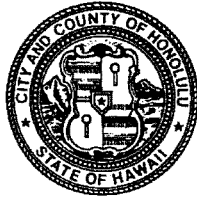


DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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April 3, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution 50
Relating to a Request for the Legislative Reference Bureau to
Conduct a Study Regarding Community Development Districts
Under the Hawaii Community Development Authority

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **offers comments** on Senate Concurrent Resolution 50, which requests the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of: 1) a new East Kapolei Community Development District under the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA); 2) dissolving the Kakaako Community Development District; and 3) transferring the Heeia Community Development District to another State agency.

We do not support the transfer of planning and zoning responsibilities for East Kapolei to the HCDA. However, we are confident that the proposed study will confirm and validate our reasons it would not be a prudent course of action.


We do support the return of Kakaako to the City, but agree that it should not be rushed, as there are significant implications that need to be equitably and deliberately addressed. A study by the LRB may be the precursor to a transition plan.

With respect to Heeia, it is not an area needing redevelopment guidance, as envisioned under Chapter 206E, HRS. Therefore, we have no objections to the study if it will assess the match between HCDA's mission and the vision for Heeia, which is as a mainly agricultural area, in keeping with the City's plans for the area. We respectfully ask that the study consider returning planning and zoning jurisdiction to the City.

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
April 3, 2018
Senate Concurrent Resolution 50
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,



Kathy Sokugawa
Acting Director

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

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First Assistant

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 446
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Written Comments

SCR50

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING DESIGNATING, DISSOLVING, OR TRANSFERRING CERTAIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS UNDER THE HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20 a.m.
Conference Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Good morning Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee. My name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments on S.C.R. No. 50, Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to Conduct a Study Regarding Designating, Dissolving, or Transferring Certain Community Development Districts Under the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Legislative Reference Bureau conduct a study regarding designating, dissolving, or transferring certain community development districts under the Hawaii community development authority.

Specifically, that the measure requests that the Bureau:

- (1) Assess and analyze the impact of designating a community development district for East Kapolei;

- (2) Assess and analyze the impact of dissolving the Kakaako Community Development District; and
- (3) Determine the feasibility of transferring the Heeia Community Development District to the jurisdiction of a state agency other than the Hawaii Community Development Authority and, if a transfer is feasible, identify the alternative state agencies.

The measure also requests that the Legislative Reference Bureau submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2019 Regular Session.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure, but submits the following comments for your consideration.

As currently drafted, it is unclear what sort of "impact" the Bureau is being requested to study. The measure provides no guidance that would direct the Bureau's scope of inquiry. Without more specific guidance, any resulting study would be elementary at best; and at worst, may not even provide the Legislature with a product that addresses its true concerns. In addition, the Bureau would like to note that it does not currently employ any personnel with expertise in urban or regional planning and does not have funds in its budget to contract for those services.

We would respectfully request that the measure be amended to provide more specific instructions on what types of impacts the Bureau is to be studying and what objectives the Legislature is trying to attain, and that funds be made available to allow the Bureau to contract for necessary expertise to provide the services in the time allotted.

Thank you again for your consideration.

SCR-50

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 10:33:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: