



## AIRPORT CONCESSIONAIRES COMMITTEE

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture  
Hawaii State Senate

Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair  
Committee on Transportation and Energy  
Hawaii State Senate

Room 229 3:05 p.m.

February 16, 2016

Re: SB 2937 - Relating to Land Disposition

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Inouye, and Honorable Joint Committee Members:

My name is Peter Fithian and I am the Chair of the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Airports Concessionaires Committee.

Our Committee represents the majority of the concession operators at the public airports throughout the State of Hawaii. Members of our group contribute about 50% of the operating revenues of the airports along with the airlines who also contribute about 50%.

Our Committee strongly supports this bill.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) regular deals with many hundreds of commercial leases and space permits each year and thus needs the discretion and flexibility to award and extend when the DOT deems appropriate including revocable permits on a month to month basis. Such matters are also reviewed and approved by the Department of Attorney General prior to being finalized.

To require the DOT and concession operator to attend a public hearing for a month to month extension for permits on matters that are obviously justifiable such as temporary relocation due to construction or other matters makes no sense and a waste of time and resources.

We respectfully urge you to return to the past practice as proposed in this bill.

We thank you for allowing us to testify.