LATE TESTIMONY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 25th LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION of 2009

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS & MILITARY AFFAIRS Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair

2/17/09 8:30 AM – Room 312

HB 563
Relating to Intoxicating Liquor

Chair McKelvey and members of this Committee, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels, to offer comments on this bill.

Our concern about this bill is that it would require the Liquor Commissions of the four counties to set rules on insurance coverage, set insurance rates, maintain records and enforce such policies. This is a new area of responsibility that the liquor commissions currently do not have to undertake.

The commissions are responsible for the regulation and enforcement of the rules governing the purchasing, handling and selling of liquor. To enforce these regulations, they access the various licenses fees. Over the years their mission was expanded to include education, which have put pressure on the fees to increase.

We are concerned that by adding the requirement that the liquor commissions get into the insurance business by setting coverage and enforcing such coverage will only put additional pressure on the fees for all licenses to increase.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify and we urge not passing out this bill.