

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

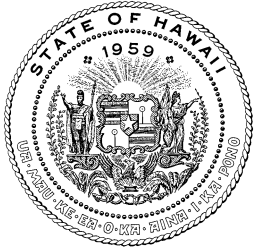
Tuesday, February 27, 2024
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of
Senate Bill 3043 SD1
RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** Senate Bill 3043 SD1. This measure clarifies the intent of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board's (SBRRB's) powers so that in addition to considering any request from small business owners for review of any rule, proposed, amended, or adopted by a state agency, the SBRRB has the authority to review legislation affecting small businesses in response to requests from small business owners.

It is important that the SBRRB's purview is clearly understood by the small business community, state and county agencies, Hawaii business chambers, and trade organizations. The changes are expected to clarify the Board's powers to avoid any misinterpretations.

Thank you for allowing DBEDT the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of this measure.



SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT)
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O'ahu

Tessa Gomes
O'ahu

Mark Ritchie for
Director, DBEDT
Voting Ex Officio

TESTIMONY

TO: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Mary Albitz, Chair, Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB) *Mary Albitz*

DATE: February 27, 2024 – Room 016 at 10:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: Support – Senate Bill 3043 SD1 – Relating to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board

On behalf of the SBRRB, I submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 3043 SD1, Relating to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board.

Specifically, Senate Bill 3043 SD1 clarifies that, in addition to reviewing any proposed new or amended rule, the SBRRB has the authority to review legislation affecting small businesses.

I am proud of the success and accomplishments this hardworking group of gratis members has had over the past 25+ years. This measure will ensure the stability of the SBRRB by clarifying its legislative powers under the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Thank you for receiving our comments and the SBRRB's support of Senate Bill 3043 SD1.

Feb. 27, 2024, 10 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair
Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

From: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii
Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns

RE: TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SB3043 SD1 — RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Takayama and Committee Members,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii would like to offer its comments in support of [SB3043 SD1](#), which would allow the Small Business Regulatory Review Board to comment on proposed legislation at the request of a small business owner.

The Small Business Regulatory Review Board was established in 1998 to represent the interests of Hawaii entrepreneurs. It functions mainly to review proposed amendments, additions and deletions to the administrative rules of state agencies.

However, it rarely suggests amendments to or opposes new administrative rules,¹ calling into question its efficacy as a defender of small business interests.

This might be because few business owners know about the board. By expanding its scope of responsibilities to include legislative input, this bill could help increase the Board's impact and effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ted Kefalas
Director of Strategic Campaigns
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

¹ "[Hawaii Small Business Regulatory Review Board: Annual Report Summary](#)," Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, 2023, p. 33.



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, SENATE CONFERENCE ROOM 016
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M.

To The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the committee on Judiciary

SUPPORT SB3043 SD1 RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS SB3043 SD1.**

The Chamber agrees that it is important that the purview of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB) is clearly understood by the small business community, state and county agencies, chambers of commerce, and trade organizations. This measure clarifies that, in addition to reviewing any proposed new or amended rules, the SBRRB also has the authority to review legislation impacting small businesses at the request of a small business owner. Given the many regulatory burdens that small businesses face in our state, having the SBRRB review and provide comments on legislation impacting small businesses is key to moving toward a more business friendly climate.

We would like to encourage the legislature to seriously take the reports the SBRRB submits into consideration when drafting legislation affecting small businesses.

For this reason, we **SUPPORT SB3043 SD1.**

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.