

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pamela@mauichamber.com](mailto:pamela@mauichamber.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2599 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:32:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 2599 SD1 022916.pdf](#)

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**SB2599**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By  | Organization             | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| PAMELA TUMPAP | Maui Chamber of Commerce | Oppose             | No                 |

Comments: We strongly oppose this and all measures to increase the GET at this time.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**MOLOKAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

P.O. Box 515  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

T 808 646 0928

[info@molokaichamber.org](mailto:info@molokaichamber.org)

[www.molokaichamber.org](http://www.molokaichamber.org)

February 28, 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Monday, February 29, 2016  
1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 211  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

**OPPOSITION TO SB 2478, SD1 RELATING TO LONG TERM CARE.  
Establishes a long-term care surcharge on state tax.**

Honorable Ways and Means Committee Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

As a representative organization of the neighbor-island of Molokai with dozens of members who employ hundreds of our neighbors, friends and families, we are respectfully submitting testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 2478, SD1.

As you may well know, Molokai suffers from some of the highest costs of doing business in our State and as we look towards and ever more uncertain economic future, any increase in the cost of doing business can have significant adverse effects to our island businesses. As proposed in this measure, an effective increase of 12.5% in the General Excise Tax will be burdensome and cause hardships for not only our businesses, but the consumer to whom, in many cases, the tax increase is passed through in the form of increased prices of goods and services.

The Molokai Chamber of Commerce understands the importance of long-term care needs and the funding challenges facing this issue, but this increase is not the solution and we can not support an additional 0.5% added to the current GET.

For these reasons and more we humbly ask that you do not pass this bill and hold it in your committee.

Sincerely,

Robert Stephenson, President & CEO



**FACE** Hawaii

[www.facehawaii.org](http://www.facehawaii.org)

Very Rev. Walter Brownridge  
Statewide President

Patrick Zukemura  
Oahu President

Napua Amina  
Maui President

Keith Webster  
Statewide Treasurer

Rev. Piula Ala'ilima  
Oahu Representative

Karen Ginoza  
Oahu Representative

Kehaulani Filimoe'atu  
Maui Representative

Rev. Ed Gazmen  
Maui Representative

Thelma Akita-Kealoha  
Maui Representative

R. Leotele Togafau  
Executive Director

Rev. Tasha Kama  
Maui Lead Organizer

Khara Jabola-Carolus  
HCIR Lead Organizer

Rev. Stan Bain  
HCIR Organizer

27 February 2016

**SB2478**  
**Relating to Long Term Care**  
Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee,

Faith Action for Community Equity offers this testimony **in support of SB2478**. SB2478, and its companion bill HB1885 would provide a social insurance program for long-term care in Hawai'i. The first of its kind in the nation.

FACE is a 501(c)3 non-profit community organization comprised of more than 40 inter-faith institutions statewide, including a labor union and non-profit [affordable] housing developer.

Our support for a social long-term care insurance program was not born over night. In fact, long term care has been a priority of FACE since our inception in 1996. Twice, we have come before this legislature in an attempt to create a social insurance program for long term care. In 2003, a bill passed through both the House and Senate, only to be vetoed by then governor Linda Lingle.

Since this issue was first raised by our membership, we have heard stories describing the ballooning costs of long term care. In addition to the costs, we have also heard the stories of our members leaving their professions behind to become full-time caregivers for a loved one. What we have learned from these stories is that our families want to care for their loved ones. And what they want is to care for their loved ones in a setting that will allow them to live comfortably, and age with dignity. In 2015, we conducted a survey of our membership to gain a better understanding of how their lives are impacted by caregiving. Forty-four percent of those surveyed indicated that they expected to need long term care at some point in their lives, while forty-two percent stated that they were looking to family members to provide that care.

More than just the benefit of \$70/day, SB2478 recognizes the value of both the elderly, and the sacrifices that many family caregivers make to care for their loved ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify **in support of SB2478**. Feel free to contact FACE at [info@facehawaii.org](mailto:info@facehawaii.org)



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WWW.BIAHAWAII.ORG

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
**Monday, February 29, 2016**  
**1:30 PM.**  
**State Capitol - Conference Room 211**

**RE: SB 2478 SD1 – Relating to Long Term Care; and**  
**SB 2599 SD1 – Relating to Taxation**

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Chief Executive Officer for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the Voice of the Construction Industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA Hawaii is opposed to S.B. 2599 SD 1, and S.B. 2478 SD 1, which proposes to:

- SB 2599--Increase to the general excise tax from 4.5% to 5.5% and requires that additional revenue collected from the general excise tax increase be deposited into a special account in the general fund for department of education operations, including salaries and maintenance costs.
- SB 2478--Establishes a long-term care surcharge on state tax (.5%) to pay for claims for defined benefits under the long-term care financing program.

Both bills draw attention to programs that need are in need of support. The question is whether increasing the G.E.T. is the appropriate means to fund additional government programs.

As is the case in most households and businesses, people "live within their means." You don't spend more money than you make. That means you prioritize how you spend your money on those things that are important.

Perhaps, from a public policy standpoint, the Legislature should take a similar approach. If the desire is to fund these two programs, why not dedicate 1.5% of the EXISTING G.E.T. to these programs and reduce funding or eliminate other government programs that are not a "core" government service (i.e. public health and safety).

The notion that the tax payers should continue to support expansion of government services without some accountability on the current level of government services being provided needs to stop.

These increases will raise the General Excise Tax to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands and will create more of a financial burden on businesses and residents alike.

We are opposed to both to S.B. 2599 SD 1, and S.B. 2478 SD 1. Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

**From:** [Hawaii Commerce](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:54:40 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

We are writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

We support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. We believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, we ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Hawaii Commerce  
117 Keawe St  
Hilo, HI 96720



**Executive Officers:**

Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores - Chairperson

John Erickson, Young's Market Company – Vice Chair

Bob Stout, Times Supermarkets – Secretary/Treasurer

Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

1050 Bishop St. PMB 235

Honolulu, HI 96813

Fax : 808-791-0702

Telephone : 808-533-1292

TO: COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donavan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: Monday, February 29, 2016

TIME: 1:30pm

PLACE: Conference Room 211

RE: SB2478, SD1

Position: Oppose

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

We oppose this measure. While the intent of the bill is to enhance social benefits, there is a problem because it will also place an economic burden on Hawaii businesses and residents. Please keep in mind that profit margins are already quite sparse for grocers, which generally operate at a profit margin of around one percent. Increasing the GET, even by 0.5 percent, would be detrimental to the state, in particular small or rural island communities that are **less able to absorb the additional cost.**

Hawaii residents already pay very high prices for food and drinks. We are one of only a handful of states that pay taxes on groceries and our food costs can be up to seventy percent more than the national average. Increasing the GET will hurt the economy, drive up grocery costs, punish low-income consumers and burden businesses. It will unnecessarily impose an additional financial burden on people who are struggling to pay for basic necessities and on businesses that are struggling to survive.

For these reasons we ask that this measure be deferred indefinitely.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jmowrytcb@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jmowrytcb@hawaii.rr.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:41:28 AM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization                | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| John Mowry   | Town & Country Builders LLC | Oppose             | No                 |

Comments: We cannot afford any additional taxation! If the state needs funds why not approve a lottery instead.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [alohagirl777@hotmail.com](mailto:alohagirl777@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:33:14 AM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ailina       | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

Comments: Please pass this bill!!!

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**From:** [Alex Wilks](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:47 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Alex Wilks  
94-794 Leomana Way  
Waipahu, HI 96797

**From:** [Alexis Muller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Alexis Muller  
603 Koko Isle Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [allan@crhmaui.com](mailto:allan@crhmaui.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:51:38 AM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Allan Raikes | Individual   | Oppose             | No                 |

Comments: Please look to other sources for your spending problem. There is more than enough waste in the mismanagement of taxpayers funds in other state departments to pay for this. You can't keep taking!

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**From:** [Andrea Walker](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:46:09 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Andrea Walker  
334 Kuukama St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Angelina Campos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:42:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Angelina Campos  
47-669 Wailehua Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Barbara Nowak](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13:37 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Barbara Nowak  
2222 Citron St  
Honolulu, HI 96826



**From:** [Ben Haynes](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:11:17 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Ben Haynes  
167 Hamakua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Beverly Maragos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:18:15 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Beverly Maragos  
81-937 Haleki'i St  
Kealahakua, HI 96750

**From:** [Bob Hampton](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:35:08 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%. This increase added to the already over the top tax burden Hawaii citizen's are forced to pay is unacceptable.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Bob Hampton  
7007 Niumalu Loop  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Bonnie Hoy](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:12:39 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Bonnie Hoy  
PO Box 25303  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Brian Isobe](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:48:38 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I just do not support any additional funding for public education period. Also, LT care bailout of claims should not be funded with GET increases. I am continually astounded by the lack of fiscal and social accountability of the State government and the cavalier manner it handles the amount of both GET and income taxes it burdens residents with. Don't even get me started with the unfairness of the State income tax laws regarding pension benefits verses 401k savings when distributed. Totally, unfair.

Vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands.

Mahalo,  
Brian Isobe  
337 Kealahou St  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Bridget Walker](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:43:02 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Bridget Walker  
76-6225 Kuakini Hwy  
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

**From:** [Cassandra Watson](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:59:27 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Cassandra Watson  
1245 Kuala St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [Catherine Sato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:55:52 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Catherine Sato  
41-1691 Kalaniana'ole Hwy  
Waimanalo, HI 96795



**From:** [Chalsie Quillopo](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:53:58 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Chalsie Quillopo  
2423 Ahaiki St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dugcon@aol.com](mailto:dugcon@aol.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:02:34 PM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By     | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Chantal Lonergan | Individual   | Oppose             | No                 |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [Charles Bolden](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:51:16 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Charles Bolden  
1531 Maunakai St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Chelsie Agdinaoay](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:15:53 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Chelsie Agdinaoay  
91-849 Pohakupuna Rd  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Christina Cotten](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:55:43 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Christina Cotten  
2525 Date St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Colby Kisaba](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:11:33 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Colby Kisaba  
1288 Kapiolani Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96814

**From:** [Corey Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:19:05 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Corey Schmidt  
91-1087 Maulihiwa St  
Kapolei, HI 96707

**From:** [Courtney Schwartz](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:56:11 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

Stop taxing the poor. You are looking for more money in the wrong places. Tax the high rises selling for 2-3 million per unit. Tax the rich who get out of taxes. This is ridiculous.

Mahalo,  
Courtney Schwartz  
5808 Haleola St  
Honolulu, HI 96821



**From:** [David Goto](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:35:07 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Goto  
42-273 Old Kalaniana'ole Rd  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [David Molenaar](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:54:17 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Molenaar  
35 Kihalani Homestead Rd  
Laupahoehoe, HI 96764

**From:** [David Muldoon](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:57:38 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

Is there any end to the Government theft of our hard earned savings and life planning? Are those of us who have taken the necessary steps and precautions to avert personal financial destitution, to be pillaged again and again by government, that thinks there is no end to our resources? "Is it Governments objective to push all of us to the brink of ruin to continuously bail out those who have failed to prepare to meet their responsibilities in life? The Right to LIFE, LIBERTY, and the pursuit of HAPPINESS, does not include the right of those who fail to prepare and/or government to steal our resources and drag those of us who have fulfilled their personal obligations to their families, country, community and YES CHARITY; into the abyss with them? I think not!

"There is no life worth living other than as a FREE MAN or WOMAN."

If you fail in your responsibilities to yourself, family, and society, why they should the rest of us have to continue endlessly to bare the burden of your failures?

As a former educator myself and Public Education Graduate, I see the continued waste and lack of accountability as the most egregious violation of the Public Trust by the very system set up to provide supposedly the best education for all! In that respect the system has failed to a large extent, due to the lack of student respect for authority and the systems reluctance to discipline those who disrupt the education of the majority of students who desperately want to learn!

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,

David Muldoon  
710 Lunalilo St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [David Shimana](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:31:17 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Shimana  
99-919 Kalawina Pl  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Delbert Kim](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:07:18 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Delbert Kim  
75 Lena Pl  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

**From:** [Diane Kimura](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:50:02 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Diane Kimura  
869 Puuikena Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Donna Miller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:21:23 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Donna Miller  
1166 Kumukoa St  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [Ed Smith](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:00:34 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Ed Smith  
94-161 Apele Pl  
Mililani, HI 96789

**From:** [Frank Caliri](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:48:08 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Frank Caliri  
1447 Onioni St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Michael Folsland](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:45:34 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Folsland  
1556 Akaakoa Pl  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Kirstin Kahaloa](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:44:21 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kirstin Kahaloa  
75-6081 Ali'i Dr  
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

**From:** [Edwin Hara](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:05:23 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Edwin Hara  
714 Kanoelehua Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Elizabeth Grossman](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:36:05 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Elizabeth Grossman  
1240 Mokulua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Elizabeth Uyetake](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:49:16 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%. There are many other ways to gain funds other than continuing to gauge the hard-working, law abiding citizens. Let's start with cracking down on the fraud and abuse of existing government assistance programs; set time limits of 2-3 years--they shouldn't be lifelong free hand-outs! Don't allow non-residents of HI to get financial and food stamp assistance--they should pay into our tax system first before we give them assistance--isn't that basic common sense?! Straight off the plane and we're handing them free assistance--it's unfair and unacceptable! Enough already!

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Elizabeth Uyetake  
165 Hokulani St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Erykah Flynn](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:52:37 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Erykah Flynn  
167 Hamakua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734



**From:** [Eva Allerstorfer](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:35:24 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Eva Allerstorfer  
867 Mokulua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Francis Rickard](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:29:12 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Francis Rickard  
1911 Kalaniana'ole Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Frank Caliri](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:48:08 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Frank Caliri  
1447 Onioni St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Fredrick Williams](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:55:13 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Fredrick Williams  
1717 Ala Wai Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [gail allen](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:47:54 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
gail allen  
602 Kailua Rd  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Garry Yee](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:39:19 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Garry Yee  
5391 Kilauea Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Genevieve Freeman](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:42:13 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Genevieve Freeman  
1246 Aulepe St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [George Maragos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:23:58 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
George Maragos  
81-937 Haleki'i St  
Kealahakua, HI 96750



**From:** [Gerard Sakamoto](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:05:46 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Gerard Sakamoto  
1928 Hau St  
Honolulu, HI 96819

**From:** [Grace Ko](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:15:25 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Grace Ko  
1164 Bishop St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Greg Chamberlain](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:25:28 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Greg Chamberlain  
1144 Mona St  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Helen Peil](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:18:24 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Helen Peil  
334 Kuukama St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Ina Chang](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 2:20:42 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Ina Chang  
700 Bishop St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Irene Nagao](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:59:59 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Irene Nagao  
33 Palani St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Cassandra Watson](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:59:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Cassandra Watson  
1245 Kuala St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [Peter Henriques](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:59:06 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Peter Henriques  
1834 St Louis Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96816



**From:** [Steve Gold](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:57:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Steve Gold  
91-1055 Waikai St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Scott-Michael Waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:57:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Scott-Michael Waracka  
45 Puaae Rd  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Christina Cotten](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:55:43 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Christina Cotten  
2525 Date St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Fredrick Williams](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:55:13 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Fredrick Williams  
1717 Ala Wai Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Jack Hufstetler](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:52:45 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. Businesses in Hawaii will not be able to sustain raising the GET to 6%.

I think public education is not using it's current resources effectively and more money won't make it any better.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jack Hufstetler  
1038 Kikowaena Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96819

**From:** [James Muller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:47 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
James Muller  
603 Koko Isle Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Jana Holden](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 2:58:11 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jana Holden  
625 Paopua Loop  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Janice Gomes](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:14:16 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Janice Gomes  
818 Keolu Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734



**From:** [Jason Princenthal](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:02:41 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase WILL harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Why is it that you cant figure things out with this huge amount of cash and cannot focus on the known bigger problem which is the wasted monies and abuse that is from many poorly managed entitlement programs that always seem to not be much of a concern when things hit the fan..

It seems unreasonable that with all the taxes already collected and spent on schools and other things that you would rather get more money out the public then focus on the real problem at hand. So please stop penalizing everyone and especially the people on tight budgets because people in charge of these programs don't do their jobs right and spend the huge amount of money collected at the beginning.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands.

Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jason Princenthal  
2449 Halekoa Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Jason Sewell](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:38:58 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jason Sewell  
2800 Woodlawn Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Jeanine Acia](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:10:26 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jeanine Acia  
PO Box 1351  
Keaau, HI 96749

**From:** [Jessica Moyer](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 2:51:40 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jessica Moyer  
44-108 Ikeanani Dr  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Jieyu Shepard](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:38:52 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jieyu Shepard  
64 Wiwoole St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [John Orozco](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:53:06 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
John Orozco  
390 W Puainako St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [John Squires](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:48:03 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
John Squires  
645 Honua St  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Julia Poppen](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 3:05:10 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Julia Poppen  
1219 Waimano Home Rd  
Pearl City, HI 96782



**From:** [Karin OMahony](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:53:21 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%. This is an unfair and unnecessary burden on working families - mine included.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Karin OMahony  
41-1004 Laumilo St  
Waimanalo, HI 96795

**From:** [Kathy Waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:44:38 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kathy Waracka  
PO Box 662  
Kaaawa, HI 96730

**From:** [Keahi Pelayo](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:16:21 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Keahi Pelayo  
4920 Maunalani Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Keith Lau](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:04:41 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

We elect representatives to responsibly manage our resources. It does not take a genius to raise taxes and reach into someone else's pocket.

I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Keith Lau  
2111 Ahapii Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96821

To SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
for hearing on Monday February 29, 2016

RE: SB2478 SD1 RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.

Establishes a long-term care surcharge on state tax beginning on 1/1/2018 to pay for claims for defined benefits under the long-term care financing program. Makes an appropriation to the department of taxation for costs of implementation and collection.

From  
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.  
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Apt. 1205  
Kane'ohe, HI 96744-6083  
tel/fax (808) 247-7942  
e-mail Ken\_Conklin@yahoo.com

#### TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

My disagreement is about economics, "social justice", and growing dependency on the government.

With the astonishing popularity of Bernie Sanders in the Democrat primary elections, we see that there is a large segment of the public, concentrated in the Democrat Party, who are openly socialist. They believe that government is the source of unlimited wealth, that if individuals cannot pay for what they need (or even what they merely want) then government should pay for it, etc.

But I would point out that government does not produce anything, and has no money other than what it takes from us in taxes. This bill is predicated on a belief that government should tax working people to provide services -- government should put its hand into your pocket and pull out your money to give to someone else, under force of law. It's actually robbery at gunpoint -- if you don't let the government grab your money, they will throw you in jail.

The proposal to tax everyone to make us all pay for a stranger's eldercare is actually a proposal that we pay taxes to protect the assets of the individual elder who needs care, and his family members who will be spared that expense and will eventually inherit his wealth.

If someone needs medical care or assisted living or nursing home, the first source of money to pay the bills should be the assets of the person receiving the benefits. It is not "social justice" to force the rest of us to pay for his care so he can keep his money in the bank. If the individual has spent all his money, then the next source of funds should be his spouse, adult children, and extended family, in that order. It is not "social justice" to force the rest of us to pay for his care so his spouse and family can keep their money in the bank during his lifetime and so that they can inherit his money after he dies. If individual, spouse, and family have spent all their money to pay for needed services, or if they refuse to help to the full extent of their wealth, then the next source of funds is the individual's church, temple, etc. and then after that the charities that so many people donate so much money to. Finally, if all sources run out of money or refuse to give help, then there's Medicaid, the government program that pays the bills for people who are truly indigent.

There are many, many good and noble reasons why people need financial assistance. Socialists think working people should be taxed -- forced to pay -- for other people's housing, food, electricity, transportation, college tuition, healthcare, eldercare, etc. etc. Furthermore, the tax dollars do not go directly to needy people. Highly paid government bureaucrats rip off a large percentage of our tax dollars to pay the salaries of the tax collectors and the bureaucrats who decide who gets help and how much. More and more people become dependent on government and then vote in favor of making government even bigger and stronger. Thus government, which produces nothing, gets bigger while the workforce of people who do produce things and pay taxes gets smaller. When a majority of people pay no taxes, they have the power of majority vote to force others to pay more taxes to provide whatever that majority decides it wants.

All private sources of money should be tapped before the government reaches its hand into your or my pocket and takes what is ours in order to pay so that an individual can protect his assets or his family can inherit his wealth. Don't make me or you pay for others. Voluntary giving, or charity, is one thing; government forcing me to do it is very different. That's not "social justice"; that's social INjustice.

**From:** [Kevin Vegas](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:51:20 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kevin Vegas  
99-837 Meaala St  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Kirstin Kahaloa](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:44:21 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kirstin Kahaloa  
75-6081 Ali'i Dr  
Kailua-kona, HI 96740



**From:** [laura saito](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:46:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
laura saito  
98 Komo Mai Dr  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Leighton Yin](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:41:14 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Leighton Yin  
2117 Momi Way  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Linda Wong](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:03:38 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Linda Wong  
2667 Tantalus Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Lisa Adams](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:07:00 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Lisa Adams  
46-375 Holokaa St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Liz Xu](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:29 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Liz Xu  
1911 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Lois Asato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13:30 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Lois Asato  
1801 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Louis Daniele](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:52:07 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Louis Daniele  
19 Princess Kaiulani Blvd  
Ocean View, HI 96737

**From:** [Margaret Farias](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:35 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Margaret Farias  
HC 1 Box 4152  
Keaau, HI 96749



**From:** [Mark Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:47:18 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Mark Schmidt  
1079 Kaoopulu Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Martin Pe'a](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:50:40 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

PS: Who's seeing increases in Hawaii of 25% in personal & business income?? Help our residents and businesses GROW, NOT DIE!! Be Reasonable & Responsible!!

Mahalo,  
Martin Pe'a  
47-531 Halemanu St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Mary Marasovich](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:47:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Mary Marasovich  
1010 S King St  
Honolulu, HI 96814

**From:** [mel hertz](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:23:58 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
mel hertz  
237 Kuumele Pl  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Melanie Meinken](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:58:18 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%. Our taxes in Hawaii are already beyond belief!!

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Melanie Meinken  
43 Pueohala Pl  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Merilyn Oda](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:46:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Merilyn Oda  
46-461 Kuneki St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Michael Folsland](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:45:34 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Folsland  
1556 Akaakoa Pl  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Michael Fujioka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:45:31 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Fujioka  
7130 Hawaii Kai Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96825



**From:** [Michael Piccinino](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:49 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Piccinino  
2545 Ferdinand Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Molly Mosher-Cates](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:05:55 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Molly Mosher-Cates  
57 Kaneohe Bay Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Nicole Darity](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Nicole Darity  
91-1031 Kaimalie St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Nimfa Vicerra](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:33:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Nimfa Vicerra  
2510 Date St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Nora Onishi](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:56:17 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Nora Onishi  
1600 Ala Moana Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Page Dwight](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:44:36 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Page Dwight  
1314 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Paula Subia](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:13 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Paula Subia  
91-954 Pailani St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Nicole Darity](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Nicole Darity  
91-1031 Kaimalie St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706



**From:** [Barbara Nowak](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13:37 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Barbara Nowak  
2222 Citron St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Lois Asato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13:30 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Lois Asato  
1801 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [James Muller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:47 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
James Muller  
603 Koko Isle Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Alex Wilks](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:47 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Alex Wilks  
94-794 Leomana Way  
Waipahu, HI 96797

**From:** [Sam Meada](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Sam Meada  
227 Auwailimu St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Alexis Muller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Alexis Muller  
603 Koko Isle Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Stephen Ueda](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Stephen Ueda  
268 Noelani Loop  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Margaret Farias](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:35 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Margaret Farias  
HC 1 Box 4152  
Keaau, HI 96749



**From:** [Liz Xu](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:29 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Liz Xu  
1911 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Molly Mosher-Cates](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:05:55 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Molly Mosher-Cates  
57 Kaneohe Bay Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Gerard Sakamoto](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:05:46 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Gerard Sakamoto  
1928 Hau St  
Honolulu, HI 96819

**From:** [Peter Henriques](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:59:06 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Peter Henriques  
1834 St Louis Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Portia Hara](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:07:16 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Portia Hara  
260 Ainako Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Edwin Hara](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:05:23 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Edwin Hara  
714 Kanoelehua Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Linda Wong](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:03:38 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Linda Wong  
2667 Tantalus Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [William Nagle](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:01:20 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
William Nagle  
869 Puuikena Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96821



**From:** [Nora Onishi](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:59:11 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Mahalo,  
Nora Onishi  
1600 Ala Moana Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [David Molenaar](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:54:17 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Molenaar  
35 Kihalani Homestead Rd  
Laupahoehoe, HI 96764

**From:** [Spiros Sofos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:52:13 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Spiros Sofos  
3228 Oahu Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Diane Kimura](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:50:02 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Diane Kimura  
869 Puuikena Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Teri Sato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:49:10 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Teri Sato  
46-228 Koaena St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Andrea Walker](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:46:09 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Andrea Walker  
334 Kuukama St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Page Dwight](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:44:36 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Page Dwight  
1314 Kalakaua Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Victor Lim](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:43:07 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Victor Lim  
1751 Laukahi St  
Honolulu, HI 96821



**From:** [Leighton Yin](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:41:14 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Leighton Yin  
2117 Momi Way  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Garry Yee](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:39:19 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Garry Yee  
5391 Kilauea Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Elizabeth Grossman](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:36:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Elizabeth Grossman  
1240 Mokulua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Bob Hampton](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:35:08 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%. This increase added to the already over the top tax burden Hawaii citizen's are forced to pay is unacceptable.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Bob Hampton  
7007 Niumalu Loop  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Robert jaeckel](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:45:25 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Robert jaeckel  
1280 Loho St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rhiga2009@gmail.com](mailto:rhiga2009@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:35:08 AM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Roger Higa   | Individual   | Comments Only      | No                 |

Comments: I am completely opposed to SB 2478, SD1. Increasing the GE Tax for Long Term Care services will harm the majority of taxpayers who are already facing the highest cost of living in the Nation. NO NEW TAXES, PLEASE!!!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [Ronald Najarian](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:37:17 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Ronald Najarian  
1083 Lunaanela St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Russell Rodriguez](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:45:13 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Russell Rodriguez  
2684 Ainaola Dr  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [Sam Meada](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Sam Meada  
227 Auwaiolimu St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Scott Adams](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:05:37 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Scott Adams  
46-375 Holokaa St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [scott waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:41:22 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
scott waracka  
PO Box 1316  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Scott-Michael Waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:57:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Scott-Michael Waracka  
45 Puaae Rd  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Shane Curtis](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 3:06:12 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Shane Curtis  
1558 Kanalui St  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Sommer Harrison](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:39:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Sommer Harrison  
1188 Bishop St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Catherine Sato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:55:52 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Catherine Sato  
41-1691 Kalaniana'ole Hwy  
Waimanalo, HI 96795

**From:** [Wendy Wei](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:55:51 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Wendy Wei  
23 Makaweli St  
Honolulu, HI 96825



**From:** [Erykah Flynn](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:52:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Erykah Flynn  
167 Hamakua Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [gail allen](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:47:54 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
gail allen  
602 Kailua Rd  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Merilyn Oda](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:46:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Merilyn Oda  
46-461 Kuneki St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [laura saito](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:46:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
laura saito  
98 Komo Mai Dr  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Robert jaeckel](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:45:25 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Robert jaeckel  
1280 Loho St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Kathy Waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:44:38 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kathy Waracka  
PO Box 662  
Kaaawa, HI 96730

**From:** [Jason Sewell](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:38:58 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jason Sewell  
2800 Woodlawn Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Jieyu Shepard](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:38:52 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jieyu Shepard  
64 Wiwoole St  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [David Shimana](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:31:17 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Shimana  
99-919 Kalawina Pl  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Corey Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:19:05 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Corey Schmidt  
91-1087 Maulihiwa St  
Kapolei, HI 96707

**From:** [Chelsie Agdinaoay](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:15:53 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Chelsie Agdinaoay  
91-849 Pohakupuna Rd  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Cassandra Watson](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:54 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Cassandra Watson  
1245 Kuala St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [Michael Piccinino](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:14:49 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Piccinino  
2545 Ferdinand Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Spiros Sofos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:52:13 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Spiros Sofos  
3228 Oahu Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Stephanie Suzuki](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:27:08 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Stephanie Suzuki  
40 Aulike St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Stephen Ueda](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:11:37 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Stephen Ueda  
268 Noelani Loop  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [Steve Gold](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:57:27 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Steve Gold  
91-1055 Waikai St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [susan taraya](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:58:39 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

HELLS, NO!

The government needs to stop extending their control into every aspect of personal life. I cannot afford to retire in Hawaii because I make too much money to be supported by government funding and I don't make enough to survive. You want to extend government control and make me pay for someone else to live out their lives here at my expense? WHAT ABOUT ME and people like me who work hard to barely get by, knowing we will be forced to leave when we reach our golden years because our taxes have been too high? And the government is LOUSY at managing our money. Then, on top of that, you want me to pay additional money to support public funding of preschool? How high are we rated in our education nationally? Why did the government propose taking on this additional responsibility without calculating the funding in advance or fixing the incompetence of our current system? More money is not the solution. Creating a non-welfare culture is necessary. Historically, the new taxes introduced have been misappropriated soon after their creation. Explain the TAT - it was introduced to promote tourism in Hawaii - it is now largely diverted to the general fund and has been increased. Enough already. Show to me that you are protecting me as a working member of the dwindling middle class before you increase my burden. I am supporting 3 families in my home because my children cannot make enough to make it on their own. Do your part to help them. Show some integrity and responsibility in government. Stop increasing our taxes with false promises of improving society - start using our taxes wisely.

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
susan taraya

95-1308 Wikao St  
Mililani, HI 96789

**From:** [Teralynda Dalinoc](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 2:29:56 PM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Teralynda Dalinoc  
91-1013 Kamaehu St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

**From:** [Teri Sato](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:49:10 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Teri Sato  
46-228 Koaena St  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Tomma Irvine](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:54:11 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Tomma Irvine  
705 Kalanipuu St  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Chalsie Quillopo](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:53:58 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Chalsie Quillopo  
2423 Ahaiki St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [John Orozco](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:53:06 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
John Orozco  
390 W Puainako St  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [Louis Daniele](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:52:07 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Louis Daniele  
19 Princess Kaiulani Blvd  
Ocean View, HI 96737

**From:** [Kevin Vegas](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:51:20 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Kevin Vegas  
99-837 Meaala St  
Aiea, HI 96701

**From:** [Charles Bolden](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:51:16 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Charles Bolden  
1531 Maunakai St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Grace Ko](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:15:25 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Grace Ko  
1164 Bishop St  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**From:** [Keahi Pelayo](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:16:21 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Keahi Pelayo  
4920 Maunalani Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Beverly Maragos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:18:15 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Beverly Maragos  
81-937 Haleki'i St  
Kealahakua, HI 96750

**From:** [Donna Miller](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:21:23 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Donna Miller  
1166 Kumukoa St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [George Maragos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:23:58 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
George Maragos  
81-937 Haleki'i St  
Kealakekua, HI 96750



**From:** [Greg Chamberlain](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:25:28 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Greg Chamberlain  
1144 Mona St  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Stephanie Suzuki](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:27:08 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Stephanie Suzuki  
40 Aulike St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Francis Rickard](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:29:12 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Francis Rickard  
1911 Kalaniana'ole Ave  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Warren Chong](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:30:12 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Warren Chong  
73-1390 Kaiminani Dr  
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

**From:** [Nimfa Vicerra](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:33:27 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Nimfa Vicerra  
2510 Date St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [David Goto](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:35:07 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
David Goto  
42-273 Old Kalaniana'ole Rd  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Winifred Casuga](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:36:07 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Winifred Casuga  
2392 Aumakua St  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [Tracy Naiu](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:38:14 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Tracy Naiu  
217 Mookua St  
Kailua, HI 96734



**From:** [Bonnie Hoy](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:12:39 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Bonnie Hoy  
PO Box 25303  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Colby Kisaba](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:11:33 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Colby Kisaba  
1288 Kapiolani Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96814

**From:** [Jeanine Acia](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:10:26 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Jeanine Acia  
PO Box 1351  
Keaau, HI 96749

**From:** [scott waracka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:41:22 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
scott waracka  
PO Box 1316  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Angelina Campos](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:42:05 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Angelina Campos  
47-669 Wailehua Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Genevieve Freeman](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:42:13 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Genevieve Freeman  
1246 Aulepe St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Russell Rodriguez](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:45:13 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Russell Rodriguez  
2684 Ainaola Dr  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Michael Fujioka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:45:31 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Michael Fujioka  
7130 Hawaii Kai Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96825



**From:** [Mary Marasovich](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:47:01 AM

---

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Mary Marasovich  
1010 S King St  
Honolulu, HI 96814

**From:** [Mark Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:47:18 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

Last year, Hawaii taxpayers paid almost \$7 billion in taxes. Also, the bill does not guarantee that the additional tax revenues will increase funding to the department of education. Lastly, the bill does not state what the \$780-\$850 million in additional taxes will accomplish or get in return for the additional funds.

SB 2478 will not only raise taxes and the cost of living, but will also severely damage the hundreds of jobs in the long-term care financial industry.

Again, I ask you to vote "No" on both bills, which will raise the GET to over 6% on Oahu and over 5.5% on all other islands. Thank you for your consideration and service to our state.

Mahalo,  
Mark Schmidt  
1079 Kaoopulu Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [John Squires](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:48:03 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in opposition of SB 2599 and SB 2478. We do not want an increase to GET, raising it to 6%.

I support the funding of public education and it receiving the necessary resources to accomplish its mission. However, should these bills pass, it will increase taxes for taxpayers in Hawaii by approximately \$780-\$850 million or, looking at it another way, will increase the general excise tax by 25%. I believe that this large tax increase could harm both business and residents.

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Mahalo,  
John Squires  
645 Honua St  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Valerie Ferrari](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:48:12 AM

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Mahalo,  
Valerie Ferrari  
334 Iwalani St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Tracy Naiu](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:38:14 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Tracy Naiu  
217 Mookua St  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Troy Gomes](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:16:52 PM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Troy Gomes  
818 Keolu Dr  
Kailua, HI 96734

**From:** [Valerie Ferrari](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:48:12 AM

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Mahalo,  
Valerie Ferrari  
334 Iwalani St  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [vancearakaki@gmail.com](mailto:vancearakaki@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2478 on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Sunday, February 28, 2016 7:49:50 PM

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**SB2478**

Submitted on: 2/28/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 29, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By  | Organization | Testifier<br>Position | Present at<br>Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Vance Arakaki | Individual   | Support               | No                    |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** [Victor Lim](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:43:07 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Victor Lim  
1751 Laukahi St  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Warren Chong](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:30:12 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Warren Chong  
73-1390 Kaiminani Dr  
Kailua-kona, HI 96740

**From:** [Wendy Wei](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:55:51 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Wendy Wei  
23 Makaweli St  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [William Nagle](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:01:20 AM

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Mahalo,  
William Nagle  
869 Puuikena Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**From:** [Winifred Casuga](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** I OPPOSE a 6% General Excise Tax!  
**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 9:36:07 AM

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Dear Ways and Means Committee,

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Mahalo,  
Winifred Casuga  
2392 Aumakua St  
Pearl City, HI 96782