

HB-2647

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 11:59:37 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/2/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edmund Lee		Support	No

Comments:

HB-2647

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 12:41:14 PM

Testimony for TRN on 2/2/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Cadiente		Support	No

Comments:

There are many parcels of land that is going to waste and becoming an illegal dumpsite and opportunities for unfavorable activities. Our neighborhoods need to be cleaned up! One parcel in particular belongs to the State Dept of Transportation. It's on the corner of Liliha St and Kauluwela Pl. near Liliha Library. I know the State leases it out to merchants to provide parking for their customers. The kind, hard-working man that owns Thailand Cafe (across the street from this lot), is just trying to make a living but must put up with a smelly, garbage dump next to his parking stalls.

There is poor lighting, cement pillars, tall weeds, and broken pay telephones. Worse, it has been an ongoing dumpsite for years.

On Sep 3, 2017, I and other volunteers spent 2.5 hours just on that lot alone. We bagged and collected 1349 lbs of filth and bulky items, including two syringes. This spot could be used for a few more parking spaces and will reduce the illegal dumping.

Please approve this pilot project to clean up the neighborhood! There is no good that comes out of letting things fall apart and become hazardous.

Mahalo,
Deborah Cadiente

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Submitted on: 1/31/2018 11:03:33 PM

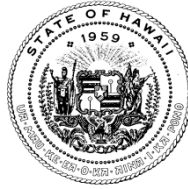
Testimony for TRN on 2/2/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
L. Teruya		Support	No

Comments:

If something can be done with these vacant parcels of land to benefit the communities, that would be a big improvement over the big trash piles that they've become. These trash heaps are demoralizing and are health and safety hazards. The passage of this bill would allow for an exploration of the different possibilities for a transformation of these communities. Such change may encourage more people to feel a sense of ownership of the communities in which they live, with more buy-in to building better communities.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony by:

JADE T. BUTAY
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 2, 2018
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 423

H.B. 2647
RELATING TO VACANT LANDS

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation welcomes the opportunity to work with legislators to deter crime and increase the beneficial use of State property; however, DOT **opposes** this measure that establishes a pilot project to identify vacant Department of Transportation parcels located within the 96817 zip code area for benefit of the community as a garden, park, lending library, and food pantry.

The location of any vacant Highways Division property generally does not allow for usage as a community park, lending library or food pantry. Any vacant area located in the highway right-of-way is generally used as part of a median, safety buffer or part of a traffic calming measure. It also should be noted that any vacant areas under the jurisdiction of the Highways Division and located in the 96817 zip code may also be subject to Federal Highway Administration requirements.

The Harbors Division properties that are located within the 96817 zip code include Piers 13 through 40 in Honolulu Harbor, the harbor facilities at Sand Island and the new Kapalama Container Terminal now under construction. Vacant properties managed by the Harbors Division are generally secured and regulated and are not appropriate for community uses like gardens, parks and food pantries.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE

HB-2647

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 8:19:30 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/2/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne Wheelock		Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2647. Since illegal dumping is a large problem in zip code 96817, removing areas where illegal dumping can occur could serve as an effective deterrent. Proposed methods for removing these areas seem to include creating community gardens, parks, and the like.

I support the creation of community gardens. I believe people would utilize community gardens on a daily basis, thus deterring illegal dumping. Creation of parks is a good idea, but the small parks now available in this zip code seem underutilized. Without people utilizing an area, especially on a daily basis, illegal dumping is more likely to occur. If the parks had an attractive feature, such as exercise equipment (benches for sit-ups, bars for pull-ups, etc., and instructional signs), more people might use the park acting as illegal dumping deterrents.

Another helpful community action would be MANY posted notices around the zip code about illegal dumping and how it can be reported EFFECTIVELY. Make it easy to report. Create a website that will easily take photos from all types of phones, plus an address of where the illegal dumping has occurred. Then ensure follow up by cleaning the illegal dumping.

Thank you,

Anne Wheelock