-7777



To whom it may concern,

We are writing this testimonial and opinion in support of revising H.B.NO. 2007 H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Straube's Aircraft Service is a 31 year old family owned and operated business with founding roots and an ongoing physical presence in Hawaii, as an aircraft paint service provider. In relation to this bill we strongly feel that when issues of life, are concerned certain exemptions should exist. To be clear, when we state issues of life we are referring to the air transportation of people or goods as defined by this bill.

As a maintenance support service provider we see the impact of use on aircraft of all sizes. It is crucial that ongoing maintenance requirements exist for the safety of the operators and travelers in these aircraft. This comes as a high cost to operators of all sizes. To exclude single engine and helicopter operators/operations, by not updating this bill to remove selective classifications, would be unjust in our opinion. Maintenance requirements and cost are constantly on the rise for aircraft of all sizes and to extend an exemption to one classification and not the other is somewhat discriminatory. The safety of passengers, operators and goods is priority and certain exemptions should exist for all business's or individuals who maintain this safety.

It is our official position that the selective definition in Section 2 of HB2007 should be changed to remove "(, that operate with two or more jet engines).".

Thank you for your acceptance of our opinion on this matter.

Straube's Aircraft Services Hawaii, Inc.



March 26, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, District 22
Chairman, Ways and Means Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Support for HB 2007

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz and members of the Committee:

I write to express my company's support for HB 2007, which amends the definition of "aircraft" under HRS Section 237-24.9 to include helicopters.

My company supports operators of both fixed-wing and rotor-wing aircraft at six of Hawaii's main airports with fuel, ground handling, and a full-range of concierge services. From our perspective an aircraft is an aircraft; both types are used by law enforcement, military, air ambulance companies, and flight seeing tour operators.

We believe this amendment is consistent with the intent of the original legislation and that it would benefit the entire aviation industry in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shaen C. Tarter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shaen C. Tarter
President and CEO



Maui Hotel & Lodging
ASSOCIATION

Testimony of
Lisa H. Paulson
Executive Director
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association
on
HB 2007 HD 1 SD 1
Relating To Taxation

LATE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY
Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 1:15 pm
Conference Room 225

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Espero and Members of the Committee,

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry. Our membership includes 185 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 is **in support of HB 2007 HD 1 SD 2**, which amends the definition of "aircraft" under section 237-24.9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include helicopters. Exempts amounts received for the servicing and maintenance of helicopters and the construction of helicopter service and maintenance facilities from the general excise tax.

MHLA believes that HB 2007 will provide needed parity in tax treatment for all helicopters and with aircraft. Additionally, this bill acknowledges the importance of the aviation industry for inter-island travel for tourism, medical needs, and inter-island commerce.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.