

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Dear Chair Kim and Committee Members:

RE: HCR 177, HD1 HELICOPTER AIR TOURS

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 177, HD1.

This SCR is a complement to SB 2474, HD 1 which would have required the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Transportation, to conduct a study on the impacts of aviation noise on residents of the State. That bill was passed by the Senate, but did not get a hearing in Finance.

This noise (and safety) issue is among the most vexing that we face. Helicopters have been a source of endless complaints from communities that lie in the flight path to HVNP, and there should be no doubt that noise can constitute both a nuisance and a health hazard, especially in otherwise tranquil rural areas.

I have met with tour operators and asked them to develop a plan to address noise and safety issues. They have taken some initial steps, and I commend them for that. Moreover, I am hopeful that tour operators and community members can work together. However, the history laid out in HCR 177, HD1 is eye-opening. How can our residents be asked to tolerate the status quo when it has been more than a decade since the Federal Aviation Administration and National Park Service asked for comments on an Air Tour Management Plan Environmental Assessment, and seven years since a preliminary draft Air Tour Management Plan for Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park was published. That is an outrage.

I also would note that HB 2007, HD1, SD2 is a request from the helicopter industry for a GET exemption on helicopter servicing and maintenance. While that might be thought of as a separate issue, I don't think it would be unfair to say that tax giveaways should be reserved for good corporate citizens. Perhaps the helicopter tour industry's cooperation with HCR 177, HD1 should be evaluated before HB 2007, HD1, SD2 is given any further consideration.

I hope you will approve HCR 177, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim

Mayor, County of Hawai'i

We strongly **SUPPORT** bill HCR177, SCR183, SR109, HR148 to develop, update and introduce policies related to Helicopter Air Tours.

1. There are NO established FAA routes for Tour Helicopters.

Helicopter Tour Co. are in the sightseeing business and charge customers for this service. As a for-profit business their routes are defined by the shortest path between tour destinations to provide the lowest cost fares. Also, the quicker the tour route is completed the more tours are possible per day.

2. A 1994 study sponsored by the Hawaii Department of Transportation was published by UH Professor Panos Prevedourous.

This report shows that Helicopter **NOISE** has the **LOUDEST** impact of all types of noise in our community.

Fast moving low flying Helicopters on cloudy days over hard terrane produce the greatest degree of noise due to the reflection of the sound between the clouds and hard surfaces.

Helicopter tours customers pay to have a good views. Hawaii is the only state which allows a minimum altitude of 500 feet above ground over residential communities during cloudy weather. Therefore, most of the time they operate at **MINIMUM** altitudes. The pilots want to complete the route quickly, therefore operates at near **MAXIMUM** speeds. Hawaii Island is volcanic and our ground is **HARD**. Also, located at a higher elevations we have more **CLOUDY** then sunny day per year.

Tour Helicopters produce the greatest noise of any other equipment operated in our community due to the nature of their business.

3. Noise Frequency

- a. "Noise annoys, awakens, angers and frustrates people" as published in the State of Hawaii (DOH) Noise Reference Manual.

Tour helicopters are not equipped with modern transponders and programs such as Flightaware cannot track their movement.

Based on self-reporting, during 2017 the Hawaii Volcano National Park had more than 15,000 sightseeing overflights and each were charged a park entrance fee. This translates into an average of 80 flights in/out the park daily over residential communities.

Daryl Soares

HICoP



Comments

CHANGE.ORG - Hawaii Island Residents are asking for relief!

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Sharon Lee	Pāhoā, HI	2017-06-23	Please let us stop the madness of tour helicopters who have invaded and interrupted our lives with their money hungry attitude and disregard for the health and welfare of the people on land that they fly over in excess of 100 times per day. That works out to one flight every three minutes all day long.
Kat Thomason	Tappan, NY	2017-06-23	It is inhumane to subject people to this ceaseless helicopter noise.
Isis Albright	Hilo, HI	2017-06-23	I am constantly bombarded by tour helicopters. There is no peace in my home. There is NO NEED to fly over peaceful residents not the name of profit. Helicopter companies refuse to be pono despite constant requests over many many years. It is time to legislate and regulate. Ps in the time it took to write this 3 have flown over my home. LOUD. Not pono
daryl soares	Hilo, HI	2017-06-24	We suffer here on the Big Island from constant helicopter noise created by hundreds of over flights by air tour companies going back and forth to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.
daryl soares	Hilo, HI	2017-06-24	EVERY NIGHT, JUST BEFORE I FALL ASLEEP, ALL I HEAR IS THE WHINE OF THE MD500 IN MY HEAD BECAUSE THEY FLY SO LOW AND ARE SO LOAD OVER US ALL DAY LONG.AIR TOUR OPERATORS TELL RESIDENTS "THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO FLY OVER OUR HOMES AS MANY TIMES AS THEY LIKE." THEY STATE: "WE ARE DOING NOTHING ILLEGAL."
Geoffrey Last	Pahoā, HI	2017-06-24	I live here
Penny Shaver	Pāhoā, HI	2017-06-24	I live in the neighborhood they fly over. Very disturbing for some of our PTSD vets!!!
donald carpenter	Honolulu, HI	2017-06-24	the helicopter NOIES is a real problem, we need help
Kathie Griffeth	captain cook, HI	2017-06-24	I live in Ocean View. Multiple times a day we have helicopters well below the 1000 foot limit. We hear them, see them, wave (or salute), but no care. Our animals freak out, no care. The almighty tourist dollar means NOTHING to us, so take your high dollar choppers out to sea.
Pv B	mountain view, HI	2017-06-24	Tour helicopter noise is incessant and near constant and is a continuing nuisance depriving me of the use and enjoyment of my property. The copters need to fly an offshore route.
Jan Watson	Hakalau, HI	2017-06-24	I live in a flight path...
Steven Jacquier	Pāhoā, HI	2017-06-24	Helicopter operators are making millions of dollars a year yet I have never once seen a helicopter company put any money back into the community; no sponsorships, no scholarships, no community improvement grants, nothing. There are times when the helicopters fly significantly below the required 500 feet above houses and livestock, yet there is no response to complaints let

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			alone enforcement of existing regulations. On days when a family member is ill and trying to rest having helicopters blasting over the house (which upsets animals and causes them to bark or squawk or yowl) dozens of times is quite frustrating. Probably they "donate" (that is the proper term for bribe, kickback, and pay-off, right?) the big bucks to Schatz, Hirono, and Hanabusa so that makes it all good. Yep.
Bradley Duell	Kailua Kona, HI	2017-06-24	I TOTALLY support this. So many times I have gone to Volcanoes Park and had to endure helicopter after helicopter after helicopter after helicopter go over and disturb the sacred peace of Kilauea.
Maria Bos	Steenwijk, OV, The Netherlands, Netherlands	2017-06-24	enough reasons are mentioned to have peace in Hawaii without all that noise.
Kauilapele Kona	Kihei, HI	2017-06-24	I support this. Many times I have gone to Volcano National Park and heard an stream of helicopter after helicopter disturb the sacred peace of Kilauea. To me, and anyone else who does ceremony at Kilauea and recognizes it as Pele's domain, this is something that NEEDS to end, in my view.
Jim Gerlach	Winston-Salem, NC	2017-06-24	Helicopters desecrate the sacredness of the island and interfere with the silence of those on the mainland.
william Hunter	Milwaukee, WI	2017-06-24	My land at 16-1770 37th Street is directly under their flight path. Every ten minutes...
Kathleen Robinson	Smyrna, GA	2017-06-24	This area is sacred as well as home to many. Please stop these helicopters from disturbing it. Thank you.
Frederick Warshauer	Volcano, HI	2017-06-24	Much of Hawaii Island suffers from the frequent noise from the air tour industry flying tourists over the quiet forests, parks and residential areas of the island without any considerations for those below. Any other noise making industry seems to have some sort of regulation, so it is time to regulate where these tour helicopters can and cannot fly. The industry and its clients come from other places, but we residents have to bear the obnoxious noise and attitude of the air tour industry day after day. No place is it worse than over the extensive residential subdivisions of Puna, where the majority of their flight path lengths are right over residences. The industry and its impacts continue to expand, with absolutely no regard for us residents. Regulate their flight paths to off shore.
Armand Rivas	Missoula, MT	2017-06-24	I live in papaikou and constantly have helectoptors flying over my house. :(
Christine Gower	West Sussex, England, UK	2017-06-24	Everyone has a right to a quiet life, it's inconceivable that you should feel it's okay to people with sound pollution in the name of greed.
Jane Hoffman	Highland Lakes, NJ	2017-06-24	Please have helicopters fly offshore.Thank you
Albert Meyer	Yarmouth, ME	2017-06-24	I care.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Rudi Stade	Huntsville, Ontario, Canada	2017-06-24	Is it too much to ask to be able to visit a place so beautiful and sacred without having to yell to each other over the racket of choppers overhead like so many mosquitos? Is nothing sacred anymore?
Jim Peavey	Smyrna, GA	2017-06-24	I've taken rides over some of the islands of Hawaii. There is no need to fly over all of the inland. Fly around an island and then fly into national forrest areas only, unpopulated areas.We impose sounds barriers around airpots. These islands are very small. The people of these islands need to be protected.
Lani Howell	Honolulu, HI	2017-06-24	Blue Hawaii helicopters are noisy, window-rattling menaces in our neighborhood in Waimea!
Makua Maipono	Haiku, HI	2017-06-24	Maui, also, is plagued by Helicopter Tours. The irony is: Haleakala Crater is supposed to be one of the "Quietest Places on Earth".
Glen Larsen	Lancaster, CA	2017-06-24	This is annoying all who live in this section of the island.
Gary Hollister	Scottsdale, AZ	2017-06-24	When I visit Hawaii, I too am disturbed by all the helicopter's and resultant noise in this island paradise. If tourists want to see Hawaii from the air, do like we do in Arizona - take a quiet hot air balloon ride! Thanks for your consideration.
tom piergrossi	keaaau, HI	2017-06-24	It's relentless, annoying and unnecessary
Michele Morgan	Seattle, WA	2017-06-24	It is the right solution to be for the Kingdom of Hawaii. #####曆No fly overs of disturbance. And so it is! Peace out!
Linda Evans	Kalaheo, HI	2017-06-24	There is way too much noise and interference in modern life....and these helicopters are a plague....More silence and peace is needed, Please stop the excessive helicopter flying; have mercy on the people/animals etc.
Patricia Matilda Tompson	Kamuela, HI	2017-06-24	The helicopters feel intrusive and are disruptive. Off shore seems like a reasonable solution.
Jason Blair	Kamuela, HI	2017-06-24	Its not just Volcanoes National Park, it everywhere on the island! They circle around Akaka Falls and do circles over my home with no regard for anyone on the ground.
Jill Lawrence	or, OR	2017-06-25	PLEASE, do the right thing. Your Mama will be proud :)
Candis Dow	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-25	I have helicopters flying over my home.Some times as early as 8 am and as late as 6 pm. Many times too low and some times about two minutes apart. I hang out my laundry, they are there, I garden, they are there, I have friends over for a BBQ and we have to yell because they are there. The dogs in the neighborhood bark because they are there. I, as many others, don't want them there. I will find myself becoming so full of anxiety. They interfere EVERY DAY with my life. The animals lives. My community. There must be a solution. So many years.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Makua Maipono	Haiku, HI	2017-06-25	Unnecessary, Destructive and Profit driven. These must STOP!! Maui also is plagued by Helicopter Tours, especially over Haleakala which is ironically dubbed "the Quietest place on Earth"
Don Diehl	pahoa, HI	2017-06-25	Living the last twenty years here in Hawaiian Paradise Park I can attest to the unreal noise. Yesterday starting at six a.m . Christmas or any day for that matter is interrupted by teeth chattering noise. It is totally fucked. Please help us this once. Put people over money if you know how.
Leslea Soares	Hilo, HI	2017-06-25	The helicopters fly too low!
Katie Herrick	Papaikou, HI	2017-06-25	They are constantly over my house
Heather Irwin	Salem, OR	2017-06-25	When did money become more important than the aina and people's well being? Shameful!
James Grazzini	Pahoa, HI	2017-06-25	I am tired of hearing the helicopters flying by every 10-15 minutes all day long
Dankest Vibe	Beverly Hills, CA	2017-06-25	Shout out to Kauilapele's Blog! https://kauilapele.wordpress.com Aloha!
Dorian Weisel	Honokaa, HI	2017-06-25	The irresponsible, care nothing about those that are adversely impacted by their tours, behavior of the helicopter industry on the Big Island of Hawaii must stop
David Hill	Pāhoa, HI	2017-06-25	I'm sick and tired of these helicopters flying right over my home daily.
Ginger Vogler	Kailua-Kona, HI	2017-06-25	Are visitor dollars more important than cutting back noise pollution for residents? More shameless gutting quality of life in order to line political pockets???
Wil Barbero	Kahului, HI	2017-06-25	Excessive noise has harmful effects. Peace and quiet, please!
Ryan Lewis	Hilo, HI	2017-06-25	I am a homeowner in Hilo and I think it is an invasion of privacy and the peace of our residents to have these helicopters flying over our homes, especially with the frequency that they are.
Jeanne kozuch	Tucson, AZ	2017-06-25	The increased helicopter noise is robbing me from the enjoying the livelihood in my own home.
Tara Paulus	Sebastopol, CA	2017-06-25	Noise is pollution. Stop polluting the air and space over the big Island.
Bodhi Anderson	Hilo, HI	2017-06-25	There is no need for helicopter tours to fly over our homes during their tours. The off shore route is beautiful and respects the lives of the people who live here.
Alberto Guerrero	Tracy, CA	2017-06-25	I am against placing profits over human and Natures needs.
Arthur Steele	Keaau, HI	2017-06-25	My neighbors are offended by these flights.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-25	Mahalo for signing! The Sierra Club wrote a great article about this back in 1995- twenty-two years ago;http://vault.sierraclub.org/planet/199412/ftr-copter.asp
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-25	Lots of damage being observed in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park;http://www.environment-hawaii.org/?p=3817It's been going on for a very long time. Mahalo for signing!
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-25	The Sierra Club wrote a great article about this way back in 1995;http://vault.sierraclub.org/planet/199412/ftr-copter.aspLots of damage to our national park from these over flights as documented by a park biologist back in 1993-twenty-four years ago;http://www.environment-hawaii.org/?p=3817Mahalo for signing!
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-25	The Sierra Club wrote a great article about this way back in 1995;http://vault.sierraclub.org/planet/199412/ftr-copter.aspLots of damage continuing to our national park from these over flights as documented by a park biologist back in 1993-twenty-four years ago;http://www.environment-hawaii.org/?p=3817Mahalo for signing!
Pamela Kerschner	Denver, CO	2017-06-25	Other places i know are really degraded by helicopter noise - including the canyons around Sedona AZ and Bryce National Park. This technology needs to be muffled drastically to be acceptable to most humans under the helicopters. This noise is stressful for life. Its too much. So I can appreciate Hawaii's problem with helicopter noise.
Russ Underwood	Hilo, HI	2017-06-25	I'm signing because my neighborhood is becoming unlivable. On May 17th 2017. I personally counted 62 helicopter passes over my house in Hilo between 8am and 6pm. I challenge ANY politician to endure that level of noise pollution without taking action. The Big Island needs to reclaim the serenity we have clearly lost....
Darlene Guerra	Kailua, HI	2017-06-26	My home is in Fern Acres, Puna District. It is time for regulation of looking down at people and noise. Thank you.
David Makizuru	Volcano, HI	2017-06-26	Annoyed with helicopter noise early in the morning
N A	Honolulu, HI	2017-06-26	I immensely dislike having helicopters flying over my home and down my street unless they are rescue oriented or with the military, police, or fire department. It is especially creepy when I google my street address and see how much of my home and my privacy has been exposed to the public, so having helicopters flying overhead feels like an invasion of my privacy. Mahalo.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Nina Decker	Los Angeles, CA	2017-06-26	My family and I live in Papa'aloa, and helicopter noise / traffic is almost daily. We live here for privacy and to enjoy a peaceful lifestyle. Please don't fly over our homes. Mahalo!
Mary Ann Saindon	Keaau, HI	2017-06-26	I am signing because of the constant loud noise over my property. Also I consider this an invasion of my privacy.
Dexter Williams	Pāhoa, HI	2017-06-26	Sometimes we have helicopters one after the other for hours on end. The noise is so loud that we cant even talk on the phone. On other islands people have succeeded in making tour companies be re reasonable. Lets do it here.
Jeremy Bracken	Kurtistown, HI	2017-06-27	The helicopters fly low over our Kurtistown Puna Hawaii farm causing us and our livestock & pets stress anxiety and diminished quality of life
Shannon Herrington	Hilo, HI	2017-06-27	As I'm signing this guess what's loudly flying over my house. #
Michelle Shuey	Erie, PA	2017-06-28	I live in the helicopter zone and it is truly annoying.
grigor fedan	Ninole, HI	2017-06-28	Noise pollution is spoiling our island and helicopters are a big component.
graceson ghenq	Hilo, HI	2017-06-28	I am sick and tired of being harrassed by low flying helicopters!
Chens Haa	Keaau, HI	2017-06-29	Tired of the constant noise at all times of the day especially the early morning hours and from extremely low flying helicopters.
Keala Pascua	Mountain View, HI	2017-06-29	It becomes irritating to hear helicopters over our house when our daughter is getting ready to take a nap or when we just walk out in our yard to enjoy nature but that's all you hear is the helicopters
Bonnie Terry	Keaau, HI	2017-06-29	I live in Hawaiian Paradise Park and helicopters fly over my house many times a day on their way to see the lava. I feel that a flight plan that goes out over the ocean would be nice for the tourists, and also give us peace and quiet, privacy and would be safer for the residents
Donna Walters	Show Low, AZ	2017-06-29	My friends has these fly over her house several times a day! Very noisy. Must be a less intrusive route.
Susan Sodan	Graham, NC	2017-06-29	There are multiple helicopters in the air over my home at ant given time during the summer. They are loud and obtrusive. This is a residential area. This needs to stop. There is absolutely no concern for the people whose lives are disrupted due to the noise and theft of our feeling of privacy.
Linda Sexton	Waynesville, NC	2017-06-29	Noise is detrimental to well being. Changing the flight path to the ocean instead of the land would bring peace to the land. Easy fix.
Nina Bersamina	san jose, CA	2017-06-29	I'm such of them flying above my house, our lack of privacy because of their intrusive flight patterns. We are not their tourist attraction
kris wilhelmsen	Pahoa, HI	2017-06-29	The cost of equipping these helicopters to fly over water, and the raised insurance rates, are a fraction of the amount that

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			tje companies are taking in from tourism. The greed of these companies indicates how little they care for the people of hawaii. If they cared at all about the Hawaiian community, these companies would be lobbying for new legislation, rather and than the people being impacted. Shame on these companies!
Robbie Mcgrath	Aiea, HI	2017-06-29	noise level, disruption, and health issues
Samantha Mcguire	Pāhoa, HI	2017-06-30	Agree with the residents!
Vickie VanFechtman	Pāhoa, HI	2017-06-30	I am signing because the heavy flight traffic over our neighborhoods adversely effects our peaceful homes. Too much noise! Take the helicopters off the coast.
Mary Miller	Keaau, HI	2017-06-30	Really cannot understand why they need to fly over Hawaiian Paradise Park... why ANY copter does...over the Forest reserve, sure, but not the Park itself, please!
Meriam Corcoran	Ocean View, HI	2017-06-30	The danger factor of something going wrong with a copter flying over public could cost enormous on property owners and the lives lost or injured. This alone should be an intelligent reason why helicopters should fly off shore in the first place.
Bridgit Manacchio	Pāhoa, HI	2017-06-30	I live at the lower end of Nanawale. They fly down to my house, do a slow bank, and go back. It looks and feels like a guided tour over the forested areas down here. Noise level is polluting.
Lawrence Reynolds	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-01	I'm in the direct commonly used flight path for the helicopter tours flying from Hilo to the Lava flows in the national park. The noise is constant and very, very loud. I want to see the helicopters re-routed over the Ocean. Me and my neighbors all have health issues due to the constant stress from the noise of these loud machines. Please, can someone represent us?? We voted you in office, so now we will be watching to see how you do your job. Mahalo, Lawrence Reynolds
Alice S. Lee	Pasadena, CA	2017-07-01	Someone needs to be in control and assert pressure to control the health hazardous conditions these flights are causing.
Susan Blankenbecler	Pāhoa, HI	2017-07-01	I lived in California in the 70s when there were helicopters looming over head day and night. It felt very dark and oppressive.
Benjamin Ruggaber	Pāhoa, HI	2017-07-01	The noise and frequency of flights completely ruins the beauty of the island.
sharon walker	keaau, HI	2017-07-01	These helicopters fly directly over my house and very low too. Not caring whos privacy they invade or how loud they are. These pilots are very rude and do not care. Its all about the \$\$\$.
Spiro Theofilatos	ASTORIA, NY	2017-07-01	I recently moved to Puna from NY city, looking for peace and serenity only to find helicopters flying over my house daily. NOT OK.
Starr Miller	Madison, MS	2017-07-02	I think the islanders have a right to quiet.... Maybe the coppers could work out a time frame that they could fly.....then everybody wins and are happy.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Scott Baker	Hilo, HI	2017-07-06	Better flight paths may be available that will allow tourist flights and allow residents to avoid excessive noise.
Karl Mendonca	Hilo, HI	2017-07-06	The Hawaii and it's residents have been dis-respect for all too long by helicopter tours. For over 30 years the environmental and social impacts have steadily increased to the point of destroying paradise. The voices and concerns of residents have been ignored and now we turn to our elected representatives to finally protect and save Hawaii from the devastating impacts of helicopter tours. Helicopter Tours demonstrates the total lack of respect for Hawaii, its land, people and culture. Fact 1: Helicopter Tours are the number one cause of noise pollution in Hawaii. Noise pollution from Helicopter tours exceeds noise pollution from all other tourist activities combine. Fact 2: Helicopter Tours generate more air pollution per tourist than any other tourist activity. What makes both of these facts more disgusting is that the noise and air pollution are directly targeted at Hawaii's most scenic and tranquil sites as well as residential homes. Hawaii is not an amusement Park for dis-respectful polluting "jo
Kathleen Boyd	Hilo, HI	2017-07-06	It's the right thing to do for Hawaii residents who suffer from noise and disturbances from the choppers.
Nelson Ho	Hilo, HI	2017-07-07	Stop the noisy, noxious air tour industry.
Alberto Salazar	Haiku, HI	2017-07-07	Tour helicopter noise is irritating, stressful, and induces high blood pressure, which in turn causes many health issues. Tour helicopter noise is also unnecessary. They don't have to fly as low as they do.
Kauai Trainer	Hilo, HI	2017-07-07	Helicopters fly over my farm constantly! It is a real nuisance! Please support this petition to require change in their flight path!
Richard Costello	Pāhoa, HI	2017-07-07	There is no reason the helicopters need to fly over residential areas.
Sharron Cushman	Pahoa, HI	2017-07-07	Time to respect those living here. No more flights over residential areas. Start restricting the number of daily flights that are impacting people and animals.
Jason Shafer	Hilo, HI	2017-07-08	Because I live in there flight paths on 30th, and it's a constant irritation.
donald carpenter	Honolulu, HI	2017-07-08	if there was a meeting in hilo, in the near future, inviting all big island residents, local legislators, senators, ex, helicopter company's reps, would you come ???
Susan Rosier	Pāhoa, HI	2017-07-08	Enough already. It would be so much better if they flew over the ocean instead of over our heads barely above the trees! The constant noise is so irritating and sometimes cannot even hear on the telephone. Really tourists would much rather view the ocean than our rooftops!
Charlie Bass	Princeville, HI	2017-07-08	Noise pollution in Hawaii from air tours should not be tolerated. Please help.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jaymeson Sanchez	Dublin, CA	2017-07-09	Please stop this. Our house up in mt.voew and my parents have daily flights all day long over our property.
Stacy Sproat-Beck	Kilauea, HI	2017-07-10	I suffer from this same problem on Kaua`i
LaVonne Baker	Kirkland, HI	2017-07-10	I lived in Leilani Estates. The helicopter noise was too much.
Robert Moller-Roll	Keaau, HI	2017-07-10	Both residents and visitors to Hawai'i island should be able to enjoy paradise peacefully. Helicopter tours are very expensive and are not affordable to only the very wealthy. They are a luxury tour and are causing more harm than benefit
Jack Thornton	Papaikou, CA	2017-07-12	The noise is unbearable and disruptive to everyone.
jake owsley	Estill Springs, CO	2017-07-13	Operators, after numerous requests to fly over nonpopulated areas, see only their own profits ahead of all else. We watch helicopters intentionally fly lower over areas where there has been complaints. They have had ample opportunity to curb their noise.
Wendy Barske	Mt. View, HI	2017-07-13	As I was reading a few comments that were posted four helicopters have flown over my house. It is very invasive especially as some of them are very low. Would be nice if changes could be made.
Katie Thomas	Australia	2017-07-13	Residents must always be prioritized over tourists. People have the right to peace and tranquility in their own homes and this must be defended against corporate or elite greed.
Linda Correia	Hilo, HI	2017-07-13	I am tired of these huge machines over my home morn to till night!! I live in Hilo Hawaii many homes !! Tour companies have no regards for home owners they are babies the sick who cannot even take a nap !!! Walls and windows rattle some are noiser then others like so loud it sounds like it's falling apart, and Scarry what happens if these huge machines come down mechanical problems, and it has happened many times but what if it's downed in our neighborhoods on our homes !!!
M. Eileen O'Hara	Hilo, HI	2017-07-13	I support this petition
Sheryl Rawson	Hilo, HI	2017-07-13	I have helicopters flying over my house daily, somet,es five or ten ti,es in the space of a few hours. It is noisy and not peaceful at all, as Hawaii is supposed to be. Many friends compare about this as well.
Mike Egan	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-13	Because we are tired of being awakened as early as 5:00 am by these helicopters. Because we are tired of having conversations interrupted and having to keep repeating due to these helicopters. Because I'm tired of having my recordings interrupted in the middle and having to do it all over. Because we are tired of hearing a hundred helicopters flying over head all day long, with as many as 5 at one time!!!I don't think it is right that these helicopters should be making a ton of money at our expense, all day long 7 days a week. We moved here to get away from city life and have some peace and quite, and now we're becoming angry this crap continues.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Thomas Walsh	Hilo, HI	2017-07-13	I live along side the Wailuku River in Hilo and am constantly bombarded with the irritating loud noise of the helicopter over flights from daybreak until sunset. Do something about it!!!
Elizabeth Hansen	Hakalau, HI	2017-07-13	We need the respect people's space which includes removing noise pollution.
Debra Phillips	Pahoa, HI	2017-07-13	Please respect our rights and the need for safety...Please
James J Lynch	Las Vegas, NV	2017-07-13	I support these families living in an area that has constant noise from the helicopters. I lived in an area that our house was in a flight pattern of the landing strip. Every three minutes it was so loud you could not hear someone talking you, who was standing next to you.
Stephanie Vigorito	Mountain view, US	2017-07-13	My family's farm is directly under the flight path of constant tour helicopter traffic. As I write this at 6:35am there is a Blue Hawaii helicopter passing low above our farm, and the noise will go on all day. Please move all this tour traffic off shore and keep it safely away from our homes!!!
Michael Wozniak	Federal Way, WA	2017-07-13	I'm very tired of the helicopter noise DIRECTLY over my house when one mile out from my house is open ocean. Enough is enough!
David Hansen	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-14	These nearly constant overflights of my home has ruined my life & my health. I am in a constant state of anxiety. I am a disabled senior & cannot even take a nap during the day. One cannot relax, watch tv, or listen to audiobooks or radio.
Harry Widdifield	Pāhoa, HI	2017-07-14	Overflight noise.
Candi Johnson	Keaau, HI	2017-07-15	Our Orchidland home is heavily and negatively impacted by the tour helicopters. In addition, there are negative effects in our livestock and agricultural livelihood. At times the noise level is so high that people right next to each other are unable to hold a normal conversation here. The level of stress from this noise pollution is at times unbearable. Last Sunday the helicopters started crossing directly over the house AT 5:30 AM!! That is simply unacceptable.
kelly hager	Dallas, TX	2017-07-15	After spending time in the magical Halawa valley with one of the residents, I realized that the helicopters might be fun for tourists, but are disrupting life for people living in these spots. Flying off shore would at least keep them from flying over people's homes and land.
Natasha Wong Yuen	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-15	i work late nites and the noise from the helicopters (5-10) wakes me all day long. I need more sleep.
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-16	hicop.org appreciates your support! You are a true leader who cares about the people you represent. Your support means a lot to us! Mahalo!
Lani Hink	Vineburg, CA	2017-07-16	It's difficult to believe this situation has gone on so long with absolutely nothing done. Perhaps it's time to look for the reasons these helicopter tour companies GET so much and don't even pay GET taxes. The laws need to be changed and our elected officials

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			have been unresponsive. Would this have something to do with Hawaii Air Tour Helicopter Compy contributions to their election campaigns?
Jon Vigorito	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-16	The FAA has failed in every way to monitor the helicopter tour industry on the Big Island. Being the only agency with the authority to regulate the airspace over our homes and businesses, this has to change. The FAA must be held accountable. They are receiving our tax dollars but choosing to shirk their responsibilities entirely when dealing with the helicopter tour industry.
David Berg	Tampa, FL	2017-07-16	I'm signing because we need noise regulation over neighborhoods as it not only ruins home values, they meed the noise control and privacy. Also have to start thinking about drone traffic as well.
La'ahia Farms Keliikuewa	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-17	It's time to STOP EXPLOITING HAWAI'I ISLANDS! There is No reason for helicopter tours to be flying over residential homes, National Parks, Natural Area Reserves, and Forest Preservations. On the island of Hawai'i we are blessed to have the Native Hawaiian Hawk that frequently flies above our homes throughout the day. This Native and endangered bird is constantly disturbed by these low flying helicopters. When these tour helicopters fly over our home our house sometimes shakes as if we were at an airport and instead I live in the mountains! None of these companies are honest about flying too low they don't want to do anything to work with the local people here nor do they help with our communities . Their pilots are breaking the law everyday and they know it. It's unfortunate that these companies don't excercise Aloha. They obviously don't care about the local communities and that's their downfall. All we ask is for all helicopter tour companies to fly around taking the coastline route. We live on an island af
Tammy Davis	Kapaa, HI	2017-07-19	The noise is too much for local residents. It feels like an assault when it begins in the morning. They can look from the ocean and see the beauty of Kauai. It seems like too much noisy invasion of our special places on Kauai for both locals and tourists alike. Please put more limits on helicopters and drones!
Melissa Snyder	Santa Monica, CA	2017-07-19	The helicopters wake my children from their naps making this already tired mom even more tired. Tourists viewing is less important than sleep for moms and kids.
William Steiger	Mountain View, HI	2017-07-20	We couldn't agree more!
Rick Turner	Honolulu, HI	2017-07-27	I am very proud of Bob Ernst and the Members of HICop for their progressive, necessary and productive actions to stop these Helicopter Tour Companies from flying over our homes, businesses and schools. These tour helicopter companies are destroying our health by giving us cancer with their Poison exhaust and gas vapors. Decreasing the Value of our Homes and Businesses with constant noise intrusions. They continuously violate FAA Rules and Regulations when it comes to flying below a 1,000 feet. The tour helicopter companies needs to be immediately regulated to fly 5 miles away from the ocean shoreline and at least 2,500 feet high. Therefore, these companies will not be around any homes and destroying the quality of all our lifes.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Mary Ann Saindon	Keaau, HI	2017-08-07	This disrupts my daily life - constantly. Can't sleep late on the weekends, can't enjoy my yard w/o constant noise, can't find any peace & quiet. Why does sightseeing by tourists mean more than a resident's right to peace & quiet on their own property? Why must I interrupt phone conversations when the choppers pass by? Why must I turn up the volume on my TV when the choppers pass by? Why can't I take a nap without choppers waking me up? Why can't they fly over the ocean?
Bonnie Miller	Keaau, HI	2017-08-07	Peace shattered--repeatedly. Seven helicopters this morning over my house in 45 minutes.
Elizabeth Bush	Kamuela, HI	2017-08-08	I love my island.
Kat Ahin	Hilo, HI	2017-08-08	We are constantly bombarded with helicopter noises every single day, at least 1 flying over our home every single hour in Mountain View and it takes away our serenity of being at home in our neighborhood! Make them stop so we can be at peace without this awful noise pollution!!!
Ronald Mason	McKinney, TX	2017-08-09	...numerous flights daily over my property cause me to have to call people back because I'm on the phone, or the noise just doesn't allow me to rest if I want to...I just want peace and quite...
Sharon Lee	Pāhoa, HI	2017-08-09	The endless sound of helicopters, all day, every day, frequently one every 5 minutes. That works out to over 100 per day. This constant noise is detrimental to my overall health I live in upper Ainaloa. They are supposed to be flying neighborly, but they don't. Once again it is about the money. It is important not to let them push us around any longer.
vincent callagher	Keaau, HI	2017-08-16	This is physical assault on all nature. Animal and human existence. Please protect all life from sound pollution.Thankyou
John Renauer	PAHOA, HI	2017-08-16	I'm in the direct route to the lava entry from Hilo.
Mary Monroe	Keaau, HI	2017-08-16	Tour helicopters fly directly over my property all day, every day, sometimes very low. They start very early in the morning and go late into the day and even the evening sometimes. It is absolutely horrible and completely impacts my day to day life and sense of peace and well being.
Kapualani Abreu	Keaau, HI	2017-08-16	Something needs to be done. Paradise in not paradise with all the noise.
Jasmine Steiner	Pahoa, HI	2017-08-16	I'm signing because all of my life here my family and I have suffered from the disturbances of these low flying loud helicopters. Enough is enough destroying our peace on our private lands for their own personal gain.
Ha Underwood	Miami, US	2017-08-16	After my Jan-March 2017 Hilo stay, my 2 month trip to the SF Bay Area turned into a 3 month trip. I could have come back last week. By the time I left in March, I was not myself. I was yelling at the sky like a mad person . I think I know how PTSD begins. It's more peaceful on the mainland, which is STUNNING to me. Twenty million

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			people border the bay, but there are very few helicopters. Why am I reluctant to buy a ticket to return? One reason, I fear a return of the screaming returning. My beautiful neighborhood is Apocalypse Hilo...
Ha Underwood	Miami, US	2017-08-16	After my Jan-March 2017 Hilo stay, my 2 month trip to the SF Bay Area turned into a 3 month trip. I could have come back last week. By the time I left in March, I was not myself. I was yelling at the sky like a mad person. I think I know how PTSD begins. It's more peaceful on the mainland, which is STUNNING to me. Twenty million people border the bay, but there are very few helicopters. Why am I reluctant to buy a ticket to return? One reason, I fear a return of the screaming. From my one yard !! My beautiful neighborhood is Apocalypse Hilo...
Bill Miller	Hilo, US	2017-08-16	When they are at 1500 feet or higher I don't bother with a response but when they are lower they get the double bird international call sign and the occasional moon shot. Blue Hawaiian Helicopters is consistently lower 1500 feet.
Nanci Munroe	Keaau, HI	2017-08-17	Helicopters over my house daily, do not abide by 500' height limit!
D Loa	Kailua-Kona, HI	2017-08-18	I support any motion to Malama 'āina.... Stop raping our lands for your PERSONAL financial gains- A'ole Pono!
Betty Easley	Kailua-Kona, HI	2017-08-18	Constantly flying over my house
Christopher McCullough	Hōlualoa, HI	2017-08-18	Noise pollution over our paradise is unacceptable and disturbing.
Nohealani Kaawa	Naalehu, HI	2017-08-18	These choppers have also been illegally landing and giving tours on remote and private beach properties within the Ka'ū district. Stop the air traffic, its too noisy and we are losing the way we connect to nature because of that distraction.
Cynthia Thomas	Hilo, US	2017-08-18	yeah they fly over my house all day long, some very low, my walls vibrate. as soon as i hear one heli, i know another one will be flying over as well in less than five minutes. always a pair. i dont mind when they fly high but them bluw hawn helicopters are the worst they always flyover low, maybe 200 ft above tree level?
cynthia massa	Hilo, HI	2017-08-18	EVERY DAY I HAVE TO HEAR THIS NOISE from sunup to sundown. STOP
Susan Norman-Jones	Cave Junction, OR	2017-08-18	Animals and birds are bothered by the noise pollution also.
Barbara Cornelius-Davis	Na'alehu, Hawaii, HI	2017-08-19	The constant movement of helicopters flying over my home in WAIOHINU Ka'u every day and early evening for their companies financial benefits has got to end ! We here in the real country of big island watch as many of these lawless tour companies terrorise our community with the constant back and forth, always right over my house or a bit this or that , please help our community , they need to fly over the ocean not over my house

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jayne Dator-Freeman	FPO AP, CA	2017-08-19	Helicopter tours need to be regulated. The regular noise takes away from our peace and tranquility. Noise pollution Affects our health and well being.
Jordan Anger	Ocean View, HI	2017-08-20	It's the right thing to do! Go fly over the water not peoples homes!
Ivan Jokain-Witcha	Naalehu, HI	2017-08-22	Not infrequently the helicopters fly below the minimum elevation required. this makes the problem even more annoying.
Gary Harrold	Hilo, HI	2017-08-24	More noise = more stress = more autoimmune diseases=more burden on our health care system {Sirens, mowers, barking dogs, rude loud vehicles, Hawaiian Airlines flying over Hilo - the noise is horrendous. Stop it!
Jennifer Ruggles	Mt. view, HI	2017-09-10	The helicopter noise has gotten out of hand in Puna. Please allow our residents to enjoy the peace and quiet they deserve in their homes.
Brad Coffel	Pāhoa, HI	2017-09-10	We should not have to suffer while others are profiting!
Melissa Smith	Mountain View, HI	2017-09-10	I am signing because the erratic loud noise disturbs me, my family, my animal and causes stress to all. There is a simple solution !
christy ceraso	Pahoa, HI	2017-09-10	Peace and quiet is my need as a creature of the Earth and a human right. Some peoples desire to make money does not override that need and right for peace and quiet.
Roy Lozano	Pāhoa, HI	2017-09-10	I don't want flights of any sort over my home on Pohoiki rd. Period. Greedy tour operators should honor the people and take paths off shore for all tours.
Vinceanna DePolo	Makawao, HI	2017-09-10	The noise bothers me!! Please fly more off shore!!!
Patrick McNulty	Mountain View, HI	2017-09-11	We get to the point of almost wanting it to rain every day because when the weather is bad they won't allow the helicopters to fly. The noise is becoming almost unbearable. These helicopters are flying so low in some cases you can tell what color shirts the pilots are wearing. My understanding is they are supposed to stay up at least 1000 feet some of these aren't even up 300 something has got to change.
Louise Teasdale	Pahoa, HI	2017-09-11	Air pollution. They fly way to low.
Sylvia Dolena	Pahoa, HI	2017-09-11	Helicopter noise is very stressful and disruptive to normal life here.
Ivo Miller	Kapaa, HI	2017-09-12	Dangerous behavior. Noise Pollution
Susan Smith	Wonder Lake, IL	2017-09-12	I care!!!!
Michelle Stava	keaaau, HI	2017-09-12	Helicopters start flying over our home every morning at 7am and don't stop till after dark. This is not what it was like when we bought our property. We wanted peace and quiet! They can fly along the coast and not disturb the local people who get no benefit, just noise pollution. They fly over our homes to save time and gas. This should be a cost of business, or the money should get put into the local

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			area in the way of infrastructure. Otherwise we should not have to deal with their noise!
Kami Hinger	Denver, CO	2017-09-12	As a visitor of Hawaii, I do not want its beauty disrupted.
Robert Bogle	Pahoa, HI	2017-09-12	And put exhaust mufflers on them!
Michael Christopher	Pahoa, HI	2017-09-12	I'm tired of you flying over my head day and night.
Carolyn Okonek	Hilo, HI	2017-09-12	Noise pollution is very abusive. At least 10 times a day these helicopters fly overhead! Please make them go off shore!
chere fenton	rockaway, OR	2017-09-14	They have harassed residents for decades, enough is enough ! I have had them fly so low over our house, that they topped a tree and almost crashed in our orchard ! It is only weed, spend that money where it counts, catch the meth, heroin and crack dealers !! Leave the medical patients alone !! Disgusting display of government over spending for BS !!
joann bessinger	logan, UT	2017-09-15	Flights over residential areas can cause unnecessary noise invade privacy and can be a hazard if the helicopter should have any mal function.
Diana Leighland	Pāhoā, HI	2017-09-15	I live near the lava flowing into the ocean and they fly tourists low and slow right over my house! Operators are not respecting homeowners privacy. What happened to our Quiet Skies initiative?
Karina Carvajal	Hilo, HI	2017-09-15	Karina Carvajal
Claudia Zirolì	Mountain View, HI	2017-09-17	We generally have about 2 helicopters every 8-10 minutes flying over our house.I have eventually gotten use to the ones that are flying at regulation elevations.. But the problem is that many, many of them are flying significantly lower than regulation. It is invasive and oppressive. Why should residents have to deal with the helicopter company's business/profits at the expense of our rights as property owners and Hawai`i residents? (While I typed this short message, one helicopter flew from the eruption and one is currently flying directly overhead!)
Patrick Ryan	Media, PA	2017-09-22	I've recently moved to Hawaii. The helicopters ruin the nature of Hawaii, nature and more are highly disturbed. Please go back to Babylon with helicopter GREED - DO NOT BRING BABYLON HERE.
Robert Coster	Keaau, HI	2017-09-22	Seems tours have actually increased since HI-CoP has started to bring light to the situation. We're getting more overflights lately for sure.
Alex Shade	North Bend, OR	2017-09-29	The noise is definitely too much. No reason not to fly offshore!
Heidi Fickinger	Hilo, HI	2017-09-30	The frequency of low altitude helicopter tour flights over Hawai'i have escalated to epidemic proportions. Flights occur directly over houses with a complete lack of respects for the community in the Hilo area daily. There is no other form of tourism that is allowed to adversely impact local residents in this manner. It is time to force these companies to act in a more responsible manner.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Kahualani Aitken	US	2017-10-01	The noise from helicopters is invasive.
Elisabeth Kerekgyarto	Pahoa, HI	2017-10-13	There's no need to fly so low over people's houses! Show some Aloha!
Michael Croes	Austin, TX	2017-10-15	I live in Kalapana Gardens.. YOU BET I WANT OVER-FLYING STOPPED, and will help vote out any representative who disagrees!

HCR-177-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 11:41:28 AM

Testimony for GVO on 4/18/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Appropriate restrictions on these tours are needed to ensure balance between the reasonable peaceful enjoyment needs and safety of residents, visitors' expectations, State economy considerations, and tourist industry profits.

Thank you.

My name is Dan Brown and I live in Kailua along the ridge which separates Waimanalo and Kailua (Kailua Bluffs subdivision) and am subjected to 6 - 10 helicopters per hour from approximately 8am until dusk - 75+ helicopters flying directly over my home every day (very active on Easter). They are flying at altitudes of 200-300 feet; they are noisy and the rotor wash vibration shakes my home. I fully support this bill moving forward and suggest it be expanded to cover all islands in the state of Hawaii. *This industry has grown exponentially in last ten years and requires responsible management (just like the illegal transient vacation rentals, illegal tour bus drop offs and expanding tourist base).* I would further add their activities are bordering on dangerous and are a safety issue. We have had one fatal crash at Pearl Harbor Memorial - and - narrowly averted a larger disaster - the helicopter went down in the water adjacent the memorial - it could have crashed into the Arizona Memorial proper and or a sensitive portion of Pearl Harbor Naval Base causing a larger issue. Two tour helicopters have landed in residential park areas in recent weeks - one in Hawaii Kai (Novictor Tour) and one in Haliewa (Blue Hawaiian Tour) - these are dangerous situations because open residential/park spaces are not airfields - they are not equipped to handle helicopter landings... citizens could have been injured. I'll quickly mention the recent tour helicopter crashes in the Grand Canyon, New York City and Australia (two Hawaii residents killed). I believe it is time to begin the responsible management of these companies and their activities - as of now they are operating on their own without proper oversight. A "living document" such as an **Air Tour Management Plan** would provide a legal vehicle to manage this growing industry. Please act now to curb the noise pollution and address safety aspects of this industry.

HCR-177-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 10:35:42 AM

Testimony for GVO on 4/18/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Albright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To say that I STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill isn't really conveying my message. I was devastated to learn yesterday that SB2474, the Bill to study affects of helicopter noise pollution in the Puna district had been dropped by the House Finance committee. Whilst the helicopter issue may not be a priority for Senator Sylvia Luke it is the most important issue for myself and my family in this election year.

I used to live in a peaceful neighborhood. We could listen to the native birds singing. As I opened my door this morning I was greeted by oma'oma'o and a red cardinal. This is also a growing neighborhood. Houses are being built, families are moving in. We have a beautiful new community park and sports center in Pahoia town. Unfortunately our way of life is being degraded and destroyed by the noise from the skies. I live approximately 20 miles from Hilo airport, there are no established jet flight paths here, yet many days I am subjected to 50-100 LOUD rumbling overflights by tour helicopters. The noise pollution enters my home, one is flying over right now, it distracts my thoughts. Helicopter nuisance starts as early as 6:20 am even on weekends. It wakes me from sleep. Many days there are more than 1 helicopter in the sky at the same time. It takes approximately 2 minutes for the noise of each helicopter to subside, which at a rate of 100 per day amounts to CONSTANT RUMBLING NOISE with no breaks or silence. I have lived in busy cities and never have I been subjected to this much un-necessary noise.

Often helicopter proponents will state that one helicopter is roughly as loud as a passing car or truck. THIS IS A LIE. The noise is louder, longer, deeper, and vibrates my walls. I can hear helicopters from far away on their approach and retreat. Not only that but it would be a very busy day if one car drove past per hour in my home. This is a peaceful neighborhood. Directly to the south of my neighborhood lies vacant land and a forest reserve, helicopters could fly through the middle which would leave neighborhoods and Pahoia town in peace, yet they choose to take a slightly shorter cut in order for profit.

No land use survey was ever undertaken before helicopters started abusing our skies. This is a taking of massive proportions and my land value suffers. IF flight paths are to be established over real property then this needs to be disclosed to residents and they need to be compensated. When I purchased my property there were NO helicopter flights. We lived in peace. In the last 8 years helicopters have been flying in increasing numbers. More companies have begun operating on Big Island. More helicopters have

been added to existing fleets. Helicopters fly over from other islands. It is my understanding that cruise ship arrivals are expected to double soon. Here comes another helicopter. And another. I have been disturbed by helicopters in my own home, at my child's school, at the community pool and playground. Recently I was hiking in Volcano National Park on a secluded trail with no one else around, when my peace was disturbed by a helicopter. All of this noise is COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY. Honestly we cannot handle any more of this noise.

I have contacted FAA, Department of Health, Department of Transport, Mayor's Office, State and County Representatives, and the tour companies themselves, numerous times. I have begged with tour operator CEO Eric Lincoln to please stop flying over my neighborhood. Yet to date the ONLY factor which seems to affect helicopter flights is the weather.

This resolution urges congressional delegates to "work with community stakeholders and the local helicopter tour industry to update air tour flight paths to include a proposed off-shore route, altitudes, reporting procedures, and noise mitigation operations that can alleviate helicopter noise pollution". I would like to say that changes of altitude do very little to alleviate noise. The ONLY way to solve this noise pollution in areas where people live, work and play is to NOT FLY over areas where people live, work, and play. Given that we live on a BIG Island with a lot of wide open spaces this SHOULD NOT be a problem. Take a look at the map. There are plenty of spaces to fly where no-one would hear.

This resolution also asks the delegation to "introduce legislation addressing helicopter tour operations and noise pollution surrounding America's highly populated cities, towns, and communities; and that Hawai'i air tour operators are urged to meet with community stakeholders once a quarter to work together to address concerns related to noise complaints and safety.."

Please Representatives I urge you to support this Bill as a first step, especially in light of the fact that the House Finance committee has let our community down. Then.... as a next step

I BEG you to create strong and binding legislation regarding helicopter nuisance and noise pollution in residential areas. I also urge you to create HEAVY PENALTIES for breaking these laws and to install LOCAL OVERSIGHT on the Big Island so there is actually a third party body of governance able to ACT when helicopters fail to uphold these laws. Helicopter companies have gone unregulated for FAR TOO LONG, with slogans like 'fly neighbourly" which are tantamount to a "do what you like" flight policy. I also ask you to wholeheartedly pursue this issue until the satisfaction of the hundreds and hundreds of residents whose lives may be affected by your actions.

Thank you for all that you do.

Nicole Albright

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E Ruderman, Vice Chair

HEARING: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 2:00 pm, Conference Room 414

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of HCR 177 HD 1: URGING VARIOUS GOVERNMENT ENTITIES TO DEVELOP, UPDATE, AND INTRODUCE POLICIES RELATED TO HELICOPTER AIR TOURS AT THE STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL.

I am a Masters candidate attending the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I support this HCR which brings to you an issue raised up by the hard efforts of grassroots policy changemakers from the Big Island of Hawai'i.

I was granted the great opportunity of working in Hilo last summer for an entity that provides counseling and support services to veterans. I lived in Hilo, right next to Rainbow Falls and Boiling Pots. When I woke up to head to work I would hear at least two helicopters hovering over the falls and then flying right over my house. Then over lunch I'd hear more helicopters. There might be one helicopter that flew over the falls close to dinner time, and my dishes in the kitchen would shake, and the sound just reverberated against the hillside. Hilo is such a quiet, historical town which really holds a special charm over its people. The constant loud noise of the helicopters flying over head all throughout the day really shatters that sense of calm.

I fully support this House Concurrent Resolution as it moves forward an idea that sprang from grassroots movements of the people of the Big Island. The people came together as ordinary, concerned citizens, to demand that their government did something about the lack of regulation over the noisy, low-flying beasts which shatter the tranquility of their neighborhoods. These are ordinary people taking care of their kupuna, working at the hotels, working up at Pohakuloa, improving roads around the Big Island. They deserve to have their grievances addressed; especially when the issue highlights safety and environmental concerns.

As a soon-to-be social worker I strongly support this HCR which is the fruit of the peoples labors. Your peoples labors, the people of Hawai'i whom you work for and represent to the best of your ability. This issue has really brought communities and lawmakers together and this all aided in the passing of SB 2474. This HCR supports that Senate Bill and pushes for a continuum of care and attention paid to the people of the Big Island.

Please vote **YES** on **HCR 177 HD 1** to pursue a goal brought to you by the grassroots movements of the people of the Big Island of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Winfrey
MSW candidate
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work