

TO: Members of the Committee on Transportation

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

HEARING: 10 a.m. Friday, February 5, 2021

SUBJECT: HB 1288 – HART Board Quorum - **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Aquino and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1288, which would exclude non-voting ex-officio board members appointed to the HART board by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives from being counted for purposes of quorum.

I was recently appointed to the HART board by House Speaker Saiki. The following testimony is made in my individual capacity and not on behalf of the board or other board members.

The HART board's problems meeting quorum after Act 1 (2017) passed have been well documented. The Honolulu City Council attempted to solve the problem via a charter amendment, but voters did not support it. (In my opinion it failed, at least in part, because the Council wanted to add one more voting member that was Council appointed.)

It appears the only change this bill would make is not counting legislative appointees for quorum, which would make it easier for the board to do its business. I therefore support this bill and ask you to vote "yes."

HB-1288

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 7:08:22 AM

Testimony for TRN on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glenn Nohara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

I **strongly support** HB1288 Relating to Government. This bill will provide that the non-voting ex-officio members shall not be counted towards a quorum to which the board is entitled as the number of members necessary to do business or the number of members necessary to validate any act. This amendment to Act 1, First Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 will help the HART board conduct its business more efficiently.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Glenn Nohara, HART board member

House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation
Friday, February 5, 2021
Conference Room 423 Hearing

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Rep. Greggor Hagan, Vice Chair

HB 1288 Relating to Government

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Hagan, and Members of the Transportation Committee:

This testimony is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1288 which would exclude non-voting ex-officio board members appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House to the HART Board of Directors from being counted for purposes of quorum. This would result in changing the existing quorum requirement from being 9 of the 10 voting members to 6 of the 10 voting members.

I am Lynn McCrory and one of the voting members of the HART Board. Obtaining nine votes has proven difficult for the Board to obtain quorum to hold a Board meeting and proven very difficult to obtain a decision on any matter in front of the Board. The non-voting members should not be counted as members for obtaining quorum, but that is the position of the City & County of Honolulu Corporation Counsel.

This clarification to Act 1 from 2017 will allow the quorum to be of the voting members. The non-voting members are an important part of the Board and are appreciated for their input and dedication to serving on the Board. However, when they cannot vote, they should not be counted towards quorum.

I humbly ask you to **SUPPORT** the approval of HB 1288. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana
With warm aloha,

Lynn P. McCrory
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Honolulu, HI 96917