

To All Members Of The House And Senate Regarding Superferry

M Markl
270-9576

I live on Oahu.

Imagine in your own home, if you were told by someone else, somebody will be coming to your home. You say whom, you want to know why, what is it about, you want to assess first and have say since you will be impacted most. You're told no, you have no say, it's been decided by someone else you trusted to do the right thing and betrays you and says it's a done deal and who you pay their salaries by your taxes. Then you talk to your neighbors and try to get some protection, some rights and you learn you should have had the right to an assessment first. Then a second betrayal is in the works by another part of the government you also trust to be fair, and instead of punishing the initial wrongdoers, they continue supporting the wrong direction instead of correcting the initial wrong doing and saying- STOP – first things first – assessment first – PERIOD. That the visitors and the people you hired to protect you never inquired how you feel or if it will be compatible, and rams their way in. Then you're told you're impolite if you insist NO – this was done wrongly from the beginning and later because of continued impoliteness you're reluctantly heard but not seriously enough to plan to let those most affected have the most say in the decision. I think it's called breaking and entering at the least.

Every being and place has their own spirit/personality. Especially Kauai has a delicate spirit as did all of the islands once, which took a long time to become that way. It requires similar, compatible actions and businesses that are aligned with it's unique atmosphere. The superferry personality, concept, size, speed, SUV's aboard, etc. is more a macho personality that can easily shatter this delicacy, that once destroyed, is gone forever – the bull in the china house. The business community have often been out of touch with the islands special atmosphere and should doing marketing towards those businesses aligned that appreciate, revere, support this special delicacy of these islands and oceans, otherwise once it's broken, why would any business want to come here – it won't be unique anymore. By there doing the right thing, the environmentalists are giving Hawaii a good name internationally as a place of quality which ironically will make the islands a valued place in the long run.

To all House and Senate members – you should be punishing those who ramed this thing through from the beginning instead of continuing to do more of the wrong thing – don't be accomplices. Do the environmental study first since you don't know what will all be identified and you may be contributing more harm – the cart before the horse. Every name who does this wrong thing will be on public and spirit record. I think those concerned about the harm done to the environment and islands should sue every single one and be angry socially for life for what has been done and is being contemplated.

The superferry has other locations it can go to for now at least. Listen to and let the spirit of these islands and the environmental assessment lead to what structures and actions might need to be taken and not any old businesses overpower and define these remaining precious islands. You can go to many places where businesses rules but you can't go to many places left where the spirit of the place rules. Don't let it be on your conscience that you destroyed these islands' spirits. Do not overturn the ruling. First do only the environmental assessment.

M. Markl

Attention: House Committe On Transportation And
House Committe On Finance

Date: Thursday, October 25, 2007

Time 9:00 AM Auditorium, State Capitol

HB 1 Relating To Transportation

Requires the Department Of Transportation to perform an Envi-
ronmental Impact Studi (EIS) for certain improvement made
to commercial harbors. Permits operation of large capacity
ferry vessel company prior to completion of eis upon meeting
certain minimum conditions. Establishes a temporary Hawaii
Inter-island Ferry Oversight Task Force.

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is Antolin G. Apalla Jr. and I strongly support
Hawaii Superferry for the following reasons:

- create more jobs to Hawaii
- other option of transportation
- businesses and consumers can transport their products and
supplies cheaper and faster
- more revenues, good for the economy
- means of transportation in case of disaster or calamity
- good experience and to ride with family to other islands.



Antolin G. Apalla, Jr DMD
4015 Alala Place
Lihue, Hi 96766
808-246-0262

My Name: Paul Britos

10-21-07

Cell#: 808-348-8898

12:00P

Address: 895 Waioli street
Honolulu, HI 96825


Subject: Super Ferry

The most important comment that plays an important role in the human life is: "ICE" also known as In Case of Emergency.

The Super Ferry will play an emergency role to care ^{for} victims of another Hurricane Iniki disaster.

The Super Ferry must have the opportunity to survey the route to each Island and be equipped to care for all species in our ocean.

Think about our future and not only our present.

Call me anytime, Paul 

To House Sgt. at Urms.

Please expedite - Mahalo for your assistance.
Am in a rush.

FAX 586-6501

10-25-07

TESTIMONY FOR THE SUPER FERRY

Dear Representatives

I cannot understand WHY the super ferry cannot operate while the EIS is being conducted. I have not heard or read of any GOOD, SOLID, UNEMOTIONAL reasons why this cannot be done. In fact, it may give more environmental insight while it is running than any studies which is theoretical and could be slanted.

Did any of the entities plying our waters submit an EIS report and had them approved and if they had not, I ask WHY NOT? It appears, then, that the Super ferry is being singled out? WHY IS THAT?

There are many ferries, ships and other watercraft plying the waters in the Pacific Northwest and Canada and Alaska for many, many years. I have not heard of any environmental complaints and it appears to be serving the people very well. In fact, I found the ferry system quite remarkable as a means and an alternative of moving people and vehicles.

We cannot allow a small group of people with such rude behavior and ill manners take over the State? It should be emphasized that this kind of behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. No matter how passionate your cause is, people must learn to be civilized at these public hearings and allow the opposition to be heard and have their say.

I have heard the opponents and in my opinion, the reasons that I have seen and heard do not have much merit compared to the HUGE, HUGE negative impact in and against Hawaii if the super ferry is not allowed to run. Once it's gone, its gone and even if the EIS turns out to be favorable on behalf of the super ferry, the DAMAGE is done. WE WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO GET THE SUPER FERRY BACK. Can you see that? I also, think that the super ferry will provide an alternate means of transportation in the event of a statewide, national or international emergency and especially when our planes are grounded.

And now, legislators, did you not pass resolutions advising the executive branch to expedite the super ferry and provided funds to improve the harbors and etc. several years ago? The opponents had time to question the super ferry and EIS at that time and not at zero hour when everything is in place.

Please support the super ferry and let it run while the EIS is conducted. What is so difficult about that?

Mahalo and Aloha,

Ruth Nakasone ✓
Apoepe Street
Pearl City
Ph: c. 497-3191 ✓

House Testimony

From: kathleen neumann [kathleen_neumann@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 2:01 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Hawaii Superferry

Dear Sir or Madam:

I strongly support the Hawaii Superferry.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Neumann
116 S. Cooper Road
New Lenox, IL 60451

10/25/2007

House Testimony

From: suzanne douglas [suzannekdouglas@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 2:35 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Superferry

I urge you to uphold the legal decision that has been made. The Superferry should not be allowed to operate in Hawaiian waters until a complete environmental study has been made.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Douglas
172 Kualapa Place
Lahaina, HI

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around <http://mail.yahoo.com>

House Testimony

From: fstangel@email.arizona.edu
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 2:29 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Re: HB 1 Relating to Transportation

Quoting fstangel@email.arizona.edu:

> ATTN: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance
> DATE: Thursday, October 25, 2007
> TIME: 9:00 a.m. Auditorium, State Capitol
>
> HB 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION
>
> Requires the Department of Transportation to perform an environmental
> impact statement (EIS) for certain improvements made to commercial
> harbors. Permits operation of large capacity ferry vessel company
> prior to completion of EIS upon meeting certain minimum conditions.
> Establishes a temporary Hawaii Inter-island Ferry Oversight Task Force.
>
> Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:
>
> My name is Frank Stangel and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.
>
> I support the Hawaii Superferry because it provides an alternative
> mode of transportation between Kauai and Oahu and that it allows me to
> bring my car as well.
>
> Frank Stangel
> 3830 Edward Rd 12A
> Princeville, HI 96722
> 652-2560
> fstangel@email.arizona.edu

House Testimony

From: aloha bayside [schrader@lava.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 3:47 PM
To: House Record
Subject: superferry

Gentlemen,

As a Small Business owner catering to Mainland & International Travelers, I want to lend to my support to any facility that brings the Islands closer together, the Superferry is such a facility.

The Superferry will promote Interisland travel. It will allow outside Island Sports Teams to travel to Oahu to play games and visaversa. It will allow small contractors to serve all Islands and it will be especially usefull to Handicaped people who have a difficult time at the airports. Lets get on with this usefull service.

Sincerely,
Ralph A. Schrader
President of Schrader's Windward Country Inn

10/25/2007

House Testimony

From: Vierra Kevin P GS-12 PACAF/A4PP [Kevin.Vierra@hickam.af.mil]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 3:28 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Superferry

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is Kevin P. Vierra and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I reside and am employed in Honolulu however was born and raised on Maui. I normally visit Maui once a year at Christmas. Considering I am a paraplegic and utilize a van outfitted with hand controls, I was counting on a trip to Maui this year with my van. Although the rent a car companies do provide hand controls in their vehicles, my van is much more convenient for me particularly when I travel alone.

I currently have tickets for myself and vehicle and am hoping the legislature passes a law allowing the superferry to operate during the interim while an EIS is being conducted.

v/r
Kevin Vierra
98-1036 Moanalua Rd. #105
Aiea, 96701
PH: 488-8901

House Testimony

From: Anna Garner [anna.garner@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 4:14 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Do not override the courts decision about the Hawaii Superferry

To Whom IT May Concern,

I strongly oppose Governor Lingle's proposal to overrule the courts decision on the Hawaii Superferry.

I think the law was very clear that the Hawaii Superferry cannot run without having completed an Environmental Assessment. There is no reason, nor need, to change this.

Thank you for listening,

Anna

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The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.

-Emerson

House Testimony

From: RobertaFujioka [RobertaFujioka@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 6:23 AM
To: House Record
Subject: Support of the Hawaii Superferry

Attn: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2007

HB1 Relating to Transportation

Requires the Department of Transportation to perform an environmental impact statement ((EIS) for certain improvements made to commercial harbors. Permits operation of large capacity ferry vessel company prior to completion of the EIS upon meeting certain minimum conditions. Establishes a temporary Hawaii Inter-island Ferry Oversight Task Force.

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is Roberta Fujioka and I strongly support the Hawaii Superferry. I have been a resident of Oahu for 39 years and feel more connected to the outer islands than ever before. Due to the cost of airfare, hotels and car rentals, with three children and being a single parent, I have not visited the other islands as much as I would have liked to in my 39 years here. Recently, I went to Kauai, my first trip in 10 years, and took my son for his birthday. The next month, I was fortunate to be on the inaugural trip to Maui on the Hawaii Superferry. What a wonderful, stress free experience. The 3 hour voyage was delightful, I got to visit with my client, sit wherever we liked, be able to stretch out legs, and the great convenience of taking my car with out bags packed inside. No stress like getting thru airport security, no stress in driving a car I had never been in. When we landed and drove off of the Hawaii Superferry, I felt like I had just crossed a giant bridge. I felt connected to Maui. I was a teacher for 13 years and a soccer coach for 10. What great advantages to be able to take students and teams to the outer islands. The vistas were breathtaking, the ride smooth, and the workers all so pleasant. When I had a small garment business, it was such a hassle to take my samples to the outer islands each year. How much easier it would have been had we had the Hawaii Superferry 15 years ago!! For my current business as a realtor, I would love to be able to take my clients with me in MY car to look at real estate on the other islands. I strongly support the Hawaii Superferry as it brings the people, families and businesses closer together. It gives us the connection that we are all one state once and for all. We need the Hawaii Superferry, NOW, not 2, 5 or 10 years from now. Has Matson and Young Brothers and the cruise ships stopped service to do such an impact statement? Why is the Hawaii Superferry being singled out?

Sincerely,

Roberta Fujioka (R)
44-740 Malulani St.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
cell: 808-375-5558

10/25/2007

House Testimony

From: Dan Goo [dgoo@djspec.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 4:15 PM
To: House Record
Subject: We support the Superferry to sail NOW

We are supportive of the special session and the bill to allow the Superferry to sail.

Katherine Goo
Dave Goo
Melissa Tom
Dan Goo
Elisha Goo
Francine Happek

Mahalo,

House Testimony

From: Krista Higashiguchi [krista.elh@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 4:25 PM
To: House Record
Subject: We support the superferry.

Dear Lawmakers:

My family and I are local residents of Maui (34 years). Unfortunately, our Maui leaders, except for Mr. Joe Souki, have easily been swayed by the "squeaky wheel" and have disregarded the silent majority, which are in support of the superferry. The local culture is usually laid back and does not speak up, but it is disgusting that small special interest groups have so much power and money. The benefits of the superferry outweigh the risks. Yes, there will be risks; however, progress is never perfect or without casualties. We deserve a better quality of life instead of being held hostage by the airlines and Young Brothers. It is just a matter of time before Mesa Airlines closes up and we will be back to an \$89 inter-island, one-way trip. Young Brothers have also raised their rates by seven percent. In addition, the state (taxpayers) cannot afford to pay for the millions of dollars in harbor costs. It would be better to let the superferry operate and go out of business eventually. Transportation has always been an issue with our island state. There were protests against the H-3 and the runway extension on Maui. The superferry will bring us other options not only to local residents but also to tourism and small businesses to transport agriculture and supplies. Please see beyond political party lines. Blaming Gov. Lingle (shame on Neil Abercrombie) does not help anyone. We need to move forward with an amicable solution that will unify the state and think about the people that actually work and live here.

Thank you for your time.

The Kuraoka Family
39 Kolopua Place
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone: (808) 242-5426

10/25/2007

House Testimony

From: Kailua.Harbor@hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 5:09 PM
To: House Record
Subject: SF to operate while EIS done
Attachments: Super Ferry.doc

To Whom it may concern:

The following are my comments RE: the SF.

10/25/2007

Super Ferry

A common concern amongst many of the individuals who either oppose the Super Ferry (SF) or who insist an EIS/EA be completed prior to the SF operating is the possibility of irreparable damages which may occur to the environment. They fear that things such as opihi, fish, maile, palapalae, river pohaku, wild game and other resources will be plundered and depleted. Truth be told, these resources are being plundered and depleted long before the SF was even a topic of discussion. Attempts to establish meaningful resource management has historically been met with opposition. Resource management options such as fishing licenses, catch/bag/take limits, seasonal closures, allowing the sale of wild game, prohibiting the sale of near-shore species have been shouted down by some of the same people bemoaning the rape of "their" resources by "Oahuans." if the SF is allowed to operate. If good and reasonable resource management, together with clear concise enforceable rules and sufficient enforcement of these rules were already in place, it would matter who or how many users visit the other Hawaiian Islands using the SF. I

It is not the SF fault that we do not already have such resource management in place.

Another concern of those insisting on an EIS prior to SF operation is that passengers and their vehicles will overwhelm the neighbor islands infrastructure. The truth is that neighbor islands infrastructure is already overwhelmed and inadequate. Local government has been stymied in developing much needed infrastructure by some of the same people who oppose the SF. Environmental review and cultural sensitivity are a few of the reasons cited to stop highways, bypasses, waste water treatment plants, landfills and affordable housing in close proximity to jobs. Subdivisions and gated communities come out to say, "Not in my backyard!", when plans to connect or allow traffic to flow through their neighborhoods are proposed. Having these connecting roads would allow the flow to continue to move at high traffic times, when power lines fall across highways, when bad accidents occur or when a natural disaster strikes. Our inability to come together and agree on solutions has left our local governments impotent in providing the very infrastructure we demand.

It is not the SF fault that State and Local governments have not been able to adequately address neighbor island infrastructure problems.

The SF received Executive permission, via the Dept of Transportation, to proceed with its plans when an exemption to environmental review was given.

The SF received Legislative permission to proceed with its plans when funding was sought received and disbursed for port improvements.

The SF received Judicial permission to proceed with its plans when both a US District and lower court dismissed lawsuits against the SF and effectively upheld the DOT environmental review exemption.

Finally, I have discussed the SF with several individuals who vehemently oppose the SF for varying reasons. I presented them with a "What if". What if all your concerns for the environment, infrastructure and culture were adequately addressed? What if each and every vehicle were checked bumper to bumper, power washed, inspected for invasive species, checked for poached game, searched for drugs, firearms, stolen goods, etc ... What if roads near the harbors were improved and vehicles only allowed to leave the SF two at a time every ten minutes or so? What if every SF passenger were taught to be culturally sensitive and aware both before setting sail and whilst in transit?

The answer I get is, "'If the SF did all that, they wouldn't be able to continue doing business in Hawaii.'" or something to that effect.

To which I say, "Precisely."

Daniel K. Mersburgh

77-6453 Nalani Street

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Mersburgc001@hawaii.rr.com

House Testimony

From: Nancy Richards [nancyrichards@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2007 5:30 PM
To: House Record
Subject: Comment on the Superferry

ATTN: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance
DATE: Thursday, October 25, 2007
TIME: 9:00 a.m. Auditorium, State Capitol

HB 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Requires the Department of Transportation to perform an environmental impact statement (EIS) for certain improvements made to commercial harbors. Permits operation of large capacity ferry vessel company prior to completion of EIS upon meeting certain minimum conditions. Establishes a temporary Hawaii Inter-island Ferry Oversight Task Force.

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is *Nancy Richards* and I am a passionate supporter of our Hawaii Superferry.

I have been waiting and watching with excitement for our chance to make our annual trip to Kauai this year. We have been waiting to make our reservations for months and now my whole trip is on hold? WHY? A gentleman on Kauai inspired me to learn to play the harp. All I want to do is bring my harp over to Kauai and share this special gift he gave me. Having the Superferry allows me to bring my harp to practice during my vacation and the comfort use of my own personal car – large enough to carry the harp.

This is a selfish reason for the Superferry. But the passion to share my harp experience with a friend is deeper than any whale can dive or stronger than any environmental argument can swim. Please let our Superferry go forward to advance Hawaii in business opportunities. Not to mention to show the rest of the country we in Hawaii can do business!

I realize that this is after the committee meeting but I just want to share one person's desire for the Superferry to sail.

You've heard all the reasons it benefits business and the groundless environmental argument –

Thank you!

Nancy Richards; 98-1714 Kaahumanu St., Apt. D; Pearl City, HI 96782; 808-456-6019

10/25/2007