



Hawai'i Convention Center  
1801 Kalākāua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815  
**kelepona** tel 808 973 2255  
**kelepa'i** fax 808 973 2253  
**kahua pa'a** web [hawaii-tourism-authority.org](http://hawaii-tourism-authority.org)

**David Y. Ige**  
*Governor*

**John De Fries**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Statement of  
**JOHN DE FRIES**

Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Friday, April 9, 2021  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225  
via videoconference

In consideration of  
**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44**

---

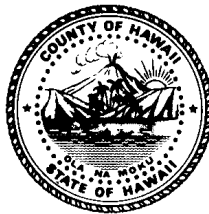
Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) supports HCR 44, which urges United States President Joe Biden and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to hold the 2023 APEC summit in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

This conference, which brings together the heads of state from 21 countries in the Asia-Pacific region thousands of foreign diplomats, and support staff and media members from around the world, would give Hawai'i's visitor industry a much-needed boost as our state recovers from the devastating economic impacts of COVID-19.

Having successfully hosted APEC in 2011 and the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2016, Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Convention Center established their ability to host large international meetings and conventions. Both of these events brought the positive economic impacts and the lasting brand awareness that events of this magnitude bring. Hosting summits of this size and importance helped to spread the message that Hawai'i is not only a vacation spot, but it is also a world-class meeting and convention destination capable of hosting events of this caliber.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of HCR44.

County of Hawai'i  
Council District 9 -  
North and South Kohala



Phone: (808) 961-8564  
(808) 887-2069

Email: [tim.richards@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:tim.richards@hawaiiicounty.gov)

**Chair:** Committee on Regenerative  
Agriculture, Water, Energy, and  
Environmental Management

**HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III**  
**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**DISTRICT 9**

25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 8, 2021

**Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts**

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

**Submission via online testimony**

RE: Support of H.C.R. No. 44  
Hearing Date/Time: April 9, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Dear Senators:

As the sitting Council Member for Hawai'i County Council District 9, North and South Kohala, as well as the Chair of the Committee on Regenerative Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Environmental Management for the Hawai'i County Council, I submit **testimony in SUPPORT of H.C.R. No. 44.**

Hawai'i successfully hosted the 2011 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Honolulu, and in efforts to revitalize our economy, I hereby support urging President Biden and APEC to hold the 2023 APEC Summit in the State of Hawai'i, but more specifically on the Island of Hawai'i.

Some attributes that would accommodate such magnitude on Hawai'i Island include the Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport having capacity to house Air Force One and other dignitary aircraft, a strong military presence at Pōhakuloa, and an ample supply of large, high-end resort facilities and accommodations on the Kohala Coast. Holding 10 of the world's 14 identified climatic zones, Hawai'i Island would be an ideal location for our neighboring countries to experience and realize our economic drivers of agriculture and diversified renewable energy resources.

Hawai'i must continue to be competitive in efforts to host world-class events such as this, as it provides long-term positive economic impacts that Hawai'i can benefit from going forward. Therefore, your support of this measure is critical during such a time as this. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III



*Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association*

John Uekawa, President  
Dave Roll, Executive Director

**HADA Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR44  
URGING UNITED STATES PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR. AND THE  
ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION TO HOLD THE 2023 ASIA-  
PACIFIC ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN HONOLULU, HI.**

Presented to the Senate Committee On Labor, Culture and the Arts at the  
Public Hearing 3:00 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2021 in CR 225  
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE  
Hawaii State Capitol

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara and members of the committee:

HADA dealers are in support of this House Concurrent Resolution urging President Biden and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to hold its 2023 summit in Honolulu. HADA uses Hawaii's art in public places to help explain public policy.



Using exhibit designers who created a Disney Avatar exhibit, HADA produced this exhibit (shown here) for the previous APEC 2011. Another exhibit was accepted by the APEC2011 committee, but nevertheless, in the process, HADA dealers learned many positive aspects of using public art in a mural to convey knowledge and to help facilitate understanding.

The terms “art” and “approve” both originated within the context of “understanding.”

We thank you for the opportunity to offer support for this resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Rolf, on behalf of the dealer members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association

**68 new car dealerships, 4,383 direct jobs, \$5.8 billion total sales, \$269 million State Gross Excise Taxes paid**

**HCR-44**

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 10:13:19 PM

Testimony for LCA on 4/9/2021 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara J. Service	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It would be a great idea to have the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Honolulu!

I definitely support this!

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Barbara J. Service MSW (ret.)

Senior advocate