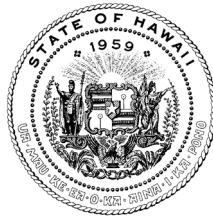


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of**  
**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
**Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on**  
**WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022**  
**1:00 PM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of**  
**SENATE BILL 2684**  
**RELATING TO STATE SMALL BOAT HARBOR PERMITS AND FEES**

Senate Bill 2684 proposes to clarify restrictions relating to permits and fees at state small boat harbors. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers comments.**

The Department notes that it currently implements the permit restrictions proposed by this measure through Hawaii Administrative Rules under the Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation. The Department has been working to address numerous management challenges as they pertain to persons living aboard their vessel in the Ala Wai and Ke'ehi Small Boat Harbors and believes that allowing persons to live aboard their vessel is contrary to the purpose and use of state small boat harbors as defined in Section 200-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department prefers Senate Bill 2058 as it would prohibit persons from living aboard their vessel in state small boat harbors and would be more in line with the purpose and use of the facilities as set in statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

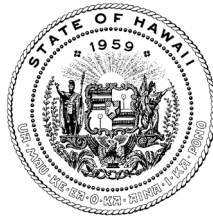
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CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
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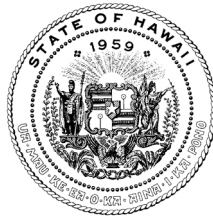
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**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 5:21:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Gordon Wood	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice  
Chair

DATE: Wednesday, February 9,  
2022

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 229 &  
Videoconference

Witten Testimony of Gordon S. Wood

Regarding: SB 2684

**RELATING TO STATE SMALL BOAT HARBOR PERMITS AND FEES**

Chair Inouye and members of the committees on Water and Land and Ways and Means, I appreciate this opportunity to provide written testimony on SB 2684. As a life-long boater in this island state, I am in strong SUPPORT of this bill.

This bill seeks to guide the fair and consistent application for and issuance of Principal Habitation Permits for vessels holding Regular Mooring Permits in the Ala Wai and Keehi small boat harbors, as well to clarify the language of the affected HRS sections. These clarifications have been developed by a Working Group of harbor users organized by Senator Sharon Moriwaki, and in conference with leadership of DLNR's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR). I believe passage of this bill will enable more frank and open discussions between DOBOR and the harbor users the division serves and will result in improved operation and maintenance of the State's small boat harbors.

Thank you providing this opportunity to testify on this measure.

**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 2:12:20 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Bob Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2684

Aloha,

As a longtime member of the Ala Wai Harbor Citizens Patrol and a more recent member of the Ala Wai Harbor Working Group, I believe that “Live Aboard Boaters” (holders of principal habitation permits) provide added value to the harbors and to a tiny extent, the community at large.

Live Aboards with their 24/7 presence, provide an extra set of eyes and ears to help report crime and other harbor problems. Live Aboards are typically more engaged in their community and will frequently take steps to help improve the harbor experience.

Live aboards also provide additional revenue for harbor operations by paying double the normal mooring fees with very little additional financial impact other than a small amount of extra garbage and water usage.

And to a very small extent, Live Aboards reduce pressure on our overheated housing market and reduce competition for scarce housing resources.

I believe the Legislature should pass SB2684 and encourage harbor management to make the small amount of effort necessary to clear the Live Aboard waiting list and maximize the value that Live Aboards can provide.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 3:23:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Robert Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2684

Aloha,

My wife and I have been “Live Aboard Boaters” (Principal Habitation Permit Holders) in Hawaii for several years and in other places in the USA and other countries for over 25 years.

We are “productive members of society” and although retired, work at full time and part jobs, pay significant GE and Income Taxes, and volunteer regularly to promote the wellbeing of our harbor community.

We contribute significantly to the finances of the harbor by paying double the normal mooring fees for little or no extra services and to a tiny extent, reduce pressure on Hawaii’s overheated housing market.

We believe the Legislature should pass SB2684 and encourage harbor management to clear the Live Aboard waiting list so others can enjoy and contribute to the harbor as we do.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 3:30:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Renee Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2684

Aloha,

My husband and I have been “Live Aboard Boaters” (Principal Habitation Permit Holders) in Hawaii for several years and in other places in the USA and other countries for over 25 years.

We are “productive members of society” and although retired, work at part time and full jobs, pay significant GE and Income Taxes, and volunteer regularly to promote the wellbeing of our harbor community.

We contribute significantly to the finances of the harbor by paying double the normal mooring fees for little or no extra services and to a tiny extent, reduce pressure on Hawaii’s overheated housing market.

We believe the Legislature should pass SB2684 and encourage harbor management to clear the Live Aboard waiting list so others can enjoy and contribute to the harbor as we do.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/6/2022 8:07:11 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Joanne Valerie Weldon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SB2684

I have been a Live Aboard (a principal habitation permittee) at the AWSBH for many years. I am an active member of the AWSDH Neighborhood Watch since its inception. Most members are Live Aboards; and there has been a decrease in illegal activity with the presence of the Watch and HPD.

I have seen many of my live aboard neighbors leave the harbor for personal reasons and their permits were not filled. I know many boat owners waiting for a live aboard permit and paying to be on the list. Yet no permits have been given out in more than 2 years. This decreases harbor income. The problem of a revenue decrease I feel is not because the live aboards do not pay enough, but because only half of these permits are filled.

Live aboard permittees look out for their neighbors, calling HPD for suspicious behavior; watching ropes and waterlines on neighbors boats to prevent damage and alerting the Harbor Office to unsafe conditions.

I strongly support SB2684 to increase revenues and promote harbor safety by filling all of Principal Habitation Permits.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill



**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 9:22:46 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
stephen m holmes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a long term Harbor resident and boat user, I strongly support this bill which was created in unison with other harbor users who want this resource to improve and flourish.

aloha

Stephen Holmes MD

**SB-2684**

Submitted on: 2/9/2022 7:52:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2022 1:00:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Patricia Kesling-Wood	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this Bill. It deprives Hawaii Citizens of housing options. It decreases harbor revenue. It takes away freedom and choice of Hawaii boaters.

There are existing inspections and regulations in place that liveaboards must comply with in order to maintain their liveaboard permit.

No other state in this country denies a boater the option to liveaboard their vessel when all rules and regulations are complied with.

This Bill infringes on Boater Rights. IT MUST NOT PASS