

#21

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House Testimony

#22

From: Victoria Bordignon [victoriab@hmcmtg.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:12 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: GIVE US THE SUPERFERRY
Importance: High

It is the overwhelming MAJORITY of the people of the State of Hawaii in favor of this added benefit of transportation for us.

It is ridiculous to say that it will increase car traffic because if you fly you rent a car anyway
That vagrants will use it, it's too expensive;
Let it operate while environmental control being done; the investment is already made

It is ridiculous to say that you cannot take a boat from one county to another within the same state!

So I cannot go by boat from southern California to Northern California?

It is time the State took action, it is a State decision, if I were the superferry I would be suing the State.

Victoria Bordignon
Management Executive
Hawaiiana Management Co., Ltd.
Pacific Park Plaza Suite 700
711 Kapiolani Blvd
Honolulu, HI 96813
direct 808.593.6857
fax 808.447.5158
email victoriab@hmcmtg.com
www.hmcmtg.com

House Testimony

From: Edward Smith [esmith@aloha.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:14 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: Hawaii Superferry

#23

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 Edward J.S.F. Smith and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I support the efforts to get the Superferry up and running.

We need an alternative mode of transportation in Hawaii.

We do not need to treat the Superferry in a negative manner.

The ruling of Judge Cardoza and the Hawaii Supreme Court should be overturned by the Legislature and the Governor.

The Law Offices of Edward J.S.F. Smith
Attorney at Law, A Law Corporation
758 Kapahulu Ave, Suite 250
Honolulu, HI 96816
(808) 523-6936
Fax (808) 735-1875
esmith@aloha.com

House Testimony

From: daveh1384@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:23 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: Superferry

24

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is Dave Helmick and I support the Superferry. With the high cost of living here in Hawaii the Superferry will give the outer islander an opportunity to come to Oahu to shop or buy things they can not buy on their islands and bring them home without the high cost of shipment. It will also give people on Oahu a chance to go to outer islands and save the costs of airfare and car rentals. There are already boats and ships going between the islands. Cars and other items going on barges between the islands with no problems now. All the hype of the a few loud mouths makes no cents. You all were voted in by all the people of Hawaii not just the Serra Club and the loud mouths. Back all the people.

Slowing down the ferry in some areas because of whale movements is OK but stopping the ferry just so a canoe club doesn't have to stop when the ferry comes in the harbor (they have to stop for the barge and ships now)...come on.

Thanks for your time.
D. Helmick
Kapolei

#25

House Testimony

From: Maleko [maleko@malekosroom.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:18 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: Superferry Testimony

Aloha,

My name is Maleko McDonnell. I am a private citizen who wishes to submit testimony to speak at the special hearing on Thursday, October 25th at 9am regarding the Superferry. I will personally read the testimony.

- Maleko McDonnell
- Star 101.9 FM, Clear Channel Hawaii
- Plan to Submit in Person
- maleko@malekosroom.com 808-550-9279

My testimony follows:

The Superferry has invested millions of dollars to bring a new transportation alternative to Hawaii, they complied with every federal, state and local rule and regulation; they have worked with the Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council to develop a plan to avoid whales. They have a plan to avoid carrying invasive species. They should be allowed operate. Numerous polls show that a majority of our citizens want the service.

I work in an environment where people express their concerns to me every day. I have heard the people speak out and support this new and innovative inter island service. I interact with thousands of radio listeners in Hawaii every day and they want the Superferry. Only a few have ever spoken out against it on my show, and even then only to recite and repeat the same few objections that have gotten so much attention without even the foundation or backing to make those objections cause for concern.

The vocal minority does not represent the majority of people at large in Hawaii. But unfortunately the media covers these groups as though they represent a large majority.

The Superferry represents positive growth in Hawaii, not just economically but environmentally. The very environmental concerns that people have used to halt this project are the ones the Superferry worked so hard to protect. Whales, and endangered species will be safer with their method of detection and protection. The Superferry's self imposed rules could be more effective than current inter island shipping service standards. So much so, that even if this initiative fails, we should adopt the Superferry's conservative methodology to protect the environment and apply it to Matson, Young Brothers and other inter island shippers. Take another look at what this new and innovative company stands to bring to Hawaii. They are updating our standards for quality and responsibility in inter island shipping with respect to the aina. And they did it before the media scrutiny and without legislation.

If the issue was really about avoiding whales then the objectors would be protesting all forms of water transport, including the large cruise ships that travel between the islands. If the issues really had anything to do with invasive species then the groups would target Young Brothers and Matson who both transport thousands of cars, trucks and construction equipment covered with dirt every year.

#25

Those against the Superferry do not speak for a majority of Hawaii citizens.

Time is of the essence, Superferry is losing hundreds of thousands of dollars every week it sits idle. The Governor, the House and the Senate all need to put partisan politics aside and agree on language that gets the Superferry sailing, so we don't lose this valuable transportation alternative. Please amend the law and allow Superferry to begin service, without restriction.

Mahalo and respectfully yours,

Maleko McDonnell,
Star 101.9 Radio DJ

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Do something worthwhile online: www.malekosroom.com

--

Do something worthwhile online: www.malekosroom.com

House Testimony

From: Clayton Char [claytonk.char@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:32 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: I Support the SuperFerry

#26

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

As a lifelong resident of the State of Hawaii, I strongly support the Hawaii Superferry.

The Legislature must immediately act to save the Superferry and eventually re-visit the State's environmental law to remove or clarify any ambiguous language to prevent future fiascos.

Clayton K. Char
1194 Kahului Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825
808 395-7667

House Testimony

#27

From: Ernie Harris [theharrisco@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:33 PM
To: House Testimony
Cc: 'Paula Harris'; 'Anthony Russo'; 'Richard Zegar'; Hualeng@aol.com; 'Frank Sullivan'; 'Norm James'; 'Rondi Jones'; Gene Castagnetti; 'Nina Nguyen'

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 Ernie Harris and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I moved here from Bremerton Naval Hospital, (Seattle Washington Area), in 1968, after being medically discharged from the Marine Corps.. I couldn't believe that there was no Ferry between islands. In Seattle, Vancouver, and most of the rest of the World, ferries exist, to economically move folks and their cars from one place in an island/state/island nation to another.

I quickly discovered that the Molokai Channel was a very difficult passage for a traditional Ferry, and that a specialized vessel was required. I was soooooo pleased to hear that the Hawaii Superferry had overcome those obstacles.

Frankly, I believe that the Superferry should commence operations immediately, with or without an EIS. Such operations will enable:

1. Intra-State transportation of goods and services
2. Easier transportation of handicapped folks
3. Kamaina's taking advantage of Kamaina Rates, off-island
4. MOST IMPORTANTLY, it will show that Hawaii is ashamed of the way it handled the Superferry and other, "Business Negative," issues, and that the State Legislature is ready to correct their image.

Sincerely,

Ernie Harris
1605 Quincy Place
Honolulu, HI 96816

#28

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House Testimony

From: Phillip Massie [philmas@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:41 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: HB 1 Relating to Transportation

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 Phillip S. Massie, and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry. I believe the Superferry lends itself very well to our ability to move about the islands freely, and especially to provide services in the event of natural or man made disasters on our various islands. Also, and primarily, the Superferry gives us locals the opportunity to visit our friends, relatives, and associates with much more comfort and less expense than is currently available. Imagine, load up the station wagon with the keiki, pupu's, and go visit Tutu, or Uncle! It also facilitates those with small businesses in the same manner, much easier, and less expensive.

Many of us believe there are Unions involved in this negatively. Also, those loud mouthed mainland "environmentalists" are not from here, and do not represent the great majority of Kama'aina, and we wonder why they get so much attention? Nobody elected them! So, please allow the Superferry to operate while the EIS goes forward. Vote yes for HB 1.

Mahalo,

Phillip S. Massie
94-1009 Maiau St.
Waipahu, HI 96797
(808)676-4354

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House Testimony

#30

From: PATRICK J PALENAP ASING [pasing@hawaiiantel.net]

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:44 PM

To: House Testimony

Subject: In Support

We are in support of Super Ferry during the interm.
s Patrick T. Asing
s Jane L.P.Asing

House Testimony

#31

From: Colin, Dan [colind001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:44 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: Fw: Testimony in FAVOR of the Superferry
Importance: High

----- Original Message -----

From: Colin, Dan
To: HouseTestimony@capitol/hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:31 PM
Subject: Testimony in FAVOR of 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 **Daniel L. Colin** and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

The Hawaii Superferry will be a benefit to the citizens of the State of Hawaii in that it will enable us to journey to the neighbor islands along with our automobiles. This will open neighbor island visits to many who cannot afford expensive hotels and rental cars. It will also give us an opportunity to travel to our neighbor islands by sea, an option that has not been available to us since the hydrofoil of years ago.

Please support the Superferry for the good of your constituents.

s/ Daniel L. Colin

117 Kailuana Place

Kailua, Hawaii 96734
Telephone: (808) 262-9678

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House Testimony

#34

From: mark corba [m_corba@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:10 PM
To: House Record; House Testimony
Subject: #34 PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SUPERFERRY

From: m_corba@hotmail.com
To: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov
Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT SUPERFERRY
Date: Tue, 23 Oct 2007 09:03:39 -1000

Aloha,

I am business owner/building contractor/ & 35 yr. resident from Maui and didn't go to the meeting Monday to STRONGLY SUPPORT the ferry and do battle with all the "MALCONTENTS" nor can I come to Oahu on short notice this time.

Most people here think and want our island to be 'NEIGHBORLY". I don't know why some people on Maui can't be neighborly or show the Aloha Spirit?

The folks voicing there concerns opposing superferry aren't very smart or represent the majority of residents or tourists that come.

1) If Oahu folks come visit via air...don't they rent cars? No more cars vs. people because of superferry

2) Everybody knows, even Gov. Lingle, that the owner of Pacific Whale Foundation just bought a bunch of boats and would feel his livelihood threatened when superferry runs thru his territory to the Big Island. Thus the lawsuit. He makes a business out of aiming his boats straight at the whales to disturb them while they're calving, then cutting the engines...calling it legal. Some businesses here even take tourists to swim with the whales,NAKED!! Something highly illegal. Who is the invasive species? Is it HUMANS? I don't see protesters up in arms about that.

Greg Kaufman is an intelligent business owner operating under the guise of a tax shelter foundation. He is also the only one to do a subdivision/gated community at Makena Beach and no one protested that. Attorney Issac Hall makes money whether he wins or looses,

probably more if he loses, because he can charge more to continue in a higher court.

3) Since when does a business need public support to open shop? I thought only government or public utilities need that. If a business fails, it is their own doing. No business except government should be given this scrutiny.

4) The behavior of the 'MALCONTENTS' should not be rewarded. What's next? shut down sugarcane? Pineapple? Tourism? Abortion clinics? The Malcontent behavior does not reflect "ALOHA spirit at all or showcase Hawaii as the aloha state. Something many of us have worked hard for generations to establish. The DUKE would roll in his grave if he saw this. Young Hawaiians use to greet the boats by diving for coins in the 'good old days'. King Kamehameha I would crack heads to unite the islands.

5) With oil prices shooting to \$100 barrel and the US dollar falling equally as fast, I think we should all be careful about our future and where our tourists and dollars are coming from, etc. A falling dollar will generate more foreign tourists coming here, our best hope if most americans' income becomes reduced, because of the economy.

ECONOMY EQUALS TAX REVENUES!!!

As we always say during an election year" It's the economy, stupid" Will the Superferry add to the economy and tax revenues and tourism? Off course it will.

I hope higher intelligence will prevail here and the aloha spirit will come thru. Our Islands are all about tourism and only aloha and uniting us will be in our best interests...not dividing us more, or rewarding the malcontents!

Mahalo,
Mark Corba
president/ceo of
Design and Build Services, Inc.
808-572-4951

#35

House Testimony

From: Mark Arthur [arthur_associates2001@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 5:45 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #35 ATTN: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance

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 *Martin E. Arthur II* and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

First, I am saddened that a very vocal group of people purports to represent the whole community. I am distressed at their actions as a resident of Hawaii since 1963. The Hawaii people I know would not act in such a manner. I speak for myself. I feel that the people of Hawaii need choices as to how they can travel between islands. Far too long have the outer islands been at a disadvantage culturally and economically. While it has been possible to ship things via Matson or Young Brothers, it has been very limited as far as shipping from or bringing things back to the the outer islands.

My other concern is that Superferry is being asked to do things that Young Brothers and Matson -- or for that matter the airlines were never asked to do.

I agree that an EIS is a needed procedure... but I strongly feel that it should include ALL the modes of transportation.

thank you for your time and interest

*Martin E. Arthur II
3230 Unahe St
Lihue, HI 96766*

(808) 652-2067

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#36

House Testimony

From: Les Nitta [nittaair@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:14 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #36 I strongly support Hawaii 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 [Leslie Nitta] and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

We could all make good use of this avenue of transportation. The convenience and overall stress free form of travel is what the locals seek. The Super Ferry is equipped with high tech navigational equipment so I can't see why there is a concern about oceanographic occurrences. As for invasive species, we are all the same on all islands. What could possibly be invasive that one island has and the other doesn't. What could be so much different from transporting vehicles like Young Brothers. The voices of a tiny minority is creating so much encumbrance on the majority....AUWE

LESLIE NITTA

1371 KUKANA PLACE

KAILUA, HAWAII 96734

808-258-2384

#37

House Testimony

From: deb bellafonte [de_bellafonte@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:14 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #37 testimony 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 Deborah Bellafonte and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I support the Hawaiian superferry because It brings our Hawaiiin community and family closer together by making it more accessible.

I will also note economically, the ferry provides accessabilty for trade, creates jobs, and certainly provides a new exciting advantage for tourism.

Furthermore, The Hawaiiin Islands are a shipping community. I fail to see that the addition of the ferry presents anymore of a threat to wildlife or its environment than is already present. I have every confidence that the ferry staff will work together to insure its safety for both the environment and its passengers.

Deborah Bellafonte

**466 Kaha St*

Kailua, Hawaii 96734

**2714 Catalpa Ct SE*

Port Orchard, Washington 98366

Phone: 360 620 7491

PHONE NUMBER]

Deborah

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House Testimony

From: Marie Ruhland [marie@hiipm.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:04 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #38 PLEASE GET THE SUPERFERRY IN THE HAWAIIAN WATERS

#38

I AM FURIOUS THAT A FEW PEOPLE SEEM TO WANT TO GET AWAY WITH WHATEVER THEY FEEL THEY WANT. THE MAJORITY OF THE HAWAII PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN OUT AND SAID THAT WE WANT THE SUPER FERRY AND THAT THE GOVERNOR DID NOT BREAK ANY LAWS. PLEASE LET US GET THIS OVER WITH AND GET DOWN TO BUSINESS. GET THE FERRY GOING PLEASE. YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII....PLEASE DO THIS NOW.

MARIE RUHLAND
HILO, HI.

#39

House Testimony

From: CODE900@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:36 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #39 superferry

I believe it is vital to our state, both for business and for security, that the Superferry be permitted to operate as intended.

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Zuckernick
506 Ulukou Street
Kailua, HI 96734
808-778-1053

See what's new at <http://www.aol.com>

#40



HB

Relating to the Proposed Superferry Bill: In Favor Of

October 20, 2007

To: Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Committee on Transportation and Internal Affairs
Committee on Energy and Environment

Dear Representatives,

As president of the Hawaii Motorcycle Dealers Association, I would like to voice our support for this proposed bill. We are in full support of the Superferry and would like to see the Superferry in service as quickly as possible. We understand that the environmental assessment must be preformed, however the motorcycling community is anxious to use the ferry to transport our vehicles between the islands. We the motorcycle dealers are planning to use the Superferry as transportation to other islands to promote the different brands of motorcycles on those islands. It would also allow Oahu residents to make use of the ¼ mile drag strips available on Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii. Oahu could make use of since there not a ¼ mile.

By briefly reading through the bill we are in full support of any actions taken to see the Superferry up and running as soon as possible. It has already taken way too long!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ross K. Montgomery
President of Hawaii Motorcycle Dealers Association
montgomerymtrs@aol.com
Cell: 808-349-5584

#41

House Testimony

From: Michael758 [michael808a@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:44 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #41 Testimony for HB-1

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

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

Position, **SUPPORT HB-1. SUPPORT OF SUPERFERRY IMMEDIATE OPERATION**

Please allow this vessel to resume service. Please allow the persons denied employment to return to work. Let us not continue business and visitor hostile policy making in the wake of other business and employee unfriendly laws such as the excise tax hike and the costly smoking ban of last year. It's no wonder Hawaii ranks second to last in business friendliness per the Washington based Small Business Survival Committee.

Mahalo, Michael Zehner

750 Amana Street, #608

Honolulu, HI 96814

952-0275

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House Testimony

From: Brian Jordan [bfjordan@cuhawaii.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:10 PM
To: House Testimony
Cc: Dylan.Nonaka@hawaii.gov
Subject: #43 Super Ferry

From: Brian F Jordan MSgt USMC ret 808 938 3911
To: State Legislature

The Super Ferry is favored by 80% of the Population. I am one of the 80%. Failure to perform the peoples will would be inexcusable, for the following reasons: The State has invested millions already. However embarrassing the state hasn't been a problem in the past for the majority party. The farmers on my island can sell their food at a greater profit on Maui or Oahu (providing them added \$\$\$). Services will be available such as car paint jobs and shopping at better prices (saving the people \$\$\$). Citizens should have a choice of where to sell or shop. Family members will be able to visit with their own vehicles (saving them \$\$\$). Military retirees will have access to well deserved medical and commisary privileges (Saving them \$\$\$). The Super Ferry could be used for emergency evacuations if volcanoes isolate sections of this island (Saving lives and property). Oh yeah and it created 300 jobs. You should be so proud that you added them to the unemployment rolls. Hey, but if they rely on entitlements they vote Democratic.

Who doesn't want the Super ferry? Car rental companies, Young Brothers and Matson, Aloha and Hawaiian Airlines, and local businesses that can't compete in an open market. We got the fire ant, the cocqui and stinging catepillar without the Super Ferry. Whales have been hit by every other type of commercial vessel. I guess we should have cancelled all

flights and interisland shipping if you support the supposed environmental argument. That's sarcasm not a suggestion. Having worked for the state government and been involved in state politics I am no longer naive enough to believe the majority of citizens opinion is of any value to the majority party. The reason the rest of the country considers us a third world state is fiascos like this.

#44

House Testimony

From: Morgan DP [morgand004@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:16 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #44 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 Dennis P. Morgan and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

The controversy over operation of the Superferry is embarrassing to the State of Hawaii, to the majority of its citizens, and to me personally. Worse yet, it's been noticed on a global scale. A service of this kind is obviously not only good for our economy by providing options for tourists and businesses travelling between Islands, but essential where personnel and their equipment must be transported in order to respond to a variety of emergencies throughout the Islands.

I am not advocating that environmental impacts should not be taken into consideration. I also do not agree with the courts decision that the Superferry represents a "New Technology" that requires such an extensive EIS. We have had ferry transportation between Islands in the past that operated at high speed utilizing hydrofoil technology that posed similar threats to the whale population that did not require such extensive studies, if any. If the decision is to require an EIS this time around, it seems only fair to strike a compromise and allow the Superferry to operate while the study is being conducted. I am a technical person and can see the benefit to having the Superferry operating in order to collect valid and accurate data need to complete such a study. The alternative would be to reach conclusions based on scientifically derived speculation and probabilities; never a good substitute for real data. I sometimes feel that a small group of selfish people are using the environmental trump card in a way it was not intended to be used, and have other hidden agendas against the Superferry. The facts just don't seem to add up.

10/23/2007

There have been some serious mistakes made on both sides that have brought us to this point; State Government has spent millions on infrastructure and the business community has spent millions building the ship and hiring operating crews. Both of these expensive undertakings were based on the understanding that there would be no obstacles, environmentally or legally, preventing the Superferry from operating. How could this misunderstanding be allowed to create such a debacle and reached this point? Don't State agencies who gave the go ahead for this project over the years know the law? How can the business investment community ever trust the State again in the future? Well, it's too late now, the damage is done. The only way to save face is to come to a reasonable compromise. Other considerations are that the majority of the citizens of the State of Hawaii seem to support the Superferry, many jobs hang in the balance, and related tax revenues are needed to cover monies already spent on infrastructure.

So, require the EIS, let the Superferry operate during the interim to help support the study as needed, and let the Superferry venture live or die based on the outcome. I believe this to be a fair compromise.

Mahalo!

Dennis P. Morgan

94-531 Holaniku St., Mililani, Hawaii, 96789

808-623-6421

House Testimony

#45

From: William [wgs@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:31 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #45 Support for the Hawaii Superferry (HSF)

Aloha,

I have sailed from Hilo to Hanalei. My Captain license has begun in Honolulu in 1993 and I sailed between and among most Islands. Having been aboard 3 passages of the HSF any Captain would know the boat is totally under control to avoid marine life. There will be ZERO whales showing prop damage from the HSF. There are no external prop's on the HSF. Please ask or pass a law that all prop driven vessels of Maui and Kauai show the same "respect" for the Islands as what is being asked of the HSF right now. No boat, except for sailboats sails until the study and people of Maui and Kauai are satisfied.

Or we could just let them operate as they ALL have for the enjoyment and betterment of our lives.

Thank You,
William Sankey
808.590.5262
Aiea, Hawaii

#46

House Testimony

From: susan straight [squibble@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:23 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #46 SAVE 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 *Susan L. Straight* and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry. I live in Waimea, on Kauai, and I know of no one here- local and haole alike - who is against the Superferry. Sadly, we couldn't attend the comment meeting Sunday due to fear of the militant protesters. Where is the Aloha?

Susan L. Straight

PO Box 269

Waimea, Hi 96796

808-338-1344

#47

House Testimony

From: Marian Smithson [mariansway@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:40 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #47 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 Randy Leisenring and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

Although the environment is of the utmost importance to me, I don't believe the Superferry poses a significant risk to our marine life. I think the people of Hawaii deserve options in transportation to the other islands and allow freedom of choice. I remember a couple of years ago when the fares were extremely high. The superferry offers alternatives for shipping and transportation. Do not force the superferry to leave by not allowing them to operate during the EIS.

Randy Leisenring

965 Prospect ST, 105

Honolulu, Hi 96822

808-538-3588

Marian Smithson

10/23/2007

#48

House Testimony

From: Sylvia Dawson [dawsons006@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:48 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #48 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 Sylvia Dawson and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I believe that it is time for Hawaii to move ahead with newer and more innovative alternative to inter island travel.

We need to send out the message to future innovative ventures that Hawaii is open to new and modern ideas and we welcome fresh new minds.

This venture will be a giant leap into a fresh era for Hawaii.

The Superferry will not have any more environmental impact on the islands than other forms of inter island travel that have been in use for centuries.

Sylvia Dawson

333 Aoloa Street

Kailua, Hawaii 96734

808 261 1086

#49

House Testimony

From: Peter Dilwith [pdlilwith@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 7:45 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #49 My Support for the HAWAII 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:

First of all I would like to introduce myself. My name is Peter Dilwith and I am a born and raised resident of Wahiawa, Hawaii. I speak for myself as well as my family when I ask that you as Legislators, favor the Hawaii Superferry in this upcoming special session. As a professional here in Hawaii, I speak with many of my colleagues and they agree that the Hawaii Superferry will not only benefit the economy, but will allow other natives of Hawaii to visit the rest of the state without the overwhelming cost of car rentals and such. I also feel that we need the Hawaii Superferry to keep the airlines in check, after all, they have been robbing us blind for years.

So if you conclude that an EIS is required, please allow the Superferry to run while it is being done. Also, it would only be fair if you were to require all other shippers (Young Brothers, Matson, etc.) to undergo an EIS of their own. That would be the fair thing to do. Once again, I would like to voice my **STRONG SUPPORT** for the Hawaii Superferry!

Mahalo and Aloha,

Pete Dilwith, Mortician
Mililani Mortuary
P.O. Box 457
Pearl City, HI 96782-0457

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50

House Testimony

From: longapw@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:24 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0050 Superferry testimony

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 Perry W. Longa and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.
to see my outer island family.

*Perry W. Longa
317-3 Molo st
Kailua HI 9634
808-220-7828*

Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free [AOL Mail!](#)

#51

House Testimony

From: Raymond Hoe [hanahoe@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:03 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0051 Hawaii Super Ferry

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 RAYMOND E HOE, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE HAWAII SUPER FERRY, I FEEL IT IS WRONG TO REQUIRE AN EIS WHEN ALL OTHER MODES OF TRANSPORTATION SERVING THE ISLANDS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO A STUDY, (ie. RENTAL CARS, AIRLINES, SHIPPING COMPANIES, TOUR BUSES, CRUISE SHIPS). IF ALL OF THE PROTESTERS WERE TRULY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT, THEN WE SHOULD ELIMINATE ALL OTHER METHODS OF TRANSPORT TO THE ISLANDS AND TRAVEL BY BOAT ONLY BECAUSE IT IS THE LEAST POLLUTING OF ALL THE METHODS WE USE TO TRAVEL HERE. FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE FAMILY SPREAD ACROSS THE ISLANDS AND WHOSE ROOTS ARE HERE, THIS IS A WONDERFULL WAY TO BRING THE OHANA TOGETHER. I HOPE YOU WILL DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO ASSIST THIS NEEDED SERVICE.

WITH SINCERE ALOHA,
RAYMOND E. HOE
P.O. BOX 569
LAWAI, KAUAI, HI 96765
808 647-0749

#52

House Testimony

From: j.k. barino [jei-nhy@hawaii808.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:23 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0052 Testimony for Superferry
Importance: High

*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 Jei-Nhy Kawaionalani Barino and I **strongly** support Hawaii Superferry.*

** Another option for inter-island travel is greatly need and the superferry provides that*

** I believe that the Hawaii Superferry is legal to run because they have been working with environmental experts from the get-go and seems to EXCEED state regulations.*

** Since I believe the Hawaii Superferry is legal, I seem it VERY, VERY unfair for the state to single out this POSITIVE addition to the islands. If you're going to require something of one business, require it for ALL i.e. Matson, Young Brothers*

** As a Hawaii born and raised resident, preserving our unique environment is always a number 1 on my list of concerns and I believe the Hawaii Superferry did a superb job trying to exceed regulations. And to know that they volunteered these reviews and address these concerns without us requiring it of them to begin with is impressive.*

** As a member of a family that owns and operates a small business, a local restaurant, the potential, positive opportunities the Superferry presents are exciting and I believe will help assure and sustain our business for years to come.*

** As an business owner myself, a lot of the conventions I'd love to attend to grow my business is on 'Oahu, which is fine when I catch a plane, but since I'm under the age of 25 I need to pay a ridiculous "underage fee" to rent a car to transport myself around. With the superferry, there's a chance where I can bring my OWN car to help grow my business when necessary.*

There are many more reasons why I support the superferry, but I believe that these

#52

are strong enough for my opinion (a local who was born and raised in these islands and welcomes change) to be heard amongst the minority.

Jei-Nhy K. Barino
P.O. Box 1119; Kekaha 96752
808.635.9012

--

~Jei-Nhy
www.jkb-unlimited.com

;P - I've learned that artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

#53

House Testimony

From: eleanor crisostomo [oheloai@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:24 AM
To: testimony
Subject: #0053 SuperFerry

As a local born resident of the State of Hawaii, we urgently need the SuperFerry to sail. Many local residents here have families on every island. With the high cost of living, finding an alternative method to travel would only benefit us, especially those with larger families. Airfare and shipping of vehicles are way too expensive as it is. We are not "bad" Oahu residents wanting to spread invasive species, drugs, etc. We are all too aware of the many drug busts that include Kauai and Maui, as well as Oahu. Some of these people who live there collecting their welfare checks are convicted felons and drug dealers. Why are we listening to so-called "environmentalists" who let cruise ships willingly into their harbors every week without protests? These are the very same people who with their wealth, buy large properties and drive up our taxes, build illegal bed and breakfast joints and brag about not paying taxes. Why are we letting the newly transplanted wealthy newcomers decide how and where we should travel? How many of these protestors have hidden prison jail terms? These people do not have families and relatives to visit and can afford the high airfare and car rentals. If the SuperFerry is bad for the environment, why do whale watching tours still run while we know that they are as guilty for killing the whales themselves? I do not feel that we should (along with our families) suffer any longer. We also seem to forget that the "disabled" are not able to travel as easily as we are able. They have special cars that I'm not sure you can rent on another island. All of this fighting over nothing, including the bad news media coverage on the mainland does not encourage future visitors to enjoy our island. After watching the protestors harrass the incoming residents to their island by yelling obscenities, pounding on cars, flattening their tires, harrass our own Governor, yell at our elders who speak for the SuperFerry, I am ashamed to say that these are the types of people who represent our islands. As far as I am concerned, these protestors have no grasp on the true Aloha Spirit.

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#54

ATTN: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance #54

Date: Thursday October 25, 2007

Time: 9:00 a.m. Auditorium, State Capitol

Legislature's Public Access Room: HouseTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

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 Mary Ann DuBoyce and I strongly and wholeheartedly support the operation of the Hawaii Superferry. I support the bill that will permit Inter-island ferry service in Hawai'i while an environmental impact statement is being conducted.

The Hawaiian Islands are long overdue for an alternative means of Inter-island transportation. I also believe that the Hawaii Superferry is good for small business and will generate more revenue for the State of Hawai'i.

The Hawaii Superferry would also be beneficial to any person with a physical disability Or for a person who cannot travel by other means of Inter-island transportation.

In the event of a natural disaster on any of the islands, the Hawaii Superferry could aide in transporting valuable cargo and crew to any location to help with recovery efforts.

This does not mean I would discontinue using the present methods of transportation. I just want to have choices and see fair and friendly competition for all business in the State of Hawai'i.

There are so many more good and positive reasons to keep the Hawaii Superferry in Hawai'i. We need to correct the bad press which is hurting our image of doing business in Hawai'i. Thank you for your time and consideration in the matter.

Mary Ann DuBoyce
Resident and Supporter of Hawaii Superferry
mariko_dub@msn.com
94-149 Kuahelani Ave #156
Mililani, HI 96789

55

House Testimony

From: mauirev@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:48 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0055 please listen!

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:

aloha from maui, the valley isle of beautiful flowers ...~ thanks! victoria lynn
7752209820cell

~ thanks, victoria lynn
victoria lynn vallis
1127 kupulau dr kihei, hi 96753 phone 8088798317 or 7752209820cell

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55

House Testimony

From: mauirev@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:04 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0055 (no subject)

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: please let the super ferry run between maui and oahu. it makes so much sense to have a boat bridge between the islands! i have ridden super ferry to oahu and back, taking pictures and enjoying the expedition adventure. it felt so good and made me so happy. i had a blast! felt better than disneyland!!! i took my truck and drove to a friend's house on oahu and he showed me around. it was much like riding the ferry between vancouver and victoria island with vehicle. we did that thirty years ago!!! their ferry is still running and is a much needed alternate form of transportation. don't you get island fever? don't you want to explore other islands? what is wrong with this picture?

aloha from maui, the valley isle of beautiful flowers ...~ thanks! victoria lynn
7752209820cell

~ thanks, victoria lynn
victoria lynn vallis
1127 kupulau dr kihei, hi 96753 phone 8088798317 or 7752209820cell

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#56

House Testimony

From: Patti Domingo [pattigirl@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 8:56 PM

To: House Testimony

Subject: #0056 SUPPORT THE SUPER FERRY

I SUPPORT THE SUPER FERRY AND WANT YOU TO DO THE SAME. LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE ON WHAT THEY WANT. WE ARE A GROWING ISLAND AND WANT MORE FOR OUR FUTURE. LET'S NOT BE BEHIND NEW IDEAS AND HELP FOR THE LOCAL PEOPLE. DO WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE PLEASE.

THANK YOU,
PATTI AND TIM DOMINGO

#57

MELVIN AH CHING PRODUCTIONS
1560 KANUNU ST. #816 HONOLULU HI 96814 • 808 946-2676 • HTTP://WWW.MACPROHAWAII.COM

October 25, 2007
Testimony House Hearing on 10-25-07

Honorable Representatives,

I am submitting this written testimony as a private citizen from my home computer (a Macintosh using my home ISP and email to send this out) to add my voice to many other people in Hawaii in **SUPPORT OF THE HAWAII SUPERFERRY.**

I am certain you've all heard the reasons why the great majority of us support the Hawaii Superferry. My main reasons to support the Hawaii Superferry are:

- Provides Hawaii residents, business and visitors with an alternative method to travel and transport stuff between the islands.
- Another competitive venture in Hawaii's interisland travel and transport market.
- Able to take my vehicle from one island to another and bring it back.
- I will be able to move stuff out of my parents' home at minimum cost and all within the same day of transit.
- Will offer businesses from all islands new markets in which to sell goods and services.
- State of the art ship that needs to be used in this untapped market.
- Can be used in times of emergency to move equipment and supplies from one island to another.

I urge that Hawaii Superferry *Alakai* be allowed to sail between Maui, Oahu, and Kauai as originally planned by Hawaii Superferry Inc. during the EIS process. I also urge that **no restrictions** be placed on Hawaii Superferry operations during this time and in the future.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Melvin Ah Ching

#58

House Testimony

From: Gary Edwards [gedwards@pixi.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:14 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0058 HB 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

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 Dr. Gary Edwards and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I think my feelings are representative of 90% of Hawaii's people.

I support the Superferry unreservedly.

Look around the rest of the world. Ferries have been serving people in every corner of the world for millenia. How much sense does it make to require an "environmental impact statement"? We have giant luxury liners going between islands, barges, oil tankers, yachts, fishing boats, submarines.

To single out the Superferry and cause its business failure is almost criminal.

Clamoring for this EIS is nothing more than a thinly disguised means of throwing a monkey wrench in a beautiful machine that the people of Hawaii want and need.

I rode the Superferry on its inaugural ride to Maui. What a thrill to be able to drive my own car to Kahului from Honolulu round trip!

Please use common sense and do whatever it takes to bring the Superferry to Hawaii and also to restore our respect in the world's eyes.

Aloha,
Gary Edwards, M.D.
808 526 0030
1329 Lusitana St
Honolulu HI 96813

]

#59

House Testimony

From: dondhus@gmail.com on behalf of Donald Dietz [dondietz@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:33 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0059 HB 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

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

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 Donald W. Dietz, and I am a business owner here in Hawaii, and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I am very disappointed in our elected officials, not to stand up for the Superferry. It appears to be that Governor Lingle is the only one with guts to stand up for 'Business in Hawaii'. It doesn't take a lot of intelligence for someone to realize the benefits that this service brings to the islands. But, it does take a lack of intelligence to not understand basic economic impact that this brings to the commerce and residence of the state.

When a company finally comes in to offer a fair price to ship automobiles and supplies to our islands, they get strongly opposed by a minority group of people. The courts find legal cause to stop them, then, ironically, the local 'Shipping Companies' announce an increase in their fares. This is obviously not a coincidence, but rather BUSINESS (in Hawaii) AS USUAL! There is not a word of objection from anyone in government office.

While this has bought out the prejudice between the neighbor islands residence, for each other (primarily Oahu), the courts and State officials seem to be supporting and perpetuating that animosity between islanders.

We have seen it happen in the hotel industry, airline industry, developer industry and now, the shipping industry. As a locally born and raised resident, I do not know of anyone who would deny this type of "Old Boy Business" practice of the past several decades. But, one would hope that these island's officials would 'grow up' and look at the future of our state and not just the present benefit to their own pocket books.

The islands need officials of 'Vision', to see where we are going and how we are going to grow in the future. Not how we can hold off progress and keep making the 'elite' richer.

The Superferry has the support of the overwhelming majority of the citizens of this State. Please listen the majority and not the loud and 'irrational' minority. I support business in Hawaii, and I strongly support the HAWAII SUPERFERRY!

10/24/2007

#59

--
Mahalo,

Don Dietz
808-255-3598
dondietz@hawaii.rr.com

#60

House Testimony

From: Christie Wagner [christiewagner@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:41 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0060 REQUESTING PERMISSION TO GIVE TESTIMONY re House Bill 1 relating to HAWAII SUPER FERRY

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 CHRISTIE WAGNER.

Definitely ban the Super Ferry IF you also ban the following, and ban them permanently:

- (1) ALL COMMERCIAL CRUISE LINES because their fuel pollutes the ocean;
 - (2) ALL COMMERCIAL AIRLINE FLIGHTS, because, among other things, they sometimes need to dump fuel into the ocean to decrease their weight before landing; Also their "con trails"-- i.e., condensation vapors--liquefy and dump Skydrol jet fuel into the ocean. Furthermore they drop their toilet facility deposits into the air.
 - (3) ALL MILITARY FLIGHTS--for the same reason all commercial airline flights should be banned forever--and that includes the Navy's Blue Angels and the Air Force's Thunderbirds.
 - (4) ALL PLEASURE BOATS because they leak fuel and oil into the ocean plus they empty their toilet facilities into the ocean.
 - (5) SWIMMERS AND DIVERS, BOTH RECREATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL. Especially ban all of the 7 million annual visitors to Oahu from swimming in our oceans because they will tinkle into the ocean and deposit, among other noxious chemicals, ammonia into our waters.
- Seriously, full speed ahead and godspeed to the Hawaii Super Ferry.

Respectfully with aloha:

10/24/2007

#60

CHRISTIE WAGNER

"There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you...And as we let our light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."

---NELSON MANDELA

Mobile Telephone:

(808) 282-7300

Electronic Mail Address:

ChristieWagner@gmail.com .

Postal Address:

850 Kawaiahao Street

55--Fourth Floor

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5259

House Testimony

From: Greg Ruhland [greg@hiipm.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:21 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0061 Superferry

#61

Aloha from Hilo,
Please support legislation to allow the Superferry operate while the EIS goes forward.
Although I do not know if I will ever use the ferry, I feel it is in the best interest of
most people in this state. There4 are similar ferries in operation through out the world
that operate without problem. My wife and I recently used the ferry system in Australia
and found it a very good option for transportation.
Please support the Superferry legislation.
Greg Ruhland MD
Hilo, Hi

House Testimony

From: Teri Noborikawa [tnoborikawa@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 9:52 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0062 Super Ferry will benefit all

#62

Was an EIS required of Young Bros, NCL America, or any other island-ocean-faring enterprise (business), before they entered and/or changed their navigation of our waters?

Environmental issues?...up until recently NCL sailed to Fanning Island (Republic of Kiribati), no one raised an issue re EIS requirements about the potential threat of "invasive" species. then, nor now. Our waters are sailed and plied by hundreds of small to large crafts from island to island. And ships from Asia, North America, Europe, the world, they are are more suspect of introducing a destructive species to Hawai'i than the SuperFerry. What makes the SuperFerry suspect of so many negatives as opposed to other ocean-transport entities?

And the argurment re more vehicle traffic or Maui and Kaua'i? If you're traveling to a "neighbor" island, most times you gonna rent a car...so what's the difference if you rent a car or bring your own over with SuperFerry.? In commen sense terms it is called a "wash," i.e. no positive or, more importantly, negative effect for the community. Zero, or almost, effect to the community.

I firmly believe that the majority of the Hawaii state favors the SuperFerry. Unfortunately, there are very vocal, rude, and abusive (letting air out from tires, pounding on car windows) groups that will not allow us to voice our opinions/views by shouting us down at hearings. But they force us to hear their views, as evidenced by the hearing on Kaua'i and Maui. They are not the voice of Hawaii, only a small group.

In hindsight, yes, somethings could have been handled better re environmental issues, but I believe the ultimate decision/court finding should be that the SuperFerry is within all legal boundaries for operation.

I look forward to driving onto the Alakai with my dogs and bike, to visit friends on Hawai'i. Thank goodness that my Maui and Kaua'i friends have moved to O'ahu. Now I know why they moved...no Aloha on Maui and Kauai.

Imua Super Ferry!
Terri Noborikawa

#63

House Testimony

From: Diane VanderZanden [dvzanden@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:08 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0063 HB 1 Relating to Transportation

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro,

My name is Diane VanderZanden and I fully support the Superferry. I am an airline retiree with 42 years of service and before that, I taught math at Maryknoll High School. I am, of course, a college graduate. I also majored in philosophy. I long ago, in my youth, learned the importance of being compassionate but I also learned that emotions are not the basis of good decisions. This Superferry issue smacks of politics and emotions. This is just a guess but I do know that many demonstrations in this country include people who are paid to wave flags and disrupt issues. I suspect that is the basis for some of the protests on Kauai and Maui. I, too, love the aina and feel that we need to protect it. I'm sure some well-meaning citizens have gotten caught up in the emotional debates. Please do not base your decision on emotion. It would be great if people only came to visit and never moved here, but I am not selfish enough to believe these islands only belong to a limited few. We do have problems but the Superferry is not responsible for them nor will it change that issue. The service will benefit more local people than tourists. Please, do your duty and allow the Superferry to operate, without strangling conditions, while studies are being done.

Diane VanderZanden
500 Lunalilo Home Rd. #26-D
Honolulu, HI 96825
(808) 3965293 (Note; I got married this month and moved from Unit 11-H, which I still own, at this address to 26-D. The phone number is also new.)

#64

ATTN: House Committee on Transportation and House Committee on Finance #64

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 Captain Edward Enos Jr. and I **strongly support** Hawaii Superferry and this company's effort to establish another means of transporting cargo between the islands here in Hawaii.

I am employed in the maritime industry here in Hawaii. I have worked aboard tugs operating inter-island, as well as commercial merchant ships all over the world. I am currently working as a Harbor Pilot. We are the men that safely navigate all the large commercial ships that call on all Hawaii's ports at all the islands. I have been a ship's Pilot since 1994.

As the Pilot assigned to bring the ALAKAI safely into Honolulu harbor the day she arrived in Hawaii, I was very proud to be part of a historical event. The SuperFerry's arrival into Hawaii was a monumental step forward for Hawaii's ocean transportation industry.

Politicians are quick to talk about creating "Hi-Tech" industries here in our State. I have never once heard anyone refer to the SuperFerry in this way. That's too bad. The average Hawaii resident has no idea of the intensive and unique training the crew has been put through in order to safely navigate this ship. The ALAKAI represents the forefront of maritime development in ship design. And just imagine, this "Hi-Tech" vessel, her new design and advanced propulsion systems, operating right here in Hawaii! The crew operating this ship has been put through rigorous and intensive training and certification by the US Coast Guard. They are part of a very small group of people in the entire world that are qualified to operate a vessel like this. And now we have an opportunity to call it our own.

Here are some indisputable facts about our ocean transport system in Hawaii. There is only one sole carrier for cargo within the islands, Young Brothers. Matson, contrary to popular belief, does NOT ship cargo inter-island. Matson transports cargo between Hawaii and the mainland. If you have a vehicle or cargo that you want to move from one island to another, it has to go aboard a barge operated by Young Brothers. If nothing else, Hawaii SuperFerry provides local residents an alternative and competitive means of shipping personal effects inter-island.

The large passenger cruise ships that sail inter-island, contrary to the conjecture and hearsay that has been offered in testimony in the past; do in fact sail at high speeds between the islands. By high speed, I mean running between 19 and 25 knots. I know this because I am aboard these ships.

As a harbor Pilot, I frequently and routinely ride aboard most of these vessels as this is the logistically easiest way of being aboard the ship as she moves from one port to the next. There are other cruise ships that operate in Hawaiian waters besides the Norwegian Cruise Lines. Depending on their route on any given voyage, they may run as slow as 12 knots or as fast as 25 knots. This speed range is not uncommon for other cargo and container ships. Putting a speed restriction on commercial shipping is easy. Paying for the additional “costs” of doing so, especially if you reside on the outer-islands, that’s the difficult part.

Cruise ships do most all their transits at night. They all have lookouts on the bridge as required by international law. They are as susceptible of striking a whale as anyone else. And they do indeed operate routinely and regularly within the Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary.

As do US Naval vessels and submarines, research ships, and training ships. The port of Lahaina is a favorite rest stop for many of these types of ships.

Those that protest the SuperFerry’s transit between the islands out of fear of striking a whale should look in the mirror. Whale watching boats are responsible for 25 % of whale strikes. In fact, one collision with a whale involved a whale watching boat from the Pacific Whale Foundation in March of last year. This is the same company that is operated by Mr. Greg Kaufman, who spent several days testifying against the SuperFerry on Maui last month. If those who profess to be such ardent supporters of Marine Mammals were truly genuine in their concern for their well being, why don’t they stop all commercial vessel activity within the Hawaiian Island Humpback Whale Sanctuary off Maui? There are repeated and well documented collisions with whales and yet nobody has ever even considered limiting or restricting vessel transits during whale season. Why? Because it is part of the multi-million dollar ocean recreation sector of Maui’s tourism industry. These protestors who wouldn’t stop their own boats after a whale collision, yet fight against the SuperFerry before it even starts to operate, I believe are living with moral dilemma. What integrity do these people bring to this discussion?

If you are concerned about invasive species, ask yourself how Coqui frogs got from the Big Island to Maui and Oahu. They have been transported by barge, of course. I would invite any individual who is the least bit curious to go down to Hilo harbor and listen to the Coqui frogs at night. They are all over the place and nobody appears to be doing anything at all about this.

As for the issues of increased traffic, crime, supposed drug transportation and every other evil that one can dream up, I’m sorry, but these problems already exist without the SuperFerry. Stealing one’s fish or opihi and taking it back to another island, that’s an issue that native Hawaiians and fisherman can better resolve amongst themselves. I would encourage them to do so without more interference from the government.

My job as a harbor Pilot has put me in touch directly with the people at Hawaii SuperFerry. I’ve met John Lehman and had a long talk with him on a trip back from Maui, as we sailed down the north side of Molokai. He is hardly the evil “Dr. Strangelove” that some protestors would have you believe. I’ve known both Terry White and Terry O’Halloran for years. They are good men with families that live here in Hawaii. They love this place as much as Isaac Hall does.

#64

Finally, let me close by saying that the SuperFerry is more than this big boat you see on TV every night. It's a ship with a crew. Many of them are local men and women from here, challenged by a new job, demanding new skills, in a profession that has a lot of promise and future. They care about the environment and whales as much as anyone on Maui and Kauai do. SuperFerry employees would never stand up and "argue" why they should be allowed to work in this new and exciting job, because it would be seen as antagonistic. Their boss wouldn't have it. But I'll say it for them. What right do these protestors have to speak against the 300 people who committed to work with Hawaii SuperFerry? What makes the protestors think that the crew of the ALAKAI cares less than the environmentalists do? The Captains, engineers, and other licensed officers live and breathe governmental regulations about the ocean and marine environment everyday of their life. That is what their job is all about.

To think these men and women are operating this ship with little or no regard to whales or the environment is insulting! I'm repulsed at the attitude I've seen directed at the crew of the ALAKAI. I'm sorry the world has had to bear witness to this new brand of "aloha" that has been imposed upon our islands by pseudo-locals.

I have a home on the Big Island, in Waimea. I was born and raised on Oahu and Hawaii is my home. My father is Hawaiian-Portuguese. I appreciate what other local people like me, from Hawaii are concerned about. I am insulted by mainland transplanted residents telling me what's good for me and my family. I work on the ocean everyday. Like the crew of the ALAKAI, I am as concerned as anyone else about where I live and work.

Please give the Hawaii SuperFerry and the crew of the ALAKAI a chance to prove what the possibilities are.

Capt. Edward Enos Jr.
PO Box 721
Honolulu, HI 96808
479-1022
edgin16@hawaii.rr.com

House Testimony

From: Charlene Mori [moric004@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:23 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0065 I want the SUPERFERRY

#65

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 Charlene Mori and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I believe the residents of Hawaii deserve an option for means of travel to our outer islands. I believe it will promote not only tourism but also local family ties as this venue would allow for a more relaxed and enjoyable experience for families. What I mean is it allows families to sit, talk, eat, spend time together during the crossing. It allows families to further their experience on other islands not made possible before by allowing the transport of personal cars and bicycles. I feel its presence can only benefit the people of Hawaii.

Charlene Mori
46-1012 Emepela Way 23-S
Kaneohe, HI 96744

(808)230-1275

#66

House Testimony

From: Poilady@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:28 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0066 super ferry

I am for the super ferry. We need additional choices of transportation. The ferry is needed here and should be allowed to go between the islands.

Brenda Reichel
Carats & Karats Fine Jewelry
3512 Wai'ala'e Ave
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
808-735-2301

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#67

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intentionally left
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House Testimony

From: Melvin Minakami [minakamim001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:57 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0068 HB 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION



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 (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 MELVIN T. MINAKAMI and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

Opponents of the Superferry cite several reasons why it should not operate: first, the spread of invasive species, second, protection of the humpback whales, third, the impact of visitors on the Outer Islands, and finally the removal of natural resources from the Outer Islands by Oahu visitors. By citing these reasons, opponents of Superferry say special provisions in the law need to be imposed on the operation for the good of Outer Islanders. None of these provisions would be imposed on existing carriers; i.e., Young Brothers barge operations, interisland airlines and container carriers.

Discussing each item separately, let me first address the *spread of invasive species*. Worldwide, this is a problem for all nations not to mention the Outer Islands. Nationally, our Federal government is currently considering legislation for the prevention of the transport of invasive species via ballast water in freighters. Opponents want unique provisions established on Superferry operations while ignoring other carriers. This is discriminatory and extremely prejudicial against Superferry. While not to demean the problem, to cite Superferry as the sole means of the possible transport of invasive species while ignoring the transport by other carriers is a specious argument. What checks or inspections would be required of airline passengers, interisland, national, and international, prior to embarking on their flights? What checks or inspections would be required of Young Brothers barge cargo prior to being loaded and shipped to the Outer Islands? What checks or inspections would be required of cargo containers prior to their shipment when they are being packed prior to being shipped to the Outer Islands? NONE! Currently, the largest invasive species problem is the coqui frog on the Big Island. Smaller colonies have been established on Oahu. Speculation is that the frog arrived in agricultural products imported by Big Islanders. How about the "gorilla ogo" which has established itself on various islands? This seaweed was introduced to study its aquaculture potential. Both of these environmental disasters occurred prior to Superferry being conceptualized for Hawaii.

Second, the *protection of humpback whales* is another contrived argument. Although, "whale experts" have testified about the potential problem citing speed as their main concern, the theory is speculative at best. No specific examples of jet-driven ships striking whales were given. Pictures showing propeller strikes of whales were committed by propeller driven boats, not ships. For your information, size difference is the determining factor between ships and boats. Superferry is a ship. Speed along is not the sole factor in whale strikes, contrary to "expert" testimony. To impose a speed limit on Superferry is laughable. What about Matson and Horizon container ships and even the Young Brothers tug traveling in our Hawaiian waters? We should not ignore navy submarines whose stealth and speed also pose similar problems to whales. They all travel faster than the contemplated speeds speculated to cause whale strikes. Those vessels all have the deadly propellers. Superferry has no external propellers.

#68

Third, the *impact of Superferry passengers on the Outer Islands* presupposes that the direction would only be one way and that Superferry passengers possess unique and harmful qualities. Visiting the Outer Islands would not continually be a one way process. Passengers would go and return, albeit not the same day, but while the Outer Islands would receive additional people, so would Oahu. And yes, Outer Islanders would be traveling to Oahu as well and Oahu would have to accommodate these visitors. Superferry passengers bringing their cars to the Outer Islands would also return with their cars upon their return to Oahu. Unlike car rental businesses where those businesses import new cars to the State, use them on the Outer Islands and at the end of their economic life, dispose of the cars at Oahu auctions, further impacting Oahu's traffic problem. Years ago, I read a newspaper article that there were more motor vehicles registered on Kauai than there were residents. Crowding of beaches and surf spots infers ownership of those resources by the Outer Islanders. No such ownership exists and never will. The beaches and surf spots are for the enjoyment by everyone, not just Maui or Kauai residents. The WORLD is entitled to such enjoyment, whether they arrive by Superferry or not!

Finally, the *removal of natural resources from the Outer Islands* by Oahu residents appears to be a philosophical matter. During the first Superferry voyage to Maui, apparently several Oahu residents took that opportunity to remove rocks from Iao stream but were stymied on their return to Oahu by the suspension of service. Much ado about nothing.

Rocks rolling down Iao stream resulting from heavy rains is a well know fact and periodically the rocks are removed and dumped somewhere else on Maui by the government to keep the stream bed clear. Those Oahu residents were merely lessened Maui's workload. Let's not forget the removal of sand from Molokai to construct the reef runway at Honolulu International Airport. Outer Island residents cite the potential removal of opihi and other flora and fauna from "their" islands. The last time I check, the ownership by Outer Islanders was limited to their own Real Property, not beyond those boundaries and certainly not including natural resources on State property. They can't even claim mineral rights on their Real Property. That right belongs to the State. Collectively, all the resident of this state "own" the natural resources and are entitled to its use. Gathering opihi for resale by the gallons by Outer Islanders is hypocritical. Is raping natural resources the sole privilege of that island's residents? Certainly, abusing the natural resources will occur by some people, but to prejudge all Oahu residents is absolutely wrong, wrong, wrong! Even on the Outer Islands, opihi is not as easily found as it was fifty years ago. Conservation, not the Superferry should be the focus of Outer Islanders in preserving natural resources.

Restricting Superferry with discrimmanatory requirements is unconstitutional. It is flat out wrong. Superferry should be allowed the same flexibility as any other interisland carrier. Any restrictions imposed on Superferry should be imposed on all waterborne carriers.

Inspections and checks of Superferry passengers should be performed on all passenger carriers, even sportfishing boats traveling interisland.

Allow Superferry to operate immediately by passing the necessary legislation. Finally, in deference to the Maui judge, Superferry is NOT new technology.

Thank you,
Melvin T. Minakami
44-341 Kaneohe Bay Drive
Kaneohe, HI 96744
(808) 265-0319

#69

House Testimony

From: Tokyhi [tokyhi@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 10:58 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0069 Super Ferry

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 *Antal Toth* and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

The Super Ferry is a must. The progress can't be stopped. It is everybody's interest - especially the low income one's:

Business: More competition and possibilities.

Private: Possibility for family reunions, tourism

Economy: More money creation and movements, more work

Please listen to the majority of the intelligent people, and not to a small negative attitude group.

Sincerely

Antal Toth
618 Kukuiula loop
808 3828686 or tokyhi@hawaiiintel.net

#70

House Testimony

From: Darlyne [hkitty2go@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 11:21 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0070 Hawaii 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 *Darlyne Inouye* and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

We are fortunate, to have an alternate means of transportation between our islands. Let's not let it slip away.

Rule in favor of allowing interisland ferry service in Hawai'i, while an environmental impact statement is being conducted.

Please support Hawaii Superferry.

Mahalo.

Darlyne Inouye

hkitty2go@yahoo.com

808-692-7290

10/24/2007

House Testimony

From: Tropical Parking [tropical363@webtv.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 11:50 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0071 Super Ferry

#71

Once again a few are trying govern the most, Kauai being one of the few in it's outlook for the well being of it's residents.
Look what Kauai county did to the most famous hotel renovation project (Coco Palms) in the Islands !! Being sold , and maybe never restored?
The ferry will help the little guy with the family and small business . Also some people will not fly, so please get smart and allow this very important system to procede ! Take a look at Washington state, the ferries are one of the most important economic features it has !
GJR -presidet---Tropical Parking Inc.

House Testimony

From: Stephen Higa [steve@ptfinancial.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:52 PM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0072 Superferry Testimony

#72

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 Stephen Higa and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I am a small business person and conservationist that does not have a business interest as a motive for supporting the Superferry, I believe that we need a safe and alternative option for travel between all the islands in the State of Hawaii. In a disaster, business or for pleasure having a vehicle like the Superferry is a must. We will all be grateful for the service once we experience it for all of those purposes or it will not be able to support itself and it will go elsewhere. I know that the benefits for the neighbor islands small business and residences would be the greatest because of the service, as well as for the employment, increased business of vendors from all islands, more money to put into the economy and more taxes collected.

I also would appreciate reasonable restrictions while the EIS is being completed as in my research of how we got into this situation seems to lead me to believe perhaps every law needs to be considered with the question "have we thought this completely through and are we sure we have considered all pros and cons of the law we are passing"? As well as is it reasonable to have this on the books and as we have more laws than we can enforce now, why not work on existing laws and enforcement of them first? If the law is flawed or if the interpretation of the law is beyond the scope of what it was intended for, then repeal it and pass one that does what it was meant to do. You are our voice and most important our ears, please listen to the majority as we can see what you see so make it right so we can decide for ourselves if we want an din fact need the Superferry.

Respectfully,

Stephen N Higa
1481 South King Street # 224
Honolulu, Hi 96814
808-955-7400

House Testimony

From: rirwin@hawaii.rr.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 2:23 AM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0073 Superferry Testimony

#73

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 Richard M. Irwin and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

As a long time resident of Kauai I feel the Superferry is required to provide us options for obtaining goods and services from Oahu in a cost effective manner. At the top of the list is access to Medical Services that can only be obtained from Oahu. The Superferry gives us that option instead of costly air ambulance service. Additionally, as an Ewa and Iniki "survivor" I recognize the Superferry is an important asset for disaster response and recovery. I truly believe the Superferry will meet a critical need for the neighbor islands and request you strongly support it's operation without adding conditions.

Respectfully,
Richard M. Irwin
3441 Aeo Street, Kalaheo, Kauai, HI 96741
808-332-8859

#74

House Testimony

From: Sandefur, John [John.Sandefur@coair.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 2:57 AM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0074 Super Ferry

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

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is John Sandefur and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

I believe the Hawaiian Islands need an alternate means of transportation that would allow you and your family to travel with their vehicle on the same day to visit other family members. There are plenty of other ships, CRUISE SHIPS and barges that also use the waters between the islands. Why stop the Ferry???? I am in favor of the Ferry, and think that it should operate while the studies are being conducted.

John Sandefur

P O Box 522287

Sall Lake City Ut 84152

801-262-1007

#0075

HB 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Transportation
House Committee on Finance

Public Hearing – October 25, 2007
9:00 A.M. State Capitol Auditorium

By

John T. Harrison, Environmental Center
Peter Rappa, Environmental Center
Kem Lowry, Urban and Regional Planning

This Hearing is scheduled for testimony on HB 1 to permit operation of an inter-island ferry service in the State of Hawai'i while an environmental impact statement is being prepared for such a proposed action. In addition, the proposed measure will establish an oversight task force to examine the impact of inter-island ferry operations on communities, the environment, and harbor and other infrastructure.

Our statement on this measure does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawai'i.

General Comments

The State's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) law, HRS 343, requires acceptance of an EIS as a condition precedent to commencement of a proposed action. Pursuant to findings of judicial review, the Hawai'i SuperFerry must complete the prescribed EIS process prior to commencing operations. The proposed bill is intended to circumvent existing statutory provisions for environmental review of a major project and to effectively sidestep Court findings in order to allow the SuperFerry to operate while environmental review is underway. This unprecedented action on the part of the Legislature and the Administration is understandably controversial and raises serious questions regarding the balance of powers between branches of government, the efficacy of Hawai'i's EIS law, and, ultimately, the integrity of the rule of law in our society.

Since 2004, we consistently have taken the position ultimately adopted by the Courts regarding the need for the Superferry to undertake conventional environmental review, both in written testimonies before the Legislature on prior occasions and in personal discussions with both the applicant and various administrative agencies. We hold that Chapter 343, HRS and its implementing rules clearly address the underlying questions of applicability and exemption, and that present circumstances reflect serious errors of both

judgement and execution by multiple parties. Rather than dwell on what went wrong, we choose to examine options of allowing the SuperFerry to operate while environmental review proceeds. Although such a course violates the principle of precautionary planning embedded in Chapter 343, we would prefer that the State proceed in a manner that preserves intact the EIS process, rather than establishing an altered form of environmental review that would undermine over three decades of legal foundation.

Major Effects and Implications of the Proposed Bill

1. Section 1(a) of the draft measure offers legislative findings supporting the bill’s purpose to permit concurrent operation and environmental review. The substance of the finding appears most succinctly on p. 3, lines 3-8, essentially stating that it is in the public interest to allow a major new economic activity to take precedence over established legal procedures for environmental review. This finding directly conflicts with Legislative findings in Section 341-1, HRS that

...the quality of the environment is as important to the welfare of the people of Hawaii as is the economy of the State.

Economic and environmental values can either be equally important or one must have priority. In this measure, the clear preference is for economic interests, raising questions of just how swayed the drafters were by short term concerns rather than by consideration of long-term sustainability.

2. Sections 1(b), 3, and 5-12 collectively establish a requirement for the Department of Transportation to effect preparation of an environmental impact statement, which will be undertaken concurrently with commencement of operation of the SuperFerry. Proposed statutory language defining the SuperFerry EIS process draws extensively from existing law and regulations governing the Hawai‘i EIS system (Chapter 343, HRS; Title 11, Chapter 200, HAR). However, the process is abridged, both at the Applicability and Significance screens and, more critically, with omission of provisions for judicial review from §343-7, HRS. Thus the proposed, parallel EIS process violates the integrity and intent of the HRS 343 EIS process as expressed in the excerpt from §11-200-14, HAR quoted on p. 20, lines 5-7:

An EIS is meaningless without the conscientious application of the EIS process as a whole...

Along with a new, parallel EIS process comes the inescapable confusion and inconsistency that prior, non-343 EIS processes in Hawai‘i have engendered. Added to the shortcomings that accompany any new statutory process, the mess created by improvising a new, separate system damages both the existing and the new process. The long-standing State EIS process has comprehensive rules, an existing governing administrative structure, and knowledgeable practitioners. The SuperFerry EIS process lacks all of these, and it also lacks an interpretational basis in case law necessarily fleshing out the inherent ambiguities that are a part of all legal frameworks. Lacking a

case law foundation, the new process is fraught with uncertainty, and constitutes a legal liability for all parties, including the SuperFerry. In addition, as stated in numerous locations, the proposed bill “clarifies and amends” existing law, extending to multiple Large Capacity Ferries and, more expansively, “related harbor improvements”. With this measure as a precedent, what is to prevent any future development interest from using this measure and process as a template with which to justify special interest legislation and tailored environmental review? Lacking any interpretive guidance, the proposed language substantially muddies the already sensitive waters surrounding our understanding of what is and is not included in either EIS system.

For these reasons, we strongly condemn provisions of the draft measure that create a different EIS process as a byproduct of special interest legislation. A far better solution would have been to adopt an amendment to Chapter 343 that provides a concurrent review provision specific to the SuperFerry, leaving the remainder of the system in place. The legislature should replace the cumbersome new EIS provision with a simple new section in the existing law, while providing a sunset date at the same time. A precedent for such amendment exists in §343-6.5, which addresses the Waiahole water system.

In the event that political forces insist on establishing a separate but parallel environmental review process for the SuperFerry, the new process should be statutorily named something other than an EIS in order to clarify its distinct legal and procedural status. We suggest calling it a Ferry Impact Report (FIR) in recognition of its specific application to this activity.

3. Section 4 conveys to the Executive the right to establish operating conditions, unrestricted by the Administrative Procedures Act or any provision of law. Although the Executive is provided authority under the Constitution to issue orders and may in such fashion implement policies in the public interest, regulatory construction customarily is subject to provisions of Chapter 91, HRS. The effect of removing applicability of Chapter 91 is to deny any opportunity for public participation in defining the scope and extent of rules so imposed. Furthermore, the exclusion of applicability of all other provisions of law both frees the Executive from any constraints on rule making and renders her decisions and deliberations beyond public discovery under the Uniform Information Practices Act (UIPA). The only existing comparable powers conveyed are emergency powers granted under conditions of dire necessity for the protection of health, safety and welfare (see Chapter 128, HRS). We find this extraordinary, and unwarranted under the circumstances, particularly in Hawai‘i, where the Executive wields more power than in any other state.

4. We question the usefulness and capabilities of the proposed Task Force established under Section 13. Most of the oversight functions of the Task Force lack any provisions for enforcement in a timely manner, and the fact-finding abilities fall far short of the focused expertise required in the areas cited. In addition, the Auditor already will be undertaking the critical task of studying the State’s actions relating to establishment of the ferry, and characterizing aspects of the environment subject to potential impacts of ferry operations and the mitigation thereof is the task of the EIS contractor and their

expert consultants. How will the Task Force evaluate mitigation measures that the environmental review process hasn't fully quantified? As with so many of the provisions of this measure, the underlying intent here is expediency and political cover, rather than effective oversight. If the required environmental review under Chapter 343 had been performed as prescribed by the law, the usefulness of the Task Force may have been more evident.

Comments on Specific Issues

5. Asserting that the current situation is unique and that development activity and business operations inappropriately approved by government agencies have seldom been overturned by judicial challenges (p.1, lines 14-18) is simply untrue. Case law on corporate development proposals and approvals overturned by Court action in Hawai'i is voluminous (e.g., Kahana Sunset [86 Haw, 66]; Citizens for the Protection of North Kohala Coastline [91 Haw, 94]; Sierra Club [109 Haw, 411]; etc.).
6. Justification of a cause of action on Constitutional grounds must consider the full range of Constitutional protections, not just those for promotion of agricultural interests (p.2, lines 11-20). Since the law in question is an environmental review statute, a more balanced legislative finding should acknowledge Article IX Section 8, Article XI Section 1, and Article XI Section 9, in addition to Article XI Section 3.
7. As noted in item 2, rather than clarifying existing law (p. 5, line 18), provisions of this bill obscure the established intent and process of HRS 343. We recommend deleting references to "clarifying" existing law.
8. To equate facilitating establishment of the SuperFerry with protection of Hawai'i's fragile environment (Section 1(d), p. 6 line 16 –p. 8 line 5) promotes a false equivalence. In no way does uncritical allowance of SuperFerry operation conform to responsible and accountable protection of Hawai'i's fragile environment. This assertion should be deleted, because it is unfounded and indefensible.
9. Despite the stated purpose of this measure to provide meaningful environmental review and mitigation while concurrently allowing operation of the SuperFerry, the effect of Section 3 directly provides for continued operation of the enterprise even if the environmental review is found to be inadequate (p.9 line 21 - p.12 line 9). If the SuperFerry is to be permitted to operate freely even when environmental review has been found unacceptable, why waste taxpayers' money on any environmental review?
10. While declaring the SuperFerry a "required public convenience and necessity" asserts legislative opinion in support of operational certification by the Public Utilities Commission, it is a fact that the State has managed quite well until now without the "necessity" of a SuperFerry.
11. As noted in item 3, we have general concerns regarding powers granted to the Executive in establishing SuperFerry operating conditions. However, we further note a

specific issue in the unwarranted infringement on federal jurisdiction created by Section 4(a)(1). As a federally protected species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), any incidental take of a marine mammal is illegal. The only exception requires issuance by the federal government of an Incidental Take Permit, and the mechanism for issuance requires the Superferry to enter into either a Habitat Conservation Plan or a Safe Harbor Agreement, pursuant to federal law. The Governor has no authority to abridge Federal jurisdiction regarding federally protected marine mammals.

12. While the sunset provisions of Section 18 express the legislature's desire to limit the effect of this measure to the specific special interest of the SuperFerry, the example provided by these actions will not go unnoticed. As noted in prior comments, the cascade of deplorable precedents established by this draft bill will persist long after the measure's prescribed demise. Furthermore, the realignment of power from the legislative to the executive in the government, as well as the undermining of the Judiciary, will reverberate for decades.

Provision for Review and Recommendations for Amending Chapter 343

Finally, in view of the attention focused on HRS 343 by the SuperFerry issue, we appropriately remind the legislature of the detailed review of the efficacy of the State's EIS system that was requested in 2006. Funding to the University of Hawai'i Environmental Center for that study was appropriated, authorized by the governor, and directed to the Department of Health for expenditure. However, due to processing and clerical errors by the DOH in the course of implementing the contract, the agency failed to encumber the funds, and the research in progress was abruptly terminated in early July of 2007. Had this project continued, we would have been providing the legislature a detailed report and recommendations in time for the upcoming regular session.

We currently are working to secure replacement of the lost funding. We also will be returning to the upcoming legislature to seek support for an expansion of the project scope to address new issues raised by recent Court actions and by the promulgation of this measure. However, efforts to fast-track restoration of our funding have to date been unsuccessful, and lacking authorization to expend funds for research before the completion of the upcoming funding cycle in July of 2008 will make it impossible to provide the report and recommendations to the legislature before the 2010 regular session.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed measure.

#76

House Testimony

From: Noel & Lulu Cowden [cowdenr001@hawaii.rr.com]**Sent:** Wednesday, October 24, 2007 6:47 AM**To:** House Testimony**Subject:** #0076 Support Hawaii 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 *Richard Noel & Lulu Cowden* and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

Aloha Legislators.....

My wife and I vigorously disagree with those activists and so-called environmentalists that are being led like sheep to believe that the superferry will somehow our island; just the opposite it will be a major and

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significant addition to our well-being here on the smallest of the islands proposed to be served...Kauai.

While unwilling to fight the mass demonstrators at the school cafeteria to adequately testify and to suffer the resulting put-downs and shout-downs (not to mention the potential repercussions attached to animosity/ridicule by stirred-up medical patients that my wife serves in her high-profile capacity here on the garden island...most all of which has been encouraged and supported by our island legislative "leaders" fearful of losing fabulous/powerful 'jobs' if they oppose those loud naysayers) we wish YOU to know that there is a silent majority here that do vote & donate election funds so precious to

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re-election. Governor Lingle is doing a super job, the best in decades, as our leader & does not deserve the blame for legislative INACTION at the time of the harbor upgrade discussions & funding; BEFORE the ships were being built. By not requiring ALL transportation entities to initiate EIS or EA studies before adding to their "services" you have created an uneven playing field that favors our monopolies in transportation and it is most unfair and really unconstitutional to hand select the chosen business ventures.

The ferry service may well fail on its' own but certainly deserves that chance to proceed NOW and without undue new hardship requirements the cost of which may well sink the ship

#76

(s). For once, please do the right thing and be FAIR and unemotional. An EIS will not change the need for ocean transport in time of crisis, that comes to us every 10 years or so. And plants and tiny creatures and cars NOW come to our island daily on planes and barges....this controversy is not about the ferry service or the environment, it is about controlling out of control growth and development on our changing island.

Thank you for reading and listening.

Richard Noel and Lulu Cowden

Kauai homeowners since 1992,
shipping over from Maui to aid
reconstruction after the horrendous
hurricane.

#77

House Testimony

From: jeanie.matsui@ubs.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 6:31 AM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0077

Dear Chairs Souki and Oshiro:

My name is Jeanie S. Matsui and I strongly support Hawaii Superferry.

It seems like all of the people in Hawaii cannot come to agreement every time some type of new entity or service that is being offered to them. Are we not the "Aloha" State and how are we suppose to welcome anything that is going to help the State financially and economically. My support for the Hawaii Superferry is 100% and it will help generate more income for the state, give more employment opportunities for those who need it desperately and perhaps end the high fares to travel from island to island. It is ridiculous how the people of Hawaii cannot come together and look at things in all sides before making matters worse.

I hope that you all will end this conflict and give the opportunity for the Hawaii Superferry to set sail.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeanie S. Matsui

Jeanie S. Matsui

Registered Client Service Associate
UBS Financial Services Inc.
733 Bishop Street -- Suite #1600
Honolulu HI 96813-4068
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10/24/2007

#78

House Testimony

From: Blen J Hinton [blenhinton@trebmaui.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 6:21 AM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0078 Superferry

To all concerned

This will be the Biggest black eye the State of Hawaii will every have to over come if the Superferry does not sail. The world's businesses will not come here to help make a future for our children. All we will become is dried up sugar cane and pineapple fields, and run down buildings with potholed roads between them. The superferry offers a leg up for the State to get into the 21st century. The threat to the environment is a ruse to cover-up the practical and logical fact that it will promote more economic growth for all businesses. Please get a bill passed to promote the Superferry. And promote the the State of Hawaii to the the world.

The Real Estate Book Maui
Blen Hinton
808-878-8732
blenhinton@trebmaui.com
www.trebmaui.com
The Best LITTLE Book in the Islands
28 Mano Drive
Kula, HI 96790

#79

House Testimony

From: Joyce Almeida [joycealmeida@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 7:11 AM

To: House Testimony

Subject: #0079 SuperFerry

Issue the superferry a license similar to a Conditional Use Permit and have an actual environmental study done while it is operating. Then impose conditions to correct any problems.

Michael Knox

#80

House Testimony

From: Emily Burt [eeburt@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2007 6:59 AM
To: House Testimony
Subject: #0080 SuperFerry

NO EIS? NO SUPERFERRY!!!!!!!!!!

This special session if it results in allowing the superferry to run without proper PRIOR environmental review will destroy all confidence in law and procedure that I have in Hawaii government. It will send the repeated signal (same as Hokulia) to all who would do business in Hawaii. Enough money, enough bully tactics and the lawmakers roll over and write laws for you. This action will attract scoundrel developers to Hawaii rather than conservative, caring developers that actually make their projects fit Hawaii. Please EIS first, Ferry later.

Aloha, Emily Burt

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