

Testimony for SB1318 on 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 8:55 AM

To: WLOtestimony

Cc: [REDACTED]

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WLO 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM SB1318

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Chris Chiesa

Organization: Pacific Disaster Center

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Submitted on: 3/16/2009

Comments:

Dear Chairman Ito and Colleagues,

I would like to state my opposition to this bill particularly as it may have dire unintended consequences regarding the continued development and maintenance of a State-wide GIS resource presently undertaken by the Office of Planning.

The work that OP has done for the past decade or more is in jeopardy of falling between the bureaucratic cracks if this bill passes.

Hawaii has a tremendously strong State-wide GIS, likely something that will not be comprehensively maintained, if the activities of OP are distributed to various line agencies.

As an organization that works with many State agencies and departments, I can't tell you enough how important the GIS database that OP has developed is to successful implementation of a range of projects – many of them related to hazard mitigation and disaster management planning.

Please do not put this important information resource – or the lives of those who benefit from it – in jeopardy by passing this bill.

Regards,

Chris Chiesa

Chief Information Officer

Pacific Disaster Center

Testimony for SB1318 on 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 8:56 AM

To: WLOtestimony

Cc: [REDACTED]

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WLO 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM SB1318

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Ann Marie Kirk

Organization: Individual

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Submitted on: 3/16/2009

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ito. Chair Har and Committee Members,

I am asking your support in opposition to SB 1310 SD 1 which would eliminate: the Office of Planning, the statewide coordination of geographical systems and the governing statutes that are now in place for the protection and management of state lands and coastal areas.

The results of passing this legislation would be catastrophic for our wildlife and coastal areas and for the public to access these areas. There would be no governing entity specifically in place to monitor, care for and to stop development in these special areas.

I humbly ask to oppose SB 1310 SD 1.

Mahalo,
Ann Marie Kirk

[REDACTED]



LAND USE RESEARCH
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LATE TESTIMONY

Via Capitol Website

March 16, 2009

House Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources
Hearing Date: Monday, March 16, 2009, 9:00 a.m. in CR 325

Comments to SB 1318, SD1: Relating to Planning and Economic Development

Honorable Chair Ken Ito, Vice Chair Sharon E. Har and
Members of the House Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources:

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to provide our **comments to SB 1318, SD1, supporting the bill as a vehicle for discussion regarding streamlining planning and permitting processes which take into account the planning expertise and home rule of the counties and the ability of State departments to consolidate functions and programs for better efficiency.** Our reasons could include, but not be limited to, the following points:

- **Opportunity to re-examine the CZM program.** Hawaii's Coastal Zone Management Program is very important, and should be retained, however, this bill could be a vehicle to further discussion regarding other government entities that could be responsible for such management and streamlining the shoreline management process. This bill could stimulate inquiry and discussion as to the possibility that other agencies could be responsible for the various duties and functions of the CZM program, as follows:
 - Ocean resources management planning – evaluate whether these duties could be handled by a combination of DLNR, UH and the counties,
 - Coastal hazards planning and mitigation – evaluate whether these duties could be handled by DLNR, UH and the counties,
 - Coastal nonpoint source pollution - evaluate whether these duties could be handled by the Department of Health,
 - Special management area permit system administration and coordination – evaluate whether these duties could be handled by the counties (shoreline) and DLNR (forests),

- Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council - evaluate whether these duties could be handled by DLNR,
 - Evaluate whether DLNR or DBEDT could be the new state-wide designated coordinator to participate in the Federal CZM program, and processing the \$2 million in annual grants, and to serve as the lead agency for the State and county agencies relating to the federal CZM program, etc.
- **The counties are qualified to assume many planning duties relating to their unique islands.** Perhaps when the Office of Planning was formed, the counties were not able to handle many planning responsibilities. However, today, the legislature and Administration should examine whether the role and function of the Office of Planning may be duplicative of county planning departments and DBEDT. Over the years, the counties have become more adept at planning for their unique island environments, culture, economy and culture. In fact, over the past few years there have been bills which provide that the state agencies should give deference to county plans, etc. (such bills are also proceeding this session);
 - **Office of Planning lacks the depth of staff and technical expertise of the county planning and infrastructure departments.** The counties have more staff and the technical and professional experience to handle many of the planning functions that the Office of Planning attempts to handle;
 - **Questionable initiatives of the Office of Planning.** Recently, the Office of Planning has tried to promote state-wide laws and policies:
 - Based on questionable views and policies relating to the role of the Office of Planning and planning and permitting processes;
 - without consideration of the uniqueness of the different counties;
 - which are inconsistent with the studies commissioned by the legislature;
 - which dictate and impose policies, uses, procedures and responsibilities to the counties, which violate the concept of “Home Rule” and “unfunded mandates”; and
 - without due consideration of the impact on landowners, businesses or consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

LATE TESTIMONY

COVER SHEET

Testimony of:
David M. Kennedy
Director
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
301-563-7200
FAX: 301-713-4012

Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources,
Hawaii House of Representatives

March 16, 2009 hearing
9:00 am

Comments on SB 1318



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
 OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

MAR 16 2009

Representative Ken Ito, Chair
 Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources,
 Hawaii House of Representatives
 State Capitol
 415 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, HI 96813

In consideration of SB 1318, relating to Planning and Economic Development.

Dear Representative Ito, and Members of the Hawaii House Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources:

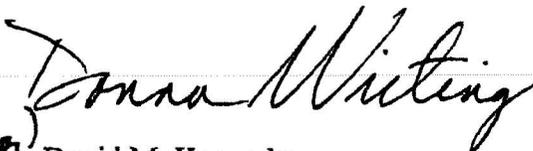
I am writing you to express my serious concerns regarding the language of SB 1318, on which you will be taking testimony at 9:00 on Monday morning, March 16, 2009. SB 1318 repeals the requirements of Chapter 205A, which provides the basis for the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program (HICZM), and dissolves the Office of Planning (OP). In addition, existing OP staff is transferred to The Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) along with all rights, powers, functions, and duties of the OP. As SB 1318 repeals Section 205A, including all of its coastal management policies, planning, and regulatory requirements, the HICZM program would essentially cease to exist.

As the Director of the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, the Federal office that implements the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended; I am very concerned that the provisions of SB1318 will likely lead to the decertification of the HICZMP. This would result in the loss of over \$2 million in annual Federal CZM grants to the State of Hawaii. In addition, decertification would deprive Hawaii of the CZMA's consistency authority to review Federal activities affecting Hawaii's coastal land and water resources. The testimony provided by DBEDT on March 2, 2009, provides more detailed information regarding the effect of SB 1318 on Hawaii's CZM program and other important State land use planning and management functions.



Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on SB 1318. I would be glad to work with you, and other appropriate parties to resolve these concerns. I can be reached at 301-563-7200

Sincerely,


(for) David M. Kennedy
Director

Testimony for SB1318 on 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 10:16 AM

To: WLOtestimony

Cc: [REDACTED]

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WLO 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM SB1318

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Michelle Jaffe

Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone:

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Submitted on: 3/16/2009

Comments:

Placing the duties of planning for coastal zone management in the control of a department which is responsible for business, economic development, and promotion of tourism creates a monopolistic, biased agenda for planning in the state of Hawai'i, which does not address the needs of the state or its citizens as a whole. As a UH Manoa planning student currently on leave and living in Houston, TX for the past 6 months I can tell you there are serious negative ramifications of business oriented development without restrictions. This is the dirtiest, most congested, most crime ridden, and polluted city I've lived in. It is one of the most unpleasant places I can imagine, in far contrast to the serenity that remains in the less touched areas of Hawaii. For a state that depends on its natural beauty and coastline for so much of its existing economic survival, further degradation in the name of development and economic growth will be sure to backfire. DBET is concerned with economic growth, not the ramifications of that growth on the environment and the degradation of culture that occurs when development is allowed to go unchecked and important resources are allowed to be destroyed. As the recent events in the financial industry have informed us all, short term economic gains, can often prove to be unsustainable. There is a lesson here for planning: if we don't plan for the future, in a responsible way, we will be holding an empty bag.

Testimony for SB1318 on 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 11:35 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: [REDACTED]
Attachments: Testimony opposing SB1318 ~1.doc (24 KB)

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WLO 3/16/2009 9:00:00 AM SB1318

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Lameier
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Submitted on: 3/16/2009

Comments:

State Capitol, Room 443
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE TESTIMONY

Representative Cynthia Thielen,

As a constituent and supporter of yours, I urge you to support the State Office of Planning (OP), and subsequently the Statewide GIS Program, by voting against SB 1318, SD 1, should it be referred to any of your committees. I believe the Statewide GIS Program, does great things for the State of Hawaii. Their web site is a one stop portal of State and County spatial data sets that are made available to GIS professionals and the public (www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/gis). If Chapter 225M is repealed, the GIS Program will no longer exist. Elimination of OP and the Statewide GIS Program would result in decreased data sharing between agencies and with the public, and would make it far more difficult for State agencies, GIS professionals and the general public, to find and access data. Additionally, it would make it more difficult to obtain federal funding for updating and obtain new GIS data at the State and County levels.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alexa Jacroux Biggs, GISP