

SB-989-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 3:18:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/24/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Idor Harris	Honolulu Tower AOA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honolulu Tower is a 396 unit condominium located at Beretania and Maunakea Streets on the edge of Chinatown. At our monthly board meeting on February 6, the board took a position in support of this bill, SB989.

On several occasions over the last few months drones have approached the property, hovering, in daylight and at night. Residents have been unnerved and reported the incursions to management, elected officials, and the police. There was little that could be done as laws regarding drones are far behind the reality of the situation. This bill is the first sign that the tide may be turning

The Association of Apartment Owners of Honolulu Tower asks you to move this bill forward.

Idor Harris
Resident Manager

SB-989-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 2:30:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/24/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill. I live in a high rise condo in Honolulu, a short walk from the Capitol.

On May 19, 2022 and one other night around 10 pm I noticed a drone, with two green and one red lights. I saw it through the living room window. It sort of hung out there, hovering, maybe three blocks away. On the 19th it came from the ocean side and when it got to the hovering spot it stopped. After a bit it zoomed off mauka and diamondhead. Then it returned and hovered, and finally took off quickly in the direction of the ocean. Other residents also saw it. We were all unnerved.

In November 2022 one person saw a drone about 5:30 pm and when he started to take pictures of it it disappeared.

There must be regulations of these invaders of our privacy. This bill is a good first step. Without some enforcement the problem will only get worse.
If I had not known drones existed I would have thought the little green alien men/women from Mars or outer space were coming for me or ET had decided Hawaii was home and was returning. Very frightening.

Please move this bill forward.

Testimony to the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

SB989 HD1 Relating to Unmanned Aircraft Systems

March 24, 2023; 2:00 pm

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members,

My name is Cullen Chong. I support SB 989, HD 1 and appreciate that the House Transportation Committee included my suggested amendments in the current version of the bill. The change made to the bill that defines trespass to occur when an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) “Cross(es) the property line of another and come(s) within fifty feet of a dwelling” is much clearer than the previous version of the bill. This definition helps both property owners and UAS operators know where the boundary is.

I would also like to remind the committee that there is a misconception that the airspace above any property is owned by the property owner. It is not; the airspace above the ground is controlled by the National Airspace System. The FAA permits UAS to fly from the ground level up to 400 and does not recognize property lines but only Airspace Classifications (A, B, C, D, E, G). Property lines are only considered when United States Government property is involved.

Thank you for considering the issues from both property owners and UAS operators’ perspectives, and for the opportunity to present testimony.