

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DBEDT DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DBEDT DEPUTY DIRECTOR



BRENNON T. MORIOKA
CHAIR, STADIUM AUTHORITY

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
INTERIM STADIUM MANAGER

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

Statement of
CHRIS J. SADAYASU
Interim Stadium Manager
Stadium Authority
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday, March 25, 2025
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

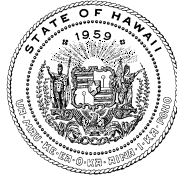
In consideration of
S.C.R. 65 and S.R. 50
**URGING THE STADIUM AUTHORITY TO FINALIZE A CONTRACT FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM AND TO CONTINUE ITS
EFFORTS IN EARNEST TO CREATE THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM
ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee.

The Stadium Authority, together with the Department of Accounting and General Services, continues to work closely with Aloha Halawa District Partners to finalize a master development agreement for the construction of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) project. We will continue to negotiate the terms of the agreement and plan to execute the agreement in June 2025. We appreciate the Legislature's continued support in bringing the NASED project to fruition.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding S.C.R. 65 and S.R.
50.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

LATE

MARCH 25, 2025, 1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.C.R 65 / S.R. 50

URGING THE STADIUM AUTHORITY TO FINALIZE A CONTRACT FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM AND TO CONTINUE ITS
EFFORTS IN EARNEST TO CREATE THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM
ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, thank you for
the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports
S.C.R. 65 and S.R. 50 which urges the Stadium Authority to finalize a contract for the
construction of the New Aloha Stadium and to continue its efforts in earnest to
create the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED). DAGS is committed to
moving the NASED project forward and firmly believes this project will have significant
positive benefits for Hawai'i. We appreciate the continued support of the entire NASED
team's efforts by the legislature through this resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



Aloha Hālawā District Partners

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

Date: Tuesday, March 25th

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229

Re: SCR65/SR50 – URGING THE STADIUM AUTHORITY TO FINALIZE A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM AND TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN EARNEST TO CREATE THE NEW ALOHA STADIUM ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee,

Aloha Hālawā District Partners (AHDP) submits this testimony in strong support of SCR65 and SR50 which urges the Stadium Authority to finalize a contract for the construction of the new Aloha Stadium and to continue advancing the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED).

We commend the Legislature for recognizing the urgency and importance of this project. Finalizing the construction contract is a crucial step toward delivering a vibrant, community-centered mixed-use district that offers long-term economic and recreational benefits for both residents and visitors.

AHDP is fully committed to working in partnership with the State of Hawai‘i and local communities to bring this transformative project to life. We know that successful development relies on listening, collaboration, and shared vision. In February 2025, we held our first community meeting to present our plans, gather feedback, and ensure that NASED reflects the priorities and aspirations of residents. This input continues to shape our approach moving forward.

As concerns about cost of living, affordable housing, and homelessness remain top-of-mind for residents across the state, NASED offers tangible solutions by delivering new housing options, creating job opportunities, and generating long-term revenue for the state. This thoughtfully planned public-private partnership is designed not only to revitalize the Hālawā area, but also to serve as a model of economic development that prioritizes community needs.

We strongly support SCR65 and SR50 and respectfully urge the committee to adopt these resolutions to keep this critical project on track. AHDP remains dedicated to working side-by-side with the Stadium Authority, state agencies, and the public to deliver a stadium and district that will benefit Hawai‘i for generations to come.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of these resolutions. We appreciate your time and consideration.

SR-50

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 6:20:38 PM

Testimony for EDT on 3/25/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elliot Miles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Except for the swap meet, some other events in the parking lot, and the NCIS: Hawaii episode that was filmed in the stadium, do we really need it? We have gone years without it and all the UH and other collegiate games still get played.

If it gets built--which will probably not happen in my lifetime--how much will it get used? 365 days a year, 200, 100, 30?

Do we not have a housing shortage here? Scrap the stadium and just build apartments and condos.

SR-50

Submitted on: 3/23/2025 8:18:21 PM

Testimony for EDT on 3/25/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janis Turner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Totally opposed to a new stadium.

Use the money to update Ching stadium and develop Affordable housing at Halawa site. We don't need another financially ruinous boondoggle and we do, desperately, need affordable housing.

SR-50

Submitted on: 3/24/2025 5:58:40 AM

Testimony for EDT on 3/25/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism,

I am testifying in opposition to this resolution.

We do not need a new Aloha Stadium, nor do we need an Entertainment District. We should not be putting forth money towards developing a new Aloha Stadium or an Entertainment District. Hosting football games at the University of Hawaii on Campus is more appropriate and in line with how college sports are nationwide, and the Neil Blaisdel Center and the Hawaii Convention Center are sufficient venues for concerts and large entertainment gatherings, so we do not need to be spending more money to build additional facilities.

Additionally, we are not looking for visitors who simply come to Hawaii to experience something and return to their home, that is the current extractive model and we need to shift away from things that promote that form of tourism. Promoting Hawaii as an “Entertainment” experience or having an “Entertainment District” will not help to improve Hawaii’s relationship with tourism, will put a burden on Hawaii communities, and will do more harm than good (as is currently the case with the tourism industry) for the local communities. Currently, the only residents who support tourism activities are the ones profiting financially from them, which should be a strong indicator of the problem. We need to shift to activities that benefit the communities and environment of Hawaii in order to build a positive relationship with tourism and garner community support of the industry and its activities.

We need to move to a regenerative model of tourism by creating experiences and districts that focus on reforestation efforts, indigenous agriculture, and green-technology advancements, to attract the types of tourists that contribute to our communities, our environment, and our economy in a non-extractive way. Building and promoting these types of activities within our state - to hotels, local media, local channels - as well as nationally and internationally, is where we should be spending our tax dollars to truly improve Hawaii’s economy, environment, and relationship with tourism.

Lets focus on shifting tourism and moving away from extractive process. Lets move away from the same old ideas like a new Aloha Stadium, or an entertainment district. Lets start moving towards real change to improve tourism in Hawaii and the community’s relationship with the industry.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Keoni Shizuma