



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 3, 2017
TIME: 9:30 AM

TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITION

SPEAKING IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 284

Senator Tokuda, Chair; Senator Dela Cruz, Vice Chair:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC). The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated. Many of them have been in business for several decades and are an important and valued part of their respective communities. We are speaking with Strong Support for SB 284. This bill corrects an error in the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2016 and clarifies that the CIP project for Maalaea Small Boat Harbor was for plans, design and construction for pier improvements, rather than dredging.

It is very important to correct this error, because the piers that will be replaced are in disrepair and are a liability to both the boat operators and the State.

Please pass this worthy and important housekeeping measure.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President