LATE TESTIMONY



Hospitality · Retail · Development

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION& BUSINESS Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair

1/27/11 Room 312, 9:00 AM

HB 656 Relating to Intoxicating Liquor

Chair McKelvey and Members of this Committee,

My name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels Hawaii, to comment on this bill.

Outrigger Hotels is committed to, and has been involved with, the various County Liquor Commissions to ensure that liquor is used in a proper, safe and an enjoyable manner. We support the efforts of the Commissions to make sure that underage drinking is curbed, through training programs, such as carding anyone who looks 35 and younger, and recognizing fake ID cards.

In all these areas, we believe that the Commissions and the industry have done a good job in striving for those goals.

Currently, to achieve those objectives in Honolulu, for example, we at Outrigger have our bartenders go through a server-training program, and managers are issued special certificates as "supervisory" personnel who control the distribution of liquor.

Bill HB 656 would require that even front desk personnel be required to go through extensive training, even though they may only deliver a bottle of wine up to one of the rooms once a month. For a company like Outrigger, that would mean the possibility of all 2,000+ employees going through the same training as a bartender.

We believe that under the current statutes, which allows each of the County Commissions to require these type of training through their rule making process, is sufficient and works well.

Also, the bill refers to "reciprocity." The County Commissions have already being doing this for the last 10 years.

In conclusion, Mr. Chair, we believe that this bill is unnecessary and request that it be held.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify.