SB1368 SD1

Measure Title:	RELATING TO LIQUOR.
Report Title:	Liquor Sales; Street Closure Events
Description:	Prohibits the sale of liquor at street closure events except under certain conditions. Effective July 1, 2020. (SD1)
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM, CPN
Introducer(s):	CHUN OAKLAND

<u>Sort by</u> <u>Date</u>		Status Text
1/29/2015	S	Introduced.
2/2/2015	S	Passed First Reading.
2/2/2015	S	Referred to PSM, CPN.
2/13/2015	s	The committee(s) on PSM has scheduled a public hearing on 02-17-15 1:05PM in conference room 229.
2/17/2015	s	The committee(s) on PSM deferred the measure until 02-19-15 1:15PM in conference room 229.
2/19/2015	S	The committee(s) on PSM recommend(s) that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes in PSM were as follows: 4 Aye(s): Senator(s) Espero, Baker, Galuteria, Slom; Aye(s) with reservations: none ; 0 No(es): none; and 1 Excused: Senator(s) Keith-Agaran.
2/20/2015	s	Reported from PSM (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 522) with recommendation of passage on Second Reading, as amended (SD 1) and referral to CPN.
2/20/2015	S	Report adopted; Passed Second Reading, as amended (SD 1) and referred to CPN.
2/20/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN will hold a public decision making on 02-26-15 9:30AM in conference room 229.



Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee

Re: Opposition to SB 1368 SD1 RELATING TO LIQUOR. Prohibits the sale of liquor at street closure events except under certain conditions. Effective July 1, 2020.

The Arts District Merchants Association, a nonprofit supporting Downtown-Chinatown merchants, including boutiques, bars, restaurants, and art galleries, does not support SB 1368 SD1. The merchants we represent benefit enormously from street festivals that offer alcohol for sale. We understand alcohol sales, along with food sales and other items, are absolutely necessary for event coordinators to generate the income necessary to pull off street events. Income generated by sales help defray the cost of stages, talent, safety barriers, street closures and off-duty police, making it possible to have a safe and inviting event. The Downtown-Chinatown area has a good reputation for organizing safe events -- with and without alcohol sales. Street festivals create jobs revenue for area businesses. They also bring positive media attention and publicity to the area.

By restricting alcohol sales to specific areas ("beer garden") SB 1368 SD1 will limit the amount of revenue that can be generated, thereby reducing the investment in the actual event.

Additionally, the provisions detailed in SB 1368 SD1 requiring the sale of liquor be conducted by vendors with appropriate liquor licenses, that vendors use trained/licensed servers, that the Liquor Commission monitor the event and that gross sales from the event be reported to the Liquor Commission, are already required and adhered to. There is no need to insert these in a new bill.

On behalf of the Downtown-Chinatown merchants and businesses that benefit from street festivals, please do not pass SB 1368 SD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Pohl Arts District Merchants Association

Arts District Merchants Association, 1159 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Written Testimony Supporting the INTENT of SB1368, SD1

- To: The Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection (CPN) Thursday, February 26, 2015, 9:30 am – Conference Room 229
- From: The Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA) Contact: Steve Lohse, <u>CGP.Tenant.Association@gmail.com</u>, (808) 499-5406

Re: Supporting the INTENT of SB1368, SD1, Relating to Liquor, prohibiting the sale of liquor at street closure events except under certain conditions.

Aloha e Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of CPN:

My name is Steve Lohse, I represent the Chinatown Gateway Plaza Tenant Association (CGPTA), organized by residents in 2006 to keep ourselves informed and engaged in matters concerning our CGP community. CGP is a 27-story, 200-unit residence on Nuuanu at Hotel in Chinatown. The sale of liquor at street closure events (in the words of Anna Hirai, Assistant Administrator of the Honolulu Liquor Commission, "too many, too big, too loud, too drunk") directly beneath our CGP windows deeply concerns us.

Beer gardens, appropriate licenses, and trained servers are a step in the right direction, but merely a small step compared to the **real problems** with street closure liquor sales. The real problems arise from a runaway closure/liquor model currently out of all proportion to this small, densely-populated, historic area! This runaway closure/liquor model is **alienating the host community** with noise, blocked public streets and unaccounted for liquor sales with dubious claims of Public Purpose; **not unique or authentic** as a destination or to this Place/Time; and is **losing money** in spite of free access to public resources and open street liquor sales. A model that is not livable for its host community, not a unique and authentic attraction for visitors, and is losing money is bad public policy, bad community relations, and just plain bad business!

In fact, we had no such problems in Hawaii before this Chinatown model or in Chinatown before this current model jacked up street closures and liquor sales out of all proportion to this small area. For example, Don Murphy has hosted events for decades that are honestly accountable for genuine Public Purpose and for all liquor sale proceeds, do not close bus routes, do not disturb the neighbors, use professionally trained servers, and are perfectly proportioned to this small area. For another example, First Friday originally was a relaxed and family-friendly walkabout ranging freely over many blocks before it hardened into a loud crowd between barricades that close Hotel Street and reroute a DTS-estimated 320 buses/event (3,840 buses/year).

As a small step in the right direction, please, amend SB1368, SD1 as follows:

Liquor shall be sold at events only by vendors with a regular license or with a special license that is fully accountable just as a regular license would be, and all vendors shall use trained servers.

All sales and consumption of liquor shall be contained within licensed establishments or within designated "beer garden" areas on private property (there are courtyards and parking lots available within every block in Chinatown). Liquor shall not be sold or consumed on public streets or sidewalks and shall not close public bus routes.

All county-permitted street closure events with county-permitted outdoor liquor service shall be strictly accountable to ensure a clear Public Purpose, including evidence, oversight, follow-up, and full public accounting for BOTH the gross liquor sales AND the distribution of liquor sales proceeds.

County departments of transportation services and liquor commissions may adopt rules necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this section.

Chinatown suffers from very real negative impacts as a result of outdoor liquor service that remains unaccountable to genuine Public Purposes. These impacts include increased noise, public urination, trash, disorderly behavior, and a large amount of public resources expended by the C&C of Honolulu to address these issues. Street closures should never be "too many, too big, too loud, too drunk," out of all reasonable proportion to their host community, or not economically viable at all without great public expense and dubious Public Purposes! Please, give us responsible, consistent, clear, and effective public policy to help ensure both the livability of the Chinatown area for our estimated 10,000 residents as well as a unique and authentic travel destination for our visitors. Thank you!

Aloha no, Steve Lohse 499-5406 CGPTA

From:	misa@oahufringe.com on behalf of O"ahu Fringe Festival
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose S.B. 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:25:28 AM

Aloha,

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Why this bill is BAD for our community: Do you want a vibrant Hawaii with robust arts and culture that add to our lives and Hawaii's economy or do you want to live in a repressed state? Street festivals serve as arguably the largest arts showcases in Hawaii and the greatest displays of public creativity. They bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state. Hawaii needs to create an environment in which our current festivals can thrive and new festivals arise. S.B. 1368 would do just the opposite, and we cannot afford to give up any more ground. Chinatown's street festivals are on life support and cannot withstand the loss of additional revenue (Cinco de Mayo is gone. In addition, this year for the first time in 15 years, Mardi Gras was not in the street due to poor economics spawned by already arduous permitting requirements. Further, Hallowbaloo, which brings even more benefits to Chinatown than Mardi Gras, is struggling to survive economically). Beer gardens mean less revenue (smaller sales area and fewer attendees) and higher cost (rental of barriers and additional staffing). Beer gardens will either kill Chinatown festivals outright or mandate major changes making them dramatically less pleasant and less beneficial to the community (i.e. mandatory beer gardens = massive beer gardens (necessary to pay the bills) leaving no room for families and restricting access to local businesses (blockage of storefronts); thus, in addition to decreasing revenue/increasing cost and making it harder for street festivals to survive, beer gardens would reduce the culturally valuable melting pot effect of festivals and lead to more drinkers per capita not less and and lead to decreased patronage of Hawaii businesses). S.B. 1368 would stifle Hawaii's cultural economy and needs to be killed or amended. Hawaii needs more culturally & economically valuable street festivals not less

Moreover, mandating beer gardens for ALL street festivals is not warranted. Chinatown street festivals have FANTASTIC track records of providing huge net benefits without causing significant problems. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not proven that beer gardens are needed. What significant problem will mandatory beer gardens at all events solve? Chinatown street festivals have been closely monitored for years and have not caused significant problems - no significant violence, property damage nor underage drinking. Mandating beer gardens at all events will provide no major benefits to our community.

The Honolulu liquor commission currently has authority to require beer gardens *on a case-by-case basis*. This is the proper approach. Every event is different with unique audiences, producers, locations, layouts, needs, goals and challenges. At some events, beer gardens are clearly not needed. In addition, some events cannot survive with beer gardens, and for some events, mandatory beer gardens would significantly decrease the net community benefits of the festival. The current approach of having the experts (the liquor commission) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed. The state legislature should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events.

Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear, damage Hawaii's economy and create no significant benefit. I oppose S.B. 1368.

sincerely,

misa tupou festival organiser O'ahu Fringe Festival

From:	Christa Wittmier
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	OPPOSE Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:21:59 PM

Aloha I have been working with street festivals and block parties in some capacity for the past 7 years in my position at Young's Market Company of Hawaii and see these events as critical to the success of Honolulu's cultural progression. There has been very few public disturbances as a result of serving liquor during the block parties from 5p-10p and if anything this creates a community atmosphere where many families are able to spend time together and celebrate the arts. I don't understand how business owners or anyone can see these events as a threat as it's pretty much the only thing left that brings good people to an otherwise sketchy area. Why would we want to do something to turn them away?

Street festivals serve as arguably the largest arts showcases in Hawaii and the greatest displays of public creativity. They bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state. Hawaii needs to create an environment in which our current festivals can thrive and new festivals arise. S.B. 1368 would do just the opposite, and we cannot afford to give up any more ground. Chinatown's street festivals are on life support and cannot withstand the loss of additional revenue (Cinco de Mayo is gone. In addition, this year for the first time in 15 years, Mardi Gras was not in the street due to poor economics spawned by already arduous permitting requirements. Further, Hallowbaloo, which brings even more benefits to Chinatown than Mardi Gras, is struggling to survive economically). Beer gardens mean less revenue (smaller sales area and fewer attendees) and higher cost (rental of barriers and additional staffing). Beer gardens will either kill Chinatown festivals outright or mandate major changes making them dramatically less pleasant and less beneficial to the community (i.e. mandatory beer gardens = massive beer gardens (necessary to pay the bills) leaving no room for families and restricting access to local businesses (blockage of storefronts); thus, in addition to decreasing revenue/increasing cost and making it harder for street festivals to survive, beer gardens would reduce the culturally valuable melting pot effect of festivals and lead to more drinkers per capita not less and and lead to decreased patronage of Hawaii businesses). S.B. 1368 would stifle Hawaii's cultural economy and needs to be killed or amended. Hawaii needs more culturally & economically valuable street festivals not less

Moreover, mandating beer gardens for ALL street festivals is not warranted. Chinatown street festivals have FANTASTIC track records of providing huge net benefits without causing significant problems. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not proven that beer gardens are needed. What significant problem will mandatory beer gardens at all events solve? Chinatown street festivals have been closely monitored for years and have not caused significant problems - no significant violence, property damage nor underage drinking. Mandating beer gardens at all events will provide no major benefits to our community.

The Honolulu liquor commission currently has authority to require beer gardens *on a case-by-case basis*. This is the proper approach. Every event is different with unique audiences, producers, locations, layouts, needs, goals and challenges. At some events, beer gardens are clearly not needed. In addition, some events cannot survive with beer gardens, and for some events, mandatory beer gardens would significantly decrease the net community benefits of the festival. The current approach of having the experts (the liquor commission) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed. The state legislature

should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events.

Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear, damage Hawaii's economy and create no significant benefit. I oppose S.B. 1368.

Christa Wittmier

Sr. Marketing Director Direct (808) 676-6286 | Mobile (808) 375-3307



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From:	Sarah Bauer
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Oppose S.B. 1368.
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:48:52 PM

Do you want a vibrant Hawaii with robust arts and culture or do you want to live in a repressed state? Street festivals serve as arguably the largest arts showcases in Hawaii and the greatest displays of public creativity. Hawaii needs to create an environment in which our current festivals can thrive and new festivals arise. S.B. 1368 would do just the opposite, and we cannot afford to give up any more ground. Chinatown's street festivals are on life support and cannot withstand the loss of additional revenue (Cinco de Mayo is gone, and Mardi Gras needs help, not knives in the back, in order to return to the street next year; Hallowbaloo is not in much better shape (we produce Mardi Gras & Hallowbaloo).

Beer gardens mean less revenue - smaller sales area and fewer attendees. Beer gardens will either kill Chinatown festivals outright or mandate major changes making them dramatically less pleasant (i.e. massive beer gardens (necessary to pay the bills) leaving no room for families; thus, beer gardens would reduce the culturally valuable melting pot effect of festivals and lead to more drinkers per capita not less). Moreover, mandating beer gardens for ALL street festivals is not warranted. Chinatown street festivals have FANTASTIC track records of providing huge net benefits without causing significant problems. Proponents of S.B. 1363 have not proven that beer gardens are needed.

Lastly, the liquor commission (truly the local experts on liquor regulation), should decide if beer gardens are needed, and this should be done *on a case-by-case basis*. The state legislature should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events and certainly not in such hasty fashion. Street festivals are valuable community and cultural gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently and only after careful consideration. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear and create no significant benefit. Oppose S.B. 1368.

Sarah Babin Bauer Director of Operations The Arts at Marks Garage 1159 Nu'uanu Ave. Honolulu, Hi 96817 Sarah@artsatmarks.com

http://www.artsatmarks.com/

From:	<u>Bryan Gallow</u>
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	oppose SB1368.
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:32:42 AM

"I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368."

Bryan Gallow | *Brand Manager* | **Paradise Beverages, Inc.** 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 594-3218 | Fax: (808) 677-8280 E-mail: <u>Bryan.gallow@parbev.com</u> <u>www.paradisebeverages.com</u>

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From:	Kim Taylor Reece
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Vote NO on S.B. 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 1:45:13 PM

Please do not cause more difficulty to small business by creating this mandate. Please help keep Honolulu's quaint feel by allowing our street festivals to continue. As a frequent attendee of these events, we have never experienced any problems.

Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently.

Aloha,

KIM &Kanoe Kim Taylor Reece Gallery 53-866 Kamehameha Hwy Punaluu, HI 96717 808.293.2000 info@kimtaylorreece.com http://www.kimtaylorreece.com/products.htm http://www.facebook.com/kimtaylorreece Dear Senators,

I strongly OPPOSE unnecessary Senate Bill 1368.

The Street Festivals are a much needed and welcomed cultural addition to a vibrant community. If you kill street festivals, which this bill will do, the Chinatown neighborhood which has made huge improvements over the last 15 years, will return to the old scary Pre Festival Chinatown. Remove the events, remove the good people and energy off the neighborhood and you'll be left with only the problems.

Also this bill is unnecessary. The Liquor Commission has the authority to impose these restrictions if they find its needed. They have been doing an excellent job and there hasn't been any incidents that warrant this bill.

Kill bill 1368 or kill the huge improvements that were hard won by the community.

--Best,

Christopher Kahunahana 4th World Film

FB:V:T:IG 4thWorldFilm

T-RX ENTERTAINMENT, LLC

1159 NU'UANU AVENUE HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96817 (808) 271-9140 marktarone@gmail.com

February 25, 2015

State Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: S.B. 1368

Position: Oppose S.B. 1368

Dear committee members,

I strongly oppose S.B. 1368 and urge the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee to not pass S.B. 1368 or at a minimum, remove the mandatory beer garden requirement from the bill.

I have many years experience with street festivals having produced two major, annual street festivals in Chinatown (Mardi Gras & Hallowbaloo) for the past eight years and attended a great deal of meetings with all stakeholders including the Honolulu Liquor Commission, HPD, HFD and area legislators. S.B. 1368 is not warranted. The bill would have major negative net impact on Hawaii economically and culturally and would not bring about significant benefits.

Every festival is unique, and the county liquor commissions need to maintain authority to decide on a case-by-case basis whether beer gardens are appropriate. Having the experts (county liquor commissions) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed. With all due respect, the state legislature should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events. Street festivals are incredibly valuable to Hawaii economically and culturally. The street festivals that my company produces have helped establish Chinatown as an arts center and a vibrant social and economic hub. For Hawaii to prosper and continue to be a wonderful place to live, street festivals need to be nurtured not handicapped. In this instance, that means allowing festivals to continue to work with liquor commissions to implement controls that make sense for each festival's unique circumstances rather than face universal restrictions that lead to no significant benefits and are inappropriate and problematic in many instances.

Proponents of S.B. 1368 are advocating for beer gardens because they are against our street festivals in general and view beer gardens as a way to stop them - death by one thousand cuts. They know that beer gardens will increase our costs, decrease our revenue, drive away patrons and put us one step closer to, or possible into, the grave. Proponents have failed to prove that our current system is broken and needs change. Conversely, actions by the Honolulu Liquor Commission over a multi-year period clearly demonstrate that our current system is working well.

The Mardi Gras and Hallowbaloo events that we produce demonstrate that our current system is a good one that is working and should not be changed. The Honolulu Liguor Commission has closely scrutinized each and every one of our events and required us to clearly demonstrate that we have the ability and commitment to effectively control the sale of alcohol. To date, they have not required beer gardens because of our excellent track record of hosting safe events that draw an older, low-risk, high-benefit audience (over 50% of our audience is 35 years old or older and over 80% hold two-year or higher college degrees). We have produced fourteen street festivals and served alcohol at each since February 2008 and have experienced no significant violence nor property damage nor significant problems with underage drinking. The liquor commission has also taken note of our taking action to minimize risk at our expense. In the last two years, we have taken all of the following actions (steps that have resulted in our experiencing financial losses on our events during this period). We have increased HPD presence (paid for by the festival - significantly increasing our costs), increased private security guard presence (paid for by the festival - significantly increasing our costs), ended sales earlier in the last two years than in the first four years (significantly reducing our revenue). The liquor commission has also clearly valued the large number of people from wide and varied backgrounds who have stepped forward and submitted testimony to the commission in support of: 1) our festivals in general, 2) the great, positive crowd that our events attract and 3) the great benefits that our events bring to the neighborhood. The liquor commission may require beer gardens at our events in the future but only after closely scrutinizing the circumstances and applying their wealth of experience with regulation of alcohol sales. They will consider the hundreds of thousands of dollars that our events directly add to Hawaii's economy and the tens of thousands of people who come to Chinatown each year for our events and feedback from the many liquor commission inspectors who attend each of our events. They will apply scrutiny that is commensurate with the scope and impact of the event and mandate control of alcohol sales that is appropriate and safe.

The current system gives our cultural economy a chance to blossom and is far better than mandating beer gardens at every single street festival moving forward. S.B. 1368 is bad for commerce and not warranted. S.B. 1368 circumvents a system that is: 1) already in-place, 2) well-equipped to handle our needs and 3) is working well with an excellent track record. This bill should not be passed by the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee.

MANDATING BEER GARDENS PROVIDES NO SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS The Current System Is Working Well: County liquor commissions already have authority to require beer gardens when appropriate. Further, liquor commissions already have an effective and efficient process to review street festival permits and mandate beer gardens when appropriate. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not shown evidence of liquor commissions having acted inappropriately nor have proponents of S.B. 1368 demonstrated that liquor commissions are unable to effectively mandate beer gardens when appropriate. The extensive track records of county liquor commissions prove that the current system is working well.

Alcohol Service at Honolulu's Chinatown Street Festivals Is Not Causing Significant Problems and the Honolulu Liquor Commission Has Acted Appropriately in Making Prior Decisions: Proponents of S.B. 1368 have failed to show that the Honolulu Liguor Commission has acted inappropriately or that the current system of regulation is broken in regards to the liquor commission's past handling of Mardi Gras and Hallowbaloo. The Honolulu Liguor Commission closely scrutinized each of our events and mandated specific controls based on the facts presented. The controls mandated by the liquor commission were reasonable based on teh circumstances. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have done an exhaustive review of police records and mandated extensive monitoring of Chinatown street festivals for years and have yet to demonstrate that sale of alcohol at these events is causing significant problems. Most importantly, Over the past eight years (the period during which we have produced Mardi Gras and Hallowbaloo), there has been no significant violence nor property damage at our events. In addition, liquor inspectors have told us that our regulation and track record with underage drinking far exceeds that of others. Lastly, regulated alcohol service at our events has made our festivals safer and more beneficial to the community by enabling us to pay for quality, interesting entertainment that attracts a diverse and healthy crowd. We take surveys at our street festivals and over 50% of attendees are 35 years or older and over 80% have a two-year college degree or higher. Honolulu Police Department special duty officers consistently praise our festivals for being safe and comprised of good people filled with Aloha. The Honolulu Liquor Commission has closely scrutinized each of our events and has not mandated beer gardens thus far because an overwhelming amount of evidence has shown that up-until-thispoint, beer gardens have not been necessary or appropriate. The Honolulu Liquor Commission will continue to scrutinize each of our events moving forward, and prior statements by liquor commissioners demonstrate that if they feel beer gardens are warranted, they will mandate them.

S.B. 1368 Does Not Address Proven Problems But Rather Squeaky Wheels:

S.B. 1368 was introduced not because of significant problems with our current system but rather to quiet squeaky wheels. A small group of individuals who are personally opposed to the sale of alcohol in streets have raised an alarmist tone with area legislators and demanded action over a multi-year period. Repeatedly, these demands have been shown to be based on personal opinions rather than substantive problems. While we respect this group's right to voice its opinion, incessant demands do not alone justify legislative action. Significant problems have not with the current system of having the liquor commission review and act on a case-by-case basis. The current system is working and mandatory beer gardens under S.B. 1368 will not bring about significant benefits.

HAWAII'S CULTURAL ECONOMY DESERVES LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT AND WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED BY S.B. 1368'S ADDITIONAL IMPEDIMENTS

The Success of Our Hallowbaloo & Mardi Gras Festivals and Similar Events in Other Cities Demonstrates that Hawaii's Cultural Economy Is Important and Deserving of Support: Hallowbaloo and Mardi Gras strengthen Hawaii arts culture and our community by bringing healthy excitement and joy to tens of thousands of people, showcasing hundreds of artists, fostering creative expression by thousands of residents and creating an environment in which new friendships are made and socio & economic boundaries are overcome each year. Further, these events fuel the economy of Hawaii and Chinatown. Hallowbaloo puts over \$100,000 into the pockets of our festival contractors and brings in an *additional* \$100,000 revenue into Chinatown businesses each year. Mardi Gras generates nearly this much economic activity each year. Lastly, these events possess tremendous potential for economic growth. The format and programming of Hallowbaloo and Mardi Gras are nearly identical to New Orleans' French Quarter Fest, an event that is now the Crescent City's third largest festival and has an economic impact of over \$200 million dollars each year (see

http://www.nola.gov/getattachment/Cultural-Economy/2013-CE-Snapshot-Electronic.pdf/ and http://www.nola.gov/cultural-economy/). We ask that our legislature recognize the import of festivals to our economy and culture and lead us to a place where festivals thrive and uplift us all.

Hawaii Street Festivals Already Face Major Challenges and Cannot Afford Additional, Immovable Burdens:

S.B. 1368 could easily prove to be the straw that breaks the camel's back and permanently kills both our Mardi Gras and Hallowbaloo festivals. Mandatory beer gardens would increase costs (rental of barriers and additional staffing) and reduce revenues (smaller sales area and fewer attendees (would create a less pleasant attendee experience and thereby fewer attendees)). Both events are already experiencing financial losses each year and further financial degradation would likely knock out these events. Recent events demonstrate this. The multi-year Chinatown Cinco de Mayo street festival left the street and Chinatown in 2014 due to poor economics and reportedly has no plans to return. In addition, this year, for the first time in 15 years, our Mardi Gras festival was not held in the street due to projected costs far exceeding revenues. It's noteworthy that the financial losses experienced by Mardi Gras are directly tied to increased permit restrictions over the last three years (limited hours of alcohol service, doubling of security mandates/costs and a need for constant lobbying efforts that consume time and financial resources). We have begun to implement plans to turn around the numbers on Mardi Gras and Hallowbaloo. We cannot afford to face the additional financial setback that S.B. 1368 would extort.

BEER GARDENS IN CHINATOWN WOULD CREATE SOCIAL CHALLENGES & DAMAGE LOCAL BUSINESSES

The only way Hallowbaloo and Mardi Gras would have a chance of surviving with beer gardens in Chinatown would be to implement large beer garden areas encompassing entire blocks.

Such beer gardens are the only hope of making the economics work and enabling the events to survive. These beer gardens would significantly damage local merchants by blocking storefronts and dramatically reducing access to many businesses. These beer gardens would also drive away families, reduce valuable social interactions (the melting pot effect of our events would be diminished greatly) and significantly increase the number of drinkers per capita. Beer gardens would thus increase the risk of problematic activity and decrease the benefits of the events (fewer economic and social benefits).

Street festivals in Chinatown have proven to be a highly successful cultural and economic catalyst and have contributed greatly to the renaissance of Chinatown. The benefits brought by these events is in large part due to the liquor commission having discretion to tailor controls to each event. This current case-by-case regulatory framework administered by liquor sales experts is working well and is appropriate given that every street festival is unique. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not demonstrated that the current system is broken. Conversely, as detailed above, it is clear that S.B. 1368 would have major negative impact both culturally & economically and would potentially knock out two festivals that bring great benefits to Chinatown and residents throughout the state (neighbor island residents frequently visit Honolulu for our events). S.B. 1368 should not be passed. It should be put to bed or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals.

Thank you for your attention and service to our state.

Respectively submitted,

Man Vaure

Mark J. Tarone Member, T-Rx Entertainment, LLC

To Whom it May Concern:

This bill is absolutely unnecessary. Most of these items are redundant with the current liquor laws. The "beer garden" rule (item 4) ruins the spirit of street festivals and takes away from already struggling local businesses that support the community and the Arts District.

Mahalo,

Daniel Gray Nextdoor

From:	Jodee Hunt
To:	<u>CPN Testimony</u>
Subject:	Reference SB 1368; RELATING TO LIQUOR. Prohibits the sale of liquor at street closure events except under certain conditions. Effective July 1, 2020.
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:34:25 PM

TO: Chairman and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

It is our opinion that this bill is redundant and not necessary. We believe all issues with the exception of the "Beer Garden" designation are already covered and observed. What is disturbing to use as established business owners is that a small group of people who are not directly affected by this issue are trying to curtail the wishes and business practices of a large number of Chinatown residents. In order to make Chinatown a destination, events are necessary. The responsible and legal use of alcohol enhances those events and brings more money into the City and State. Laws on top of laws only makes that more difficult.

Thank you for letting us express our concerns.

Ernie and JoDee Hunt Mendonca Building owners 1109 Maunakea Street, Honolulu From:Jessica PearlTo:CPN TestimonySubject:OPPOSE Senate Bill 1368Date:Tuesday, February 24, 2015 2:44:19 PM

To whom it may concern, I am against the passage of the Bill 1368 that will ruin wonderful events and festivities.

Thank you, Jessica Pearl

Like us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/jessicapearlandpearlweddingphotography

Pearl Wedding Photography www.pearlweddingphoto.com jessicapearl@mac.com 808.344.1525



From:	<u>Tai</u>
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Senate bill 1368 opposed
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:23:14 AM

Aloha

My name is Taimane Gardner. I am a well known entertainer in the islands as an ukulele virtuoso. I have been playing since I was five and have been making my living by it and am an adamant supporter of live music and art. I understand that this bill wants alcohol in restrictive areas such as beer gardens in street festivals however the artists who perform for these festivals are already getting underpaid because the festivals are ALREADY losing money and cannot pay the artist what they deserve although they want to. This restriction on alcohol will lose customers and in turn shut this amazing event down for no one to enjoy. Please do not make it harder for hawaii to have fun, interactive art that people in the island appreciate and need. Don't let a couple bad apples ruin the growth of our economy, tourism and art!!

Mahalo

Taimane Gardner Taimane.com

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Alex Holowicki
То:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 3:17:21 PM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Why this bill is BAD for our community: Do you want a vibrant Hawaii with robust arts and culture that add to our lives and Hawaii's economy or do you want to live in a repressed state? Street festivals serve as arguably the largest arts showcases in Hawaii and the greatest displays of public creativity. They bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state. Hawaii needs to create an environment in which our current festivals can thrive and new festivals arise. S.B. 1368 would do just the opposite, and we cannot afford to give up any more ground. Chinatown's street festivals are on life support and cannot withstand the loss of additional revenue (Cinco de Mayo is gone. In addition, this year for the first time in 15 years, Mardi Gras was not in the street due to poor economics spawned by already arduous permitting requirements. Further, Hallowbaloo, which brings even more benefits to Chinatown than Mardi Gras, is struggling to survive economically). Beer gardens mean less revenue (smaller sales area and fewer attendees) and higher cost (rental of barriers and additional staffing). Beer gardens will either kill Chinatown festivals outright or mandate major changes making them dramatically less pleasant and less beneficial to the community (i.e. mandatory beer gardens = massive beer gardens (necessary to pay the bills) leaving no room for families and restricting access to local businesses (blockage of storefronts); thus, in addition to decreasing revenue/increasing cost and making it harder for street festivals to survive, beer gardens would reduce the culturally valuable melting pot effect of festivals and lead to more drinkers per capita not less and and lead to decreased patronage of Hawaii businesses). S.B. 1368 would stifle Hawaii's cultural economy and needs to be killed or amended. Hawaii needs more culturally & economically valuable street festivals not less Moreover, mandating beer gardens for ALL street festivals is not warranted. Chinatown street festivals have FANTASTIC track records of providing huge net benefits without causing significant problems. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not proven that beer gardens are needed. What significant problem will mandatory beer gardens at all events solve? Chinatown street festivals have been closely monitored for years and have not caused significant problems - no significant violence, property damage nor underage drinking. Mandating beer gardens at all events will provide no major benefits to our community.

The Honolulu liquor commission currently has authority to require beer gardens *on a caseby-case basis*. This is the proper approach. Every event is different with unique audiences, producers, locations, layouts, needs, goals and challenges. At some events, beer gardens are clearly not needed. In addition, some events cannot survive with beer gardens, and for some events, mandatory beer gardens would significantly decrease the net community benefits of the festival. The current approach of having the experts (the liquor commission) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed. The state legislature should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events.

Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear, damage Hawaii's economy and create no significant benefit. I oppose S.B. 1368.

Sincerely,

Alex Holowicki

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

The liquor commission in Hawaii currently has authority to require beer gardens *on a caseby-case basis*. This is the proper approach. Every event is different with unique audiences, producers, locations, layouts, needs, goals and challenges. At some events, beer gardens are clearly not needed. In addition, some events cannot survive with beer gardens, and for some events, mandatory beer gardens would significantly decrease the net community benefits of the festival. The current approach of having the experts (the liquor commission) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed.

Aria Juliet Castillo

From:	Beau Kennedy
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	SB 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:25:57 AM

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368

BeauRyan Kennedy | Key Account Manager | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4118 | Fax: (808) 677-8280 E-mail: beau.kennedy@parbev.com www.paradisebeverages.com

From:	Blaine Tasaka
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	SB 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:26:25 AM

To Whom it may concern,

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Blaine Tasaka | Key Account Manager / Non-Alc Division | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4000 | Fax: (808) 677-8280 E-mail: <u>blaine.tasaka@parbev.com</u> www.paradisebeverages.com

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I oppose bill 1368 about banning street fair beverage . We should be able to continue. A vote for that type of bill would certainly loose my vote.

OPPOSE 1368 . Thank you, Brad Hart

Sent from my iPhone

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPN Testimony
Cc:	brandon@manifesthawaii.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1368 on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 12:02:32 PM

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brandon Reid	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection. My name is Brandon Reid, a resident on Maunakea St. and small business owner on Hotel St. I am writing in opposition to SB 1368 for the following reasons: 1. From my experience, the sale of liquor on the streets of Chinatown have resulted in economic development for businesses beyond liquor licenses including retailers and restaurants. 2. As a resident, these very sporadic events bring many new faces to the area and provide exposure to the positive aspects of our Chinatown and away from the often publicized negative issues that we face. 3. The individuals desiring the ban and more tight regulation of alcohol sales, on public streets, represent a major MINORITY and seek to end nightlife and the bar industry in Chinatown despite operating under all legal requirements at all times. They also target operations above King street which denotes personal interest versus public concern. 4. Special licenses allow not for profit organizations to fundraise, a resource that should be allowed to continue their work. I appreciate your time and consideration of deferring this bill. Thank You, Brandon N. Reid

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From:	Briana Chang
To:	CPN Testimony
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:21:00 AM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce Frazier	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	Carinna Rose
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Bill 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:36:18 AM

"I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368."

Carinna Rose | Order Desk | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4129 | Fax: (808) 678-4092 E-mail: <u>Carinna.Rose@parbev.com</u> www.paradisebeverages.com

From:	Cassie Soares
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Bill 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:16:50 AM

I strongly OPPOSE bill 1368. As a regular block party goer, losing these sort of cultural festivals would be detrimental. After showing up last Tuesday downtown for what I expected to be a Mardi Gras annual block party, my family and I were extremely disappointed to find that there was none. But instead a pub crawl that discriminated families with children and promoted only alcohol sales rather than a mix of culture, family, food and fun. Having these street festivals allow the young and old to get together for common fun. It is highly enjoyable and in my eyes is not dangerous or problem creating.

Please do not pass bill 1368. Sale of alcohol on the streets for these festivals do not cause a significant problem. Mandating beer garden would have a dire negative effect both culturally and economically with no significant benefit.

Cassie Soares Aiea 96701

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Connie Phillips
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	SB1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:32:40 AM

"I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368."

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPN Testimony
Cc:	craig.nakatsukasa@parbev.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1368 on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:25:35 AM

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Nakatsukasa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

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From:	Dale Clark
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	street festivals
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:37:34 AM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is (not), causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

From:Daniel NewbillTo:CPN TestimonySubject:I oppose senate bill 1368Date:Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:02:23 PM

Daniel C Newbill III RA, CLHMS Hawaii Homes International 808-228-8434

From:	Daniel Prones
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:47:10 AM

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368. Sent from my iPhone
Aloha,

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

A majority of our business deals with the sale of alcohol and this bill will be detrimental to our success. I strongly oppose this bill as it would require beer gardens at all street festivals and that will only hurt our industry. I do not see any significant benefit to our community by requiring the use of beer gardens as there have been no major issues that I have seen from allowing patrons to freely roam about our street festivals while enjoying alcoholic beverages. The main example I would use is the "First Fridays" event that takes place in Chinatown on the first Friday of each month. I've gone to many of these events and people are allowed to drink while roaming the various art exhibits or listening to live music. Not once have I encountered a situation that would necessitate harboring people into a beer garden for any reason. This sort of bill would make those festivals even harder to have as they are costly as is and this would only make them even more expensive. Again, I strongly oppose Senate Bill 1368 and think that it needs to be killed or at the very least amended in a major way.

Mahalo,

Darren Evangelista | Warehouse Support | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'l 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4044 | Fax: (808) 678-4092 | Cell: (808) 343-3181 Email: <u>Darren.Evangelista@parbev.com</u> www.paradisebeverages.com

From:	<u>Dawn Fujikawa</u>
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	SB1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:47:10 AM

"I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368."

Dawn Fujikawa | Purchasing Agent | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4058 | Fax: (808) 678-4092 E-mail: <u>dawn.fujikawa@parbev.com</u> www.paradisebeverages.com

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From:	Delilah Aurand
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 3:32:12 PM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Why this bill is BAD for our community: Do you want a vibrant Hawaii with robust arts and culture that add to our lives and Hawaii's economy or do you want to live in a repressed state? Street festivals serve as arguably the largest arts showcases in Hawaii and the greatest displays of public creativity. They bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state. Hawaii needs to create an environment in which our current festivals can thrive and new festivals arise. S.B. 1368 would do just the opposite, and we cannot afford to give up any more ground. Chinatown's street festivals are on life support and cannot withstand the loss of additional revenue (Cinco de Mayo is gone. In addition, this year for the first time in 15 years, Mardi Gras was not in the street due to poor economics spawned by already arduous permitting requirements. Further, Hallowbaloo, which brings even more benefits to Chinatown than Mardi Gras, is struggling to survive economically). Beer gardens mean less revenue (smaller sales area and fewer attendees) and higher cost (rental of barriers and additional staffing). Beer gardens will either kill Chinatown festivals outright or mandate major changes making them dramatically less pleasant and less beneficial to the community (i.e. mandatory beer gardens = massive beer gardens (necessary to pay the bills) leaving no room for families and restricting access to local businesses (blockage of storefronts); thus, in addition to decreasing revenue/increasing cost and making it harder for street festivals to survive, beer gardens would reduce the culturally valuable melting pot effect of festivals and lead to more drinkers per capita not less and and lead to decreased patronage of Hawaii businesses). S.B. 1368 would stifle Hawaii's cultural economy and needs to be killed or amended. Hawaii needs more culturally & economically valuable street festivals not less

Moreover, mandating beer gardens for ALL street festivals is not warranted. Chinatown street festivals have FANTASTIC track records of providing huge net benefits without causing significant problems. Proponents of S.B. 1368 have not proven that beer gardens are needed. What significant problem will mandatory beer gardens at all events solve? Chinatown street festivals have been closely monitored for years and have not caused significant problems - no significant violence, property damage nor underage drinking. Mandating beer gardens at all events will provide no major benefits to our community.

The Honolulu liquor commission currently has authority to require beer gardens *on a case-by-case basis*. This is the proper approach. Every event is different with unique audiences, producers, locations, layouts, needs, goals and challenges. At some events, beer gardens are clearly not needed. In addition, some events cannot survive with beer gardens, and for some events, mandatory beer gardens would significantly decrease the net community benefits of the festival. The current approach of having the experts (the liquor commission) make this decision on an case-by-case basis is the right approach; it's working and should not be changed. The state legislature should not make this decision in one fell swoop for all future events.

Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear, damage Hawaii's economy and create no significant benefit. I oppose S.B. 1368.

-Delilah Aurand

-->^..^< I oppose S.B. 1368

The freedom to responsibly drink while enjoying cultural/social events is one draw for people to attend them, and support the businesses involved.

Sales of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is NOT causing significant problems.

Corralling festival goers into a restricted area will not benefit the fest organizers, nor would it enhance the experience of attendees.

I remember one night (First Friday?) a few years ago. Street sales of alcohol were limited to the Nuuanu Ave block between Hotel St and Chaplain Lane (or thereabouts).

The gates & the wait to hang out on that block were an inconvenience. The cramped confines created a claustrophobic feel & an exclusionary vibe. Plus the vendors & businesses in that area seemed to be at an advantage that evening. However, there was also animosity toward Indigo restaurant by other downtown businesses whose festival expectations seemed to hindered by the "beer garden" on Nuuanu that particular night.

Earlier this month I attended Mardi Gras downtown. The prohibition of alcohol in the streets & the gates on hotel to keep people on the sidewalk, were a mockery of the ambiance expected of a Mardi Gras event.

Wide open areas where people of all ages and inclinations can socialize and participate in such an experience and other cultural gatherings together, creates community, while benefitting -and encouraging comeraderie between-local artists and businesses.

Please kill, or amend to remove beer gardening from, S.B. 1368

Thank you Doug Upp

Aloha

My name is Edward Nguyen. I am a local musician, artist, chef. I am writing this message to Oppose Senate Bill 1368. The reason why i oppose this bill, is for the reason that the state put in the lack of research on what the pros and cons are. This bill opposes beer being sold at carefully maintained alcohol sells at festivals.

I understand the fear and worry on what a intoxicated person could do. But a intoxicated person could be anywhere. Also for the worry under aged drinking.

Now these festivals are carefully managed. There are cops patrolling and security working for the safety and comfort for everyone. From my experience, being at China Town festivals for the past 6 years, i have not experienced any problems whats so ever. No fights or disputes.

For under aged drinking. That could be any where, in any establishment. That issue is a very complicated issue that has to be dealt with the state, parents and schools.

I believe the state is blind to see that festivals and events keep Hawaii moving forward. Without these festivals in China Town, Music, Art, Food will vanish. The state of Art, Music and food in Hawaii is not as great and cannot compare to the Mainland. Please dont kill our traditions and our love for fear. Without events like this, artist will never be able to have the freedom and love to create. You are taking away the happiness of people.

China Town itself is not a place normal people like to venture into. These festivals and special events creates a pool for income and community.

Please reconsider, and listen to the Aina.

Mahalo

Edward Nguyen

From:	Edwin Figueroa
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	OPPOSE SENATE BILL 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:53:54 PM

I oppose senate bill 1368. Those that want to drink on public events should. In a state where Marijuana, moral issues, and stupid policy abound. Let the drinkers have a little fun on special occasions as long as they don't get out of hand. Honolulu is the party place of the Pacific. Years of special events, street parties, and celebrations is part of what makes us special and bonds us for at least those events. It's good for business and our island popularity. It also brings tourists to the islands. If you don't agree. Stay home!

From:	Eva Woo
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:27:46 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Eva Woo | Order Desk | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4123 | Fax: (808) 678-4092 E-mail: Eva.Woo@parbev.com www.paradisebeverages.com

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPN Testimony
Cc:	harry.harris20@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB1368 on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM*
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:21:55 AM

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
harry harris	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	Jamie Remedios
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:32:38 AM

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Jamie Remedios | *Marketing & On Premise* | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4096 | Fax: (808) 677-8280 E-mail: jamie.remedios@parbev.com www.paradisebeverages.com

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From:	Jessica Caires
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	oppose S.B. 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:53:33 PM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit

From:	jody jenkins
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Don"t fix what"s not broken
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 7:45:35 PM

To the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

As a resident and business owner in Downtown / Chinatown district it is ridiculous how just a few individuals can disturb good, positive progress for our DT / CT businesses. This bill (<u>S.B.No</u>. 1368 S.D. 1) is unnessary and ricks interfering or putting harmful restriction on viable reputable small business owners who are a huge asset to the DT / CT area. Not to mention we've never had a problem with crowds or any kind of drunken disorderly conduct from these kinds of events. The events are over by 10pm and all is back to normal with in the hour.....please "don't fix whats not broken".

Thank you for your time,

J Jenkins

To whom it may concern,

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Sincerely,

John Cannizzaro 541-601-5380

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Kaira Resch
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose S.B. 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:28:39 PM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Sincerely Kaira Resch Wilhelmina Rise

Sent from my iPhone

From:KPTo:CPN TestimonySubject:I oppose Senate Bill 1368Date:Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:37:30 AM

I oppose Senate Bill 1368.

Sincerely, Kalani Pokipala To whom it may concern,

I Oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Very Respectfully,

Mr. Kelly A. Griffith, Lt Col (Ret), USAF Supervisor, Operations Force Management PACAF/A3/6OA Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii cell/text: (808) 372-1941

Home Address: Harbor Court 66 Queen Street #2703 Honolulu, HI 96813 docflyboy@icloud.com Kerry Holladay 1013 a Prospect Street #512 Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Sent from my iPad

From:	Kevin Wong
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Opposition to S.B. 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 11:10:21 AM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Kevin Wong Paradise Beverages, Inc. Sales Representative 808-678-4000 office 808-589-6178 cell.

From:	Kim Ansagay
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	i oppose SB1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:26:25 AM

"I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368." To whom it may concern,

I oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368

Sincerely, Krystle Martin

Sent from my iPhone

I oppose S. B. 1368!

Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current law is not causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and would have no significant benefit.

~Lauren Mello

I live in Chinatown because of the street festivals. PLEASE Don't pass this bill!

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	CPN Testimony
Cc:	lynnehi@aol.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB1368 on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM
Date:	Saturday, February 21, 2015 4:31:08 PM

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/21/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lynne matusow	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please accept this as my testimony in strong opposition of this give away of the public streets to the liquor industry, abetted by the Liquor Commission of the City and County of Honolulu. The public streets belong to the people. They are not to be used for alcohol sales. This bill should be amended to prohibit the sale and consumption of alcohol on public streets. Those who wish to imbibe can do so on private property and in licensed liquor establishments--bars, restaurants, etc. There is no sane or logical reason for people to be carousing on public streets and getting drunk, and depriving the taxpayer of the use of the streets. In fact, at times they have forced the public to empty their water bottles if they entered the area. Those consuming alcohol can be better controlled in private locations set up for that reason. Allowing alcohol sales and use on the public streets in diverting the use of the streets from the public. I live in Downtown where this outrageous activity has gone on for years, with the Honolulu Liquor Commission turning a blind eye to those who live and own property in the area and would like some semblance of normal life instead of drinking parties with all their attendant noise. The keiki don't need this. The seniors don't need this. Hard working people don't need this. Please either kill this bill or prohibit the sale and consumption of alcohol on the public streets. Beer gardens or whatever you want to call them belong on private property and not on the public streets. Lynne Matusow 60 N Beretania, #1804 Honolulu, HI 96817 531-4260

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<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariebeth Soriano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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>

> I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From:	Michael Tobita
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose S.B. 1368.
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:25:56 AM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/21/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Zehner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:Mika HillTo:CPN TestimonySubject:I OPPOSE SENATE BILL 1368Date:Tuesday, February 24, 2015 2:29:38 PM

Mika Shamoto Hill **社本美**佳 Sent from my iPhone

From:	Miki Lee
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Testimony Against SB 1368 SD1
Date:	Monday, February 23, 2015 3:26:14 PM

Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee

SB 1368 SD1 is unnecessary and will result in unwarranted restrictions on the ability to hold street festivals and events that bring vital business to those communities that organize, support and host such events.

As a resident and business manager in the Downtown-Chinatown area, I know first-hand the positive impact that street festivals, such as St Patrick's Day and Hallowballoo have on area businesses. Not only do these events create hundreds of jobs, they generate thousands of dollars in revenue for area businesses. Plus there is the incalculable benefit of the positive media and publicity these events create, critical for an area like Downtown-Chinatown, that was once considered dark and dangerous.

The selling of food, alcohol and other products is necessary to off-set the substantial investment required to hold such events. To restrict the sales of alcohol to designated areas ("beer gardens") will result in reduced sales, which then means reduced ability to organize and fund quality street festivals.

The other provisions detailed in SB 1368 SD1:

- 1) The sale of liquor be conducted by vendors with appropriate liquor licenses;
- 2) The vendors use trained servers;

3) The Liquor Commission monitor the event;

and 5) All vendors report gross sales to the Liquor Commission

Are ALL already required. Therefore there is no need to restate what is already happening.

Please do not pass SB 1368 SD1, which will have a negative impact the community and businesses.

Respectfully submitted,

Miki Lee

To whom it may concern,

I Oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Very Respectfully,

Nancy Smiley, MD 66 Queen St #2703 Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 371-0819 docflyboy@me.com Nicole L. Reid Testimony in Opposition to SB1368 SD1 February 24, 2015

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Chair Baker and Vice Chair Taniguchi,

I oppose SB1368 SD1 primarily as it is a waste of resources and time by the State of Hawaii.

There are two counties where "issues" have arisen regarding liquor sales on public streets. This does not constitute a majority of the state and would exclude other counties where "issues" do not currently pose a supposed problem. It would seem relevant to encourage the Liquor Commissions of Maui and Oahu to propose administrative rules which would set the direction for possible legislation in the future, should these "issues" arise in the majority of the state.

Just as legislating to ban homeless from sitting or lying public streets will not solve the actual problem, legislating against to solve the "issue" of liquor sale on public streets will not solve the problem of community differences in Chinatown or Hana.

Additional information such as the frequency of complaints, location of the complaints and the efforts taken to find middle ground may shed more light into the situation by giving context to who is complaining, how often and why. Special interest for private purpose has little place in a mixed use, commercial and residential zoned, urban district like Chinatown. Most landowners welcome business into their vacant spaces, which is why they support street festivals and fundraisers, because they support the community with **and** without the sale of alcohol. However, to say one is better than the other defeats the idea of community and stifles economic progress. Removing the right to use the streets for such development appears to be an infringement of free speech...

In closing, I would like to quote Senator Chun-Oakland who said in the closing meeting of the Joint Fact Finding Group, "<u>economic development is the public interest in Chinatown</u>". Please defer this bill as it stifles the public purpose of perfectly legal activities, which have helped create community from vagrancy, a tax base from houses of vice and a thriving small business district from a red light district.

Respectfully, Nicole L. Reid 2nd Floor Resident & Small Business Owner

From:	Pamela parkinson
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Opposition of Bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:07:30 PM

I strongly oppose Bill 1368!!! Sounds unnecessary and terrible!! Pamela Parkinson To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose bill 1368. Street festivals are valuable community gatherings that have great positive impact on Hawaii culturally and economically. The legislature needs to treat them with such import and proceed prudently. In this case, the correct decision is clear. S.B. 1368 needs to be killed entirely or amended so that beer gardens are not required at all future street festivals. Mandating beer gardens would eliminate important cultural gatherings, prevent new festivals from coming to bear, damage Hawaii's economy and create no significant benefit. I oppose S.B. 1368.

Aloha,

Rachelle Furst 109 Prospect St Honolulu 96813 To The Senate,

To I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Sincerely,

Raymond K Stride

Raymond K. Stride | *Chief Financial Officer* | **Paradise Beverages, Inc.** 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'I 96797

From:	Rebecca Atkinson
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose S.B. 1368.
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:53:45 PM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

--Rebecca Atkinson <u>hawaiibecca@gmail.com</u>

From:	Reedgbowman
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I oppose senate bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 1:38:25 PM

Proposed bill 1368 has no measurable benefit and will significantly impact our state economy, culture, and small businesses. Sale of alcohol at street festivals currently is being carried out according to the laws of our state, and in compliance with the Honolulu liquor commission's mandate.

Proponents of bill 1368 have not shown proof that mandating beer gardens will have any measurable impact, and the potential downside is too large culturally and economically.

I oppose SB 1368.

Reed Bowman Honolulu

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Robert Escuadro
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Opposition to Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:33:40 AM

Please note that I am in strong opposition to Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368.

Best regards,

Robert V. Escuadro | Sales Manager | Paradise Beverages, Inc.94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797☎ (808) 678-4064 | 鳥 (808) 677-8280☑ rob.escuadro@parbev.comwww.paradisebeverages.com

From:	Rocky
То:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	We want to keep street fesitivities including alcohol
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:22:00 PM

I like the street festivities, and did not like the 2015 Madi Gras on Nuuanu this year. I OPPOSE Senate Bill 1368. Rocky Hall 808 342 1144

From:	Roger County
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Senate bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:51:15 AM

To whom it may concern,

I want to express my opposition to Bill 1368. Please allow street festivals to continue as they have in the past. Roger County (256-6371)

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Sincerely

Ron Shinoda

Sent from my iPhone

From:Safiya OmTo:CPN TestimonySubject:My personal opposition to SB 1368Date:Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:44:27 PM

Aloha & To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Safiya Om and I oppose SB 1368. There are multi-cultural and spiritual benefits that I have personally enjoyed from the arts, creativity and human interaction at these events over the years. It would be a great loss to our local community to deprive us of these experiences. Please keep this in mind.

Sincerely, Safiya Om

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each mOMent is a gift



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From:	Saleyna Ueda
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	Oppose Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:32:57 AM

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

<u>SB1368</u>

Submitted on: 2/25/2015 Testimony for CPN on Feb 26, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Salvatore Bruno	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	<u>stawfish</u>
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I OPPOSE Senate Bill 1368.
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:23:02 PM

I like the street festivities, and did not like the 2015 Madi Gras on Nuuanu this year. I OPPOSE Senate Bill 1368.

Sandra Dahl 808 429 8097 Aloha

I oppose s.b. 1368.

Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is not causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Also, recent parking for disabled changes are a deterrent from going to Chinatown or downtown to spend my money and hurts the local economy!

Bill 39 needs amends!

And Mayor Caldwell, no ge tax and scrap the rail project and work on bringing more school buses for students to and from schools which will solve most of traffic on roads. It's the children that we have to drop off and pick up from school. Thus, creating more traffic issues and road construction!

On the mainland they have school buses which alleviates traffic congestion.

Niu valley used to have school buses. Then the bidding war happened and it was costly to parents and then no more school buses.

I have seen many kids be denied to ride the bus home in east Honolulu due to overcrowding on city buses.

Road construction should be done at night;) Kalanianaole hwy is already congested and to add the road construction makes the commute an hour longer.

Mahalo for your kokua in advance.

Mahalo building loa,

Seagem Fix McNamara

Resident of Hawai'i Kai

I oppose S.B. 1368. Sale of alcohol at street festivals under current laws is *not* causing significant problems. Mandating beer gardens would have dire negative impact both culturally and economically and no significant benefit.

Sharina Shimabuku | Sales Secretary | Paradise Beverages, Inc. 94-1450 Moaniani Street | Waipahu, Hawai'i 96797 Phone: (808) 678-4000 | Fax: (808) 677-8280 E-mail: <u>sharina.shimabuku@parbev.com</u> www.paradisebeverages.com

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From:	<u>Sylvia</u>
To:	CPN Testimony
Subject:	I Oppose Senate Bill 1368
Date:	Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:06:52 PM

I Oppose Senate Bill 1368. Our street festivals need to be supported not undermined. Hawaii's Chinatown street festivals bring major cultural and economic benefits to our state and do not cause significant problems. S.B. 1368 would knock out existing festivals, hurt Hawaii culturally and economically and deliver no significant benefits. I oppose mandatory beer gardens and S.B. 1368

Thank you for your time. Aloha,

Sylvia Flores aka Tadbit Nasty #107 Public Relations Volunteer | <u>Pacific Roller Derby</u> Young Nonprofit Professional | <u>YNPN Hawaii</u> 530.848.0147| <u>sylflores@gmail.com</u>

