LIQUOR COMMISSION CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN MAYOR



February 13, 2009

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Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Vice Chair Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs

Hearing:

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

8:30 am; Room 312

Position:

Oppose HB 563 Relating to Intoxicating Liquor

The Department of Liquor Control of the County of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu Liquor Commission oppose HB 563 and respectfully request that the bill be held in committee.

The worsening economic climate is cause for hardship to liquor licensees. The majority of dispenser licensees are not the high end, high revenue producing establishments, and HB 563 will negatively impact our class 5 dispenser licensees who are straining to keep up with the cost of doing business. As we begin our survey of the business climate, we have confirmed revenue losses of upwards of 35% at some of our more successful establishments and have begun to see the start of layoffs. The imposition of liability insurance would surely add to the financial woes of our licensees.

We oppose HB 563 and respectfully request your action on this matter.

Janice Pakele, Director County of Hawaii

Dewey H. Kim, Jr. Administrator

City and County of Honolulu Liquor Commission