LIQUOR COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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ANNA C. HIRAI

ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

March 23, 2014

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Representative Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Hearing:

Monday, March 24, 2014

2:10 p.m.; Room 325

Position:

Support SB3074, Relating to Hotel Class Liquor Licenses

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members:

The Liquor Commission, City and County of Honolulu, supports Senate Bill 3074, Relating to Hotel Class Liquor Licenses.

We have been advised by representatives of the hospitality industry that the trend in modern hotel practice is for certain properties to forego maintaining a hotel kitchen and dining room unless necessitated by an established banquet business, and instead to rely on separately licensed restaurants to provide meal service for hotel guests. The proposed measure will amend Section 281-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make the hotel kitchen and dining room an optional feature, rather than a mandatory requirement. As such, the proposed measure will conform legal requirements to modern business practice and hospitality trends and should be an encouragement, rather than an impediment, to new and existing hotel licensees. The Commission will not experience regulatory difficulties from the eliminated requirement.

The Liquor Commission urges your support of Senate Bill 3074, Relating to Hotel Class Liquor Licenses. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNA C. HIRAI Acting Administrator

ACH:



Testimony of George Szigeti
President & CEO
HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM ASSOCIATION
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Hearing on March 24, 2014, 2:10 p.m.
Senate Bill 3074 SD2 Relating to Hotel Class Liquor Licenses

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and Members of the Committee. My name is George Szigeti and I am the President and CEO of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association (HLTA) is a statewide association of hotels, condominiums, timeshare companies, management firms, suppliers, and other related firms that benefit from and strengthen Hawai'i's visitor industry. Our membership includes over 150 lodging properties, representing over 48,000 rooms, and approximately 470 other Allied members. The lodging industry alone employs over 38,000 workers across the state of Hawai'i. As part of the broader visitor industry – which employees 1/6 of all workers and 1/5 of those in the private sector, and generated \$14.5 billion in visitor spending in 2013 – we represent one of Hawai'i's largest industries and a critical sector of the economy.

On behalf of HLTA, permit me to offer this testimony regarding Senate Bill 3074 SD2 relating to Hotel Class Liquor Licenses. This bill amends the definition of "hotel" by removing the need for a hotel to have a kitchen and dining room in order to meet the requirements set forth under HRS Section 281-1.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association <u>supports</u> this measure because it streamlines the requirements for a hotel to obtain a Class 12 hotel liquor license. We feel that the inclusion of a kitchen and dining room should not be a prerequisite for consideration as a "hotel" when applying for a Class 12 license.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM Representative Angus L K McKelvey, Chair

> 3/24/2014 Rm. 325, 2:10 PM

SB 3074 Relating to Hotel Class Liquor License

Chair McKelvey and Members of this Committee, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels Hawaii, in support of SB 3074.

The Hotel Class Liquor License allows the serving of liquor for room service, mini bars in rooms, serving of liquor at weddings and other events on the hotel property and the catering of liquor for off premises events such as weddings, luaus, company receptions, conventions and other off-site events.

Also, the current hotel industry standard for a hotel property, requires that it includes a restaurant with a kitchen and dining room as currently defined in Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 281-1.

However, the hotel industry has changed and evolved including timeshare & condo-tel projects with rooms for transient accommodations and which do not include a restaurant, full kitchens or dining rooms.

Removing the requirement for a kitchen for a hotel license in this bill, would also help smaller hotel operations who do not have the resources or the space available to maintain a restaurant with a kitchen and dining room on the hotel property.

In addition, hotels need the flexibility to operate without a kitchen and dining room when it is more economically feasible to operate without a kitchen and dining room.

Mahalo for allowing use to testify and urge your support of this bill.