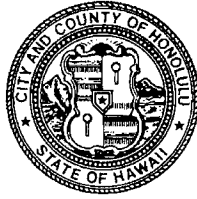


DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041
DEPT. WEB SITE: www.honoluluudpp.org • CITY WEB SITE: www.honolulu.gov

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



KATHY K. SOKUGAWA
ACTING DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY F. T. HIU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EUGENE H. TAKAHASHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT: House Bill 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1
Relating to Short-Term Rentals**

The Department of Planning and Permitting **supports** House Bill No. 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, which creates a new chapter addressing short-term rentals (STRs). It is primarily enabling legislation to allow the counties to regulate hosting platforms and to allow counties to control information on STR advertising, especially the disclosure of the specific property or unit being advertised. It also explicitly allows counties to issue subpoenas to assist with enforcement. Further, it allows the counties to collect visitor information from passengers as they deplane from respective airports. The Proposed SD 1 offers flexibility to allow each county to create an STR program that suits its needs.

We ask for two considerations. First, please amend Subsection 8 that allows the counties to require their own visitor information form at the airport. We strongly support Subsection (c) that allows counties to require the host – whether a hotel or private home – to confirm the visitor's stay. However, it is a very expensive program if launched by the counties alone. It would be helpful if the counties could collaborate with the State and Hawaii Tourism Authority on their existing forms, thereby reducing the redundancy of information being collected, and allows for sharing in operating costs.

Second, as another option offered to the counties, consideration should be given to establishing county short-term rental commissions, similar to state legislation governing county liquor commissions. While the existing state law on liquor commissions is quite lengthy, perhaps it need not be so detailed for short-term rental commissions.

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
House Bill No. 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1
June 26, 2020
Page 2

We deeply appreciate the Senate's willingness to take up this Bill in this especially difficult time. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Very truly yours,

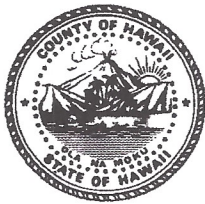
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy K. Sokugawa", written in a cursive style.

Kathy K. Sokugawa
Acting Director

Harry Kim
Mayor

Roy Takemoto
Managing Director

West Hawai'i Office
74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
Phone (808) 323-4770
Fax (808) 327-3563



County of Hawai'i

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Michael Yee
Director

April Surprenant
Acting Deputy Director

East Hawai'i Office
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone (808) 961-8288
Fax (808) 961-8742

June 23, 2020

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai'i State Legislature

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

RE: HB 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1, Relating to Short-Term Rentals

The County of Hawai'i Planning Department **supports** House Bill 460, HD. 1, Proposed SD. 1, which proposes to provide counties the authority to better regulate short-term rentals and enforcement of illegal vacation rentals. Hawai'i County recently registered 4,000 properties as permitted unhosted short term vacation rentals. The Planning Department estimates there could be another 4,000 illegal vacation rentals. Providing requirements of hosting platforms and advertisements will provide additional tools for the enforcement of illegal vacation rentals. HB 460, HD. 1, SD. 1 will certainly not eliminate illegal vacation rentals, but will discourage the proliferation of them and allow each county to tailor their vacation rental enforcement efforts to suit its needs.

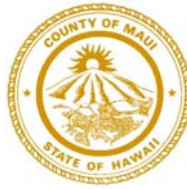
Therefore, I ask you to act favorably on HB 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Yee
Planning Director

Michael P. Victorino
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

June 25, 2020

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, June 26, 2020, 10:00AM
Auditorium

HB460 HD1 (proposed) SD1 RELATING TO THE COUNTIES

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Honorable members of the Committee On Ways and Means

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of **HB460 HD1 (proposed) SD1** with **modifications**.

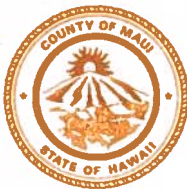
The purpose of this bill is to provide the counties with authority to: regulate hosting platforms; require owners or operators to list certain property information on any hosting advertisement or post on a hosting platform; establish short-term rental registries to prohibit hosting platforms from completing booking transactions unless the rental is listed in the registry; prohibit hosting platforms from collecting fees through an agent or intermediary for short-term rental ancillary services; subpoena records from hosting platforms. It also requires persons arriving in any county to declare their place of stay for short-term rental enforcement purposes.

Please consider including the word "illegal" in front of "short-term rentals" in the first sentence of Section 1. Maui County has a well-controlled legal system for "short-term" rentals (Short Term Rental Homes and B&Bs) with defined caps.

The intent of the proposed new Section 8, Place of stay declaration upon arrival, is sound but logistically very cumbersome to implement. Perhaps it could be better accomplished if it was a collaborative effort among the counties, the Hawaii Tourism Authority and the State (including the Department of Agriculture and Department of Transportation). Such cooperation would be more efficient for all involved.

Thank you for your consideration, I strongly urge you to pass HB460 HD1 (proposed) SD1 with the **modifications** listed above.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor
MICHELE CHOUTEAU MCLEAN, AICP
Director
JORDAN E. HART
Deputy Director



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
COUNTY OF MAUI
ONE MAIN PLAZA
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 315
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

June 25, 2020

Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT: House Bill 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1
Relating to Short-Term Rentals**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of House Bill 460, HD 1, Proposed SD 1. This measure would create enabling legislation to allow the counties to regulate hosting platforms which have allowed short-term rentals to proliferate; such authority would be a valuable enforcement tool that is much needed to supplement our current enforcement efforts. The Department of Planning has asked for the authority to regulate short-term rental hosting platforms over the past few Legislative sessions, so we are encouraged to see the progress made this year. As you know, Maui County is heavily dependent on tourism, and this bill will have a significant positive impact on the community by enabling us to further curb illegal operations.

The Department notes that the intent of the proposed new Section 8, Place of stay declaration upon arrival, is sound but could be better accomplished if it was a collaborative effort among the counties, the Hawaii Tourism Authority and the State (including the Department of Agriculture and Department of Transportation). Such cooperation would be more efficient for all involved governmental entities, aircraft and vessel operators, and passengers, and would likely be more effective in accomplishing the bill's important goals.

Again, thank you for considering this testimony as you deliberate this much needed bill, and please pass HB460 HD1 SD1.

Sincerely, .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele Chouteau McLean".

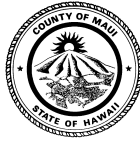
Michele Chouteau McLean, AICP
Planning Director

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

June 25, 2020

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AL", is written over the name "Alice L. Lee" in the "FROM:" field.

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JUNE 26, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB460, SD1,
PROPOSED HD1, RELATING TO COUNTIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to clarify the counties' authority to regulate hosting platforms, authorize the counties to establish a registry of lawfully authorized or permitted short-term rentals, and authorize the counties to require short-term rental operators or owners to provide their physical address.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Clarifying the counties' authority to regulate hosting platforms will help the counties prevent further proliferation of illegal transient accommodations and preserve residential housing.
2. Authorizing counties to establish a registry of legal short-term rentals will promote transparency and accountability.
2. Authorizing counties to obtain the location of short-term rentals will appropriately remove obstacles to the enforcement of zoning laws.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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The Senate
The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

To: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Date: June 26, 2020

Place: Auditorium
Hawaii State Capitol

RE: HB460 HD1 SD1, Relating to Counties

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

RBOAA is supportive of measures to ensure all vacation rentals operate within the law.

The County of Maui Planning Department's Zoning Administration and Enforcement Division (ZAED) utilized the services of LODGINGRevs, a web-based Transient Vacation Rental (TVR) monitoring and enforcement company, to help its Zoning Inspectors maximize their effectiveness in eliminating illegal short-term rental homes (STRHs) and bed-and-breakfast operations (B&Bs) in Maui County.

During 2019, the number of advertised rentals increased from 20,000 in January to 30,000 in December. Just over 260 notices of non-compliance were issued. **Of over 30,000 advertisements on Maui at the end of 2019, there were 27 properties advertising illegally.**

Twenty-seven.

<https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/120894/Maui-County-Transient-Vacation-Rental-Enforcement-2019-Summary>

The steps proposed in this bill are costly, cumbersome and ultimately, ineffectual. The Mayor of the County of Honolulu has a proposal from LODGINGRevs on his desk.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Alicia Humiston
President,
Rentals by Owner Awareness Association

29 S. KUKUI PLACE, KIHEI, HI 96753

Rental By Owner Awareness Association (RBOAA) is a Hawaii non-profit corporation founded in 2011, with over 1000 members. Our mission is to provide Hawaii vacation-rental property owners with information to help them comply with the applicable State and County regulations, support the Hawaii economy by offering visitors choice in accommodation, and advocate for the rights of Hawaii vacation property owners. RBOAA members provide transient vacation rentals in full compliance with existing tax and County regulations. RBOAA fully supports enforcement of existing regulations.

Kaka'ako Ūnited

1

June 26, 2020

To: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
And members of the Ways and Means Committee
Hawaii State Senate

From: Doug Valenta President and Klaus Radtke, Vice-President, Kakaako United

Subject: In strong support of HB 460 relating to Short Term Rentals

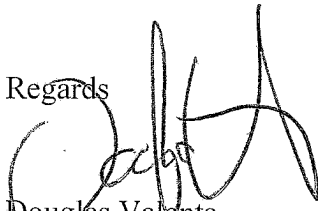
Dear Chair Cruz and Committee Members

Kaka'ako United, a voluntary community group working together to ensure a quality Kaka'ako community from Mauka to Makai, is in strong support of the proposed HB 460 Proposed SD1 which addresses short term rentals.

Kakaako United would be opposed to short term rentals in our neighborhood, and therefore support more integrated regulation and enforcement

Thank you all for attending to this matter at this time

Regards



Douglas Valenta
Kaka'ako United

KŪ: Kaka'ako Ūnited

PO Box 1634 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96806

www.kakaakounited.org • info@kakaakounited.org



Ensuring the quality of life for an integrated Kaka'ako community from mauka to makai.



June 24, 2020

State of Hawaii
Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing: Friday, June 26, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Testimony of Jerry Gibson/Turtle Bay Resort
in SUPPORT of HB 460, HD1, Proposed SD1

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran
and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 460, HD1, Proposed SD1, relating to the regulation of short-term rentals.

I agree with the findings of the Legislature as stated in Section 1 of HB 460:

[T]he proliferation of 'short-term rentals', which are generally transient accommodations other than hotels and motels, has adversely impacted the State. Short-term rentals pose health and safety risks to local residents and guests, reduce the availability of permanent housing, drive up rents, and adversely alter the character and quality of residential neighborhoods.

The proliferation of illegal short-term rentals has been particularly difficult to control and regulate because owners and operators are able to attract and transact business through online hosting platforms.

Recent media reports and findings by the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 indicate that, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, illegal short-term rentals have also provided a haven for visitors who arrive in Hawaii with the intent to violate Hawaii's emergency orders. Such illegal short-term rentals, facilitated by online hosting platforms, potentially endanger the health and safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors. This undermines the efforts of our government officials who are working tirelessly to manage the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our community.

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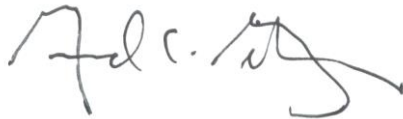
57-091 Kamehameha Highway
Kahuku, Oahu, Hawaii 96731
turtlebayresort.com

HB 460 would authorize the counties to employ much-needed tools for reporting, data transparency, and enforcement to mitigate the negative impacts that illegal short-term rentals have on our State, and also to slow the spread of COVID-19.

I recently presented testimony to the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 in support of a comprehensive plan to reopen Hawaii's visitor industry to Trans-Pacific visitors in a safe manner. An important component of that plan, HB460 will advance enforcement of the protocols necessary to ensure the health and safety of our residents, team members and visitors, as Hawaii welcomes Trans-Pacific visitors.

I strongly urge you to pass HB 460, HD1, Proposed SD1.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerard C. Gibson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gerard C. Gibson
Vice President
Turtle Bay Resort

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 10:01:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mufi Hannemann	Testifying for Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association	Support	No

Comments:



June 25, 2020

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

June 26, 2020, 10am

State Capitol Auditorium

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 460, HD1, SD1 Proposed

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Airbnb, I want to take the opportunity to share our concerns regarding HB 460, HD1, SD1 Proposed. First, let me reaffirm our commitment to work with local and state policymakers to develop common sense short-term rental policy. However, HB 460, HD1, SD 1 Proposed threatens the privacy of Hawaii hosts and guests, further negatively impacts Hawaii's visitor industry at a time when the economy is already suffering, and is unnecessary given the significant progress counties have made on implementing local short-term rental policy.

In Hawaii County, we worked with local policymakers to craft a vacation rental ordinance that allows short-term vacation rentals to support the local economy and protects neighborhoods for residents. In Honolulu, after a long public process of advocacy and engagement that resulted in the adoption of Bill 89, we are in active discussions with the County to come into compliance with the ordinance. We have also begun conversations with Kauai and Maui to support compliance with their local ordinances. Additionally, at the state level, over the course of three legislative cycles we have actively engaged the Administration and state legislative leaders to push for a collect and remit tax framework to help the state with effective and efficient TAT collection.

We want to work with the state, but this proposal is not a viable path forward. We urge the Committee to reject this proposal and vote no on HB 460, HD1, SD1 Proposed. We have summarized our concerns below:

Privacy Rights:

For more than 30 years, a variety of federal laws have protected the personal data of Americans online at a time of unprecedented technological development. Safeguarding sensitive information is a critical responsibility, and this bill offers little detail of how the personal identifiable information (PII) of residents and visitors alike will be protected. HB 460, HD1, SD1 Proposed undermines core privacy protections by requiring hosts to share the PII of their home, complete with a full physical address and requiring guests to disclose their place of stay is an affront to privacy rights. This is a troubling precedent that undermines privacy policy and is a case study for excessive government overreach.

Additionally, the public-facing registry proposed in this bill would reveal the personal identifiable information of hosts throughout the state, undermining the privacy of thousands of Hawaii residents. While other states have recently considered and rejected statewide registries with PII, this bill would create a registry of the worst kind: one that needlessly reveals private information of local residents with no apparent corresponding public benefit.

Economic Impact on Hawaii Residents and Tourism Sector:

This bill will further hamper an economy already damaged by COVID-19's global impact on the visitor industry. Hawaii has a unique ability to rebound economically, but this bill will limit the role of short-term rentals in the visitor industry, will only further hurt the state's short and long economic health, and hurt thousands of Hawaii residents who rely on short-term rentals to make ends meet.

According to a June 19th article in [Honolulu Star Advertiser](#), "Hawaii, which 2-1/2 years ago had the lowest unemployment rate in the country at 2.2%, now has the second-highest jobless rate in the U.S., trailing only Nevada, which was at 28.2% in April." According to Eugene Tian, chief economist for the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, "Tourism is the major industry in both states, and that is why Nevada and Hawaii are the top states with unemployment rates. It is not surprising if Hawaii's unemployment rate (goes) higher than Nevada if our tourism industry reopens late." Alternative accommodations support the state's biggest industry and generate millions in annual tax revenue. HB 460, HD1, SD1 Proposed fails to address current market realities and the importance of short-term rentals to Hawaii's economy, especially as many Hawaii residents are deeply impacted by economic hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Airbnb's Enchanted Cleaning Protocol:

Additionally, Airbnb is the first in the home sharing platform to launch an enhanced cleaning protocol providing standardized guidelines for cleaning and sanitization to support hosts and governments in advance of reopening communities for travel. The standards are informed by guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed in partnership with former Surgeon General of the United States Vivek Murthy. Airbnb has also partnered with Diversey, a leading cleaning and hygiene technology company, that has endorsed the enhanced cleaning protocol and will help develop more solutions for the Airbnb community moving forward. Airbnb also collaborated with the World Trade & Tourism Council (WTTC), to support guidelines for the short term rental industry, and the Airbnb standards have earned the WTTC Safe Travels seal. The Airbnb Enhanced Clean program builds on our strong historical track record of cleanliness: 94 percent of all Airbnb reviews show that guests are satisfied with cleaning, scoring it at 4 or 5 stars after their stays.* By following this cleaning protocol, hosts are taking significant steps toward protecting themselves, their guests and the communities in which they live. Hosts and government partners can download a copy of the cleaning handbook [here](#).

In conclusion, this bill does little to advance the mutual goal of sensible short-term rental policy. In a time of great economic austerity and uncertainty, this bill only hurts Hawaii residents and small businesses who rely on short-term rentals to support their livelihoods. We will continue to work with local leaders to develop common sense regulations on short-term rentals, and remain willing to work with the state to develop a path for all hosting platforms the ability to collect and remit taxes on behalf of hosts. Mahalo for the consideration of our comments.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Middlebrook', with a stylized, flowing script.

Matt Middlebrook
Head of Public Policy, Hawaii



June 25, 2020

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

RE: HB 460, SD 1 PROPOSED, Relating to The Counties.

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz and distinguished members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means:

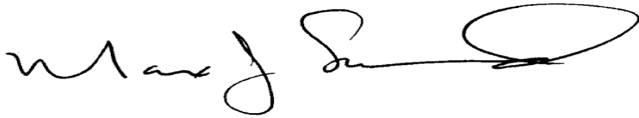
On behalf of Expedia Group – the leading travel technology platform that empowers travel and tourism throughout Hawai‘i – I’d like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on HB 460, SD 1. Expedia Group is a family of brands that includes the vacation rental leader Vrbo. Our experience working with communities around the world gives us a unique understanding of the kinds of regulations that work, and we are grateful for the collaborative efforts we have had to date.

Expedia Group supports reasonable regulations and oversight of the vacation rental industry because vacation rentals are an important part of the fabric of tourism. They provide a safe and essential option for travelers and gives them an opportunity to enjoy Hawai‘i’s culture in a more personal setting.

While we appreciate the Legislature’s efforts to adopt a law to assist the Counties, we have concerns regarding HB 460. In particular, a provision of the proposed law would allow Counties to require platforms to ensure that property owners post the address of their vacation rental on their public-facing listing. (Section 2, § -3). That requirement presents *significant* privacy and security concerns to property owners. It invites, at best, unwanted contact and, at worse property crimes such as burglary because it’s a road map for knowing which houses are unoccupied for stretches of time or occupied by travelers who let their guard down.

There is an alternative solution. Expedia is working with the Counties to craft a framework to support compliance with their respective ordinances and provide tools for enforcement. We have been working with Kaua'i and Maui and have made significant progress towards a collaborative solution. Hawai'i Island is still working through their new vacation rental regulations, and we plan to approach them when they are ready. We also plan to discuss this option with O'ahu, although they already passed their own comprehensive vacation rental law last year.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to HB 460 and please let me know if you have any additional questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Max Sword', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Max Sword
Expedia Group

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 9:53:49 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kekoa McClellan	Testifying for American Hotel and Lodging Association	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in Support.

From: [Theresa Harden](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: [Theresa Harden](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB460, HD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:30:20 AM
Importance: High

I oppose this bill as it violates PROPERTY RIGHTS, PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF LEGALLY OPERATING SHORT TERM RENTAL OWNERS WITHIN THE RESORT ZONES. The HAWAII STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE A PERMITTING SYSTEM AND HAS NOT UPHELD THE LAWS PREVIOUSLY PASSED WITH REGARDS TO BILL 89 AND A FORCED SHUTDOWN OF LEGALLY OPERATING SHORT TERM RENTALS ZONED THE SAME AS HOTELS WHO WERE ALLOWED TO STAY OPEN. I OPPOSE THIS BILL IN IT'S ENTIRETY.

Aloha & Mahalo,

Theresa Harden (RB-19372)
Principal Broker, SFR, e-Pro Realtor, Property Manager

EXIT REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATES
a registered dba of HAWAII DREAM REALTY LLC
2463 Kuhio Ave C-1, Honolulu, HI 96815

From: [Super Clean Vacation Rentals](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:44:35 AM

Aloha Ways and Means Committee,

I'm writing to oppose HB460. The vacation rentals industry needs fair regulations and it's not in the best intention of Hawaii and our current state of economy to impose unfair and unreasonable regulations for the short term rentals industry. Specifically, allowing counties to require public posting of private property address is troubling.

Why push through the bill now? Let's have a fair hearing and listen to both side of the arguments.

Thanks,
Lee

From: [Alexa Nota](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony: HB460, Hearing 6.30.2020
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:58:36 AM
Attachments: [Rent Responsibly Letter to Hawaii State Senate WAM on HB460.pdf](#)

Good morning Chairman Dela Cruz and distinguished members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

Ahead of your hearing this morning in which you will consider HB460, we at Rent Responsibly share with you the attached letter from our CEO, David Krauss, for your consideration. The letter has also been copied below my signature for your convenience.

Thank you for your time and your hard work for Hawaii during these incredibly challenging times.

Sincerely,



Alexa Nota
Editor & Head of Advocacy
Rent Responsibly

■ [704-654-8132](tel:704-654-8132)
■ alexa@rentresponsibly.org
■ RentResponsibly.org

Dear Chairman Dela Cruz and distinguished members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

Rent Responsibly is a national community-first short-term rental association that supports fair and effective legislation that works for cities, states, and citizens. We are grateful for your hard work on behalf of the citizens of Hawaii, and we appreciate the need to responsibly manage short-term rentals for a healthy economy and vibrant community.

We write today in support of our members and all Hawaii responsible short-term rental operators and, by extension, the state as a whole. HB460 promotes unnecessary county overreach that will, at best, add to the burdens of government agencies at all levels. At worst, it will jeopardize neighborhood safety and put your constituents in harm's way.

The violation of the privacy of homeowners is the most dangerous, not only for homeowners and neighborhoods but for municipalities. As we have seen around the country, the publication of addresses invites break-ins and robberies of vacant properties, guaranteeing added calls for your already stretched-thin police departments. This risk would furthermore force even legal operators underground, resulting in reduced tax revenue and add costly enforcement hurdles to planning and tax agencies.

Thankfully, reasonable solutions already exist to meet the state's needs. As we have seen most recently with Kauai, counties can work together with Expedia (Vrbo) and other major platforms to enforce their existing laws and, simultaneously, promote only legal and compliant short-term rentals in their jurisdictions. Such a win-win will minimize state and county expenses while enabling Hawaii's economic

healing through responsible short-term renting.

Proactive and forward-looking solutions like these are needed now more than ever. HB460 is not one of them.

Thank you. Respectfully,

David Krauss
Founder & CEO, Rent Responsibly

From: [Debra Piro](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:27:30 AM

I highly oppose your thoughts in this matter. It is unconstitutional and takes away money from homeowners and small businesses.

Debra Piro , R
RB-19388
Property Management
Hawaii's Best Properties, LLC
808-277-4214

From: [PATRICIA FERRARIS](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:28:18 AM

I strongly oppose HB 460 because of significant Privacy Concerns for Hawaii's Property Owners.

We do not need more Government Oversight over Property Rights of our Residents.

Thank You!

Sent from my iPhone
Pat Ferraris
Realtor Associate, RS62456
Hawaii Life Real Estate Brokers at the Gold Coast
Get2Pat@mac.com
808-735-7001

From: [Hawaii First Realty LLC](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:01:28 AM

OMG! Is this real? serious? If I visit Hawaii and are required to register my whereabouts including the place I choose to stay in or move around, etc., then I wonder if I lived in the communist China's Xinjiang that the government can watch me everywhere!!

This is America! Not perfect, but we should not head our community toward the direction that both homeowners and visitors are being spied, watched upon by the government; whomever comes out this ideology Bill needs to get his or her metal wellness stage check out.

I am totally against the bill HB460!!!

LATE

From: bbtvu2@aol.com
To: bbtvu2@aol.com; [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB460, HD1, SD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:37:47 PM



Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and committee members.

The Association strongly oppose the HB460, SD1 in its current form.

We have asked for permits with rules and regulations and enforcement the last 20 years in every public hearing the State or the City Council held. You are playing with your constituents' well being , peace of mind and ability to support their own families.

Oahu is the only Island without a process to obtain a permit like owners on Maui, Kauai or Hawaii Island can.

You are judging all Oahu vacation rentals with the same mind set...they are all a problem

How simple a solution to not facing you have failed to follow the other Hawaiian Islands process of owners that can apply for a permit. You have failed to listen to years of testimonies asking for permission to get a permit with regulations and enforcement.

Now you have a bill that will endanger our lives as the last resort. Will you ever stop trying to destroy the constituents that voted you in office ?

Mahalo for reading our testimony.

Thé BB*TVU Association of Oahu.

Since 1999.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 9:19:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernard Nunies	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT HB460 HD1** in its attempt to provide the Counties the ability to regulate more strictly their short term rental ordinances and for the state to regulate incoming visitors. The. Pandemic has provided an opportunity to regulate illegal short term rentals that intrude into our residential neighborhoods and the long-term rental housing.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 9:59:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael matwichyna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because over the past 3 months I have notice people from short term rentals not adhering to the governors rules of 14 day mandatory quarantine. The owner of most short term rental unit's in our building are from the mainland and do not provide any in state supervision to the renters. When the violations are reported to the property manager little or no actions is taken or token effort because of board members have illegal short term rental units.

Please help stop these careless and illegal practices.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 11:04:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Low	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 1:39:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frank Duckart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

I live in Waikiki Lanais, and STR operators have swooped into our condo building and made our building into their own personal hotel company. Our building was never a hotel or short-term rental space until these STR speculators invaded our building. What is especially galling is that the STR people have figured out that they can get the owners to somewhat cover the costs of their businesses by way of our association fees. Sadly, the STR folks seem to be winning against a strong opposition of owners who live in the building, who object to living amongst steady stream of visiting tourists, and I pray that HB460 will provide some means to put on a check on the conversion of our building into a hotel-like space.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 1:02:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tatjana mitrovic	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to support this bill. I live in Waikiki area and am extremely concerned about the covid 19 spread due to short term rentals still operating.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 12:56:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Boisvert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and committee members,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB460 SD1 and would be grateful if you would approve it.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought to light how illegal vacation rentals that are already operating under the radar can make it easy for people to not adhere to a 14-day quarantine. It is difficult enough for hotels with all their cameras, security, front desk check-in, and hotel keys, but the vast majority of vacation rentals in whole homes and residential condo buildings have no one monitoring the visitors' activities.

On Oahu, despite the passage of Bill 89 into Ordinance 19-18, hundreds of illegal vacation rentals continued to be advertised online or managed by property managers. There are many ways that owners and managers can subvert the 30-day minimum rental requirement. It is almost impossible for the Department of Planning and Permitting to try to find and identify the scofflaws online.

Most of the illegal vacation rentals in Waikiki are in residential condo buildings located in the Apartment Precinct. Thousands of long-term residents live in what has quickly become a busy hotel-like atmosphere thanks to the ease of using webhosting platforms.

By having more enforcement on the webhosting platforms and requesting addresses of the vacation rentals that visitors have reserved, I believe this bill will help Hawaii fight the next wave of Covid-19 and enormously help stop illegal vacation rentals in our residential condo buildings and bring some peace back to our daily lives!

Sincerely,

Denise Boisvert

Waikiki

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/23/2020 4:44:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Jorgensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB460 SD1.

The operators of illegal vacation rentals not only disturb residents in neighborhoods with single-family dwellings, but also those who live in residential condo buildings. People who live in residential condo buildings are even more inconvenienced because the constant flow of vacationing strangers in the unit next to you is only separated by a 4-inch wide wall. This includes the dozens of residential condo buildings in Waikiki where thousands of residents live and are able to walk or take TheBus to work.

People on vacation are not concerned about the residents who have to get up at 6:00 AM for work or the senior citizens who are trying to live out their lives peacefully without being in a building that has turned into an illegal hotel.

And now that the coronavirus has threatened the health of people around the world, it is more obvious than ever that illegal vacation rentals have no way to control people who want to break a quarantine.

The Dept of Planning & Permitting on Oahu simply does not have enough staff to investigate the complaints about illegal vacation rentals. The online web ads don't put the address and most of them do not put their GE or TAT number which is a violation of Act 204.

Please pass this bill to be able to give the counties assistance in controlling this problem that has greatly disturbed residents who are forced to be "neighbors" of vacation

rentals, and has inflated rent and housing prices because available housing has been drastically decreased.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 1:34:07 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Scully	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 5:10:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John MacKillop	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill, and any steps to eliminate the damage done by illegal STR.

I support this bill in order to more closely control tourist visitation during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

I support this bill for the effect it could have on providing housing for our emerging young adults.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 6:35:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kasandra Shriver	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha, and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

We are 20+ year residents of Oahu and 14-year residents of and homeowners in Kailua. We appreciate and are grateful for the state and county's obligation and commitment to curbing the proliferation of illegal vacation rentals.

However, we are **opposing** this bill - **specifically the proposed Section ____-8** requiring all individuals who come into the state (including residents) to make a declaration and confirmation of exactly where they are staying and for how long. In no other state in this nation is one required to declare where or with whom they are staying and for how long when they are entering/visiting that state or county. This is a form of mass surveillance on citizens of the state and the nation. To collect this information is a violation of privacy of both the individual traveling, and the residents/individuals with whom they are staying. Moreover, there is no provision in this bill that provides how this information will be used, in what manner it will be stored, for how long it will be stored, and for what other purposes it can be used or shared. Finally, what will happen if several of our friends/family come during the summer, and some stay for short term and some stay for longer terms, and there are more than one in a 30-day period -- will my household be under investigation and subject to subpoena for violation of the short term rental laws? Will we have to prove that these are my friends/family and then to what extent do we have to prove that they did not pay anything? This is an egregious overreach into the lives of Hawaii citizens.

There has to be a better way to continue to regulate illegal vacation rentals that stops short of spying on your own residents and tracking intra-county and intra-state travel of US citizens for purposes of rooting out short term vacation rentals.

We urge you to remove this section of the bill. Police the illegal short term rental owners, don't create a police state for visitors and residents.

Mahalo for considering this testimony.

Jack and Kasandra Shriver
Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 7:01:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maureen Nachtigall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. We have many illegal STR which cause concern for our safety and health. Our building is not zoned for short term rentals.at the Waikiki Lanais 2452 Tusalala street

Honolulu Hawaii 96815

Maureen Nachtigall apt 1407

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 7:09:15 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dennis erminger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 10:54:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
SharLyn Foo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Even though I support this measure, it seems a bit redundant. The counties do have all info on legal rentals. That is renewed. The HTA has list and state does not crosscheck. When people arrive. Most booking platforms give name of host so visitor just say they're staying with friends. The once in 30 day rental is the biggest loop hole. Counties really need tax record access Mahalo SharLyn Foo

Testimony of
Judy Strait-Jones

Before:
Committee on Ways and Means
Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Friday, June 26, 2020
10:00 am
Auditorium
State Capitol

Re: HB 460 HD1 Relating to Regulation of Transient Accommodations/Short Term Rentals

Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 460 HD1.

I strongly support HB 460 HD1.

I am an owner of property in an affected area on Oahu where short term renters are disregarding the 14-day quarantine and putting the health and safety of residents and others at risk. More efficient regulation of short-term rentals and their transient occupants and the owners who rent to them can be accomplished by stronger accountability.

This bill is reasonable and offers that accountability.

Residents of condos where transient occupants disregard the health of others by breaking their quarantine is dangerous and not appropriate. It disregards the need to quarantine during this world-wide pandemic. This bill clarifies the authority to regulate these types of rentals.

I strongly recommend that this bill be passed without modifications.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judy Strait-Jones

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 1:55:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lana Brodziak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha State Legislators,

I'm scared. I live in a high-rise in Waikiki, Waikiki Lanais. It is legal to allow 30 day rentals but our Board's majority has been allowing illegal short tem rentals for several years now. I see tourists in my building with white skin that has been recently sunburnt returning from the beach or outings in thier rental cars. I observe tourists in my building's elevator without wearing masks. I choose to wait until they go on thier way.

Additionally, I have personally heard tourists state out loud that they are breaking quarrantine during my daily walks to exercise. I heard one person laugh as she said it. I don't know how to help or respond in these situations without looking like a "Karen".

Please pass this bill! It's one way to help protect local residents from incoming tourists who choose not to practice safely visiting our island home. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 1:56:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Polland	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is Bill is both imtrusive and overly restrictive. Please do NOT pass HB 460.

Thank you,

Pamela Polland

226 Kulalani Drive

Kula, HI 96790

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:05:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Simpson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The vacation rental laws in the state have no "teeth" unless you can compel the online booking platforms to follow the rules.

Those people that have LEGAL rentals in the state should have some protection from the UNPERMITTED rentals especially with the covid virus hurting all rentals. Only legal rentals should be able to operate on the online booking platforms.

Thank you for continuing to support those who follow the laws.

Randy

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:09:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William P Lamkin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB460 SD1 is highly restrictive and extremely intrusive

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:09:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Petritz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This is a county by county issue and not a State Issue.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:11:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jayson Kalani Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I appreciate this opportunity to submit written testimony. I FULLY SUPPORT HB460 SD1 Proposed because illegal STRs continue to operate despite new and stricter regulations. This fact has threatened the health and safety of Hawaii residents during the pandemic. As a long-term owner and resident in the Waikiki Lanais residential condo building in Waikiki's Apartment Precinct with 30-day minimum rental zoning, I have seen our 160-unit building practically turned into a hotel by off-property and off-island investors who now own a third of the units because it is so easy to use webhosting platforms.

On Oahu even though the DPP may now use website ads as prima facie evidence, they cannot identify the owners and addresses of the properties because that info or their GET or TAT numbers is often purposefully left off their online ads. And the DPP inspectors very rarely will bother to go to a property to investigate complaints in person because they are understaffed and it is hit-or-miss anyway to find the vacationers there to talk to when they arrive. The STR owners tell their guests to not talk to the DPP, the building management, or other residents, and to say they are friends or family.

The enforcement ideas in the proposed SD1 are excellent and critical to more accurately enforce zoning ordinances in all counties because they address the initial reservation booking process; and the lodging information obtained from those arriving to Hawaii before they leave the airport. I believe it should also include requesting verification of the visitor's stay from the property owner.

Please pass this bill out of committee. As someone who has grown up on Oahu, I believe this bill will provide vital ways to protect the health of all citizens of Hawaii as well as protect the neighborhoods and residential condo buildings from being overrun by vacation rentals.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:12:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alejandro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hi,

Please help us bring tourism to Maui, most of Hawaii depends on tourism.

Our industry needs STRs, especially during a time in which many hosts and small businesses are having such financial pressure.

Please help us, we are just Maui residents who are trying to make ends meet, we are an asset to Maui's community.

Please don't try to destroy us, we work as hard as any other serious Maui worker.

Maui needs our business to stay open.

Thank you,

Alejandro Goya

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:34:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ray	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in opposition of HB460. I strongly oppose the bill as it is a highly restrictive and extremely intrusive. Short-term rentals allow homeowners to host guests from all over the world and many parts of the U.S. As our economy opens back up and it becomes safe to travel we must give visitors as many benefits as possible to make Hawaii a desirable destination. Short-term rentals support a sharing economy that benefits the national and local economy, guests, and hosts.

Short-term rentals are profoundly changing consumer behaviors in a positive ways. Without them, homeowners would not rent their houses to a stranger for safety concerns for themselves and their neighbors. With guest profiles and reviews on guests, homeowners can feel comfortable renting to people who are already vetted. Guests and hosts respect one another. Guests and hosts are protected from rare, if any, disastrous incidents, if they ever occur. Guests and hosts reviews keep people honest. Platform messaging systems help people decide whether to proceed with a reservation or not. Their insurance policies and staff involvement safeguard all parties' interest, should anything go wrong.

Short-term rental platforms benefit the economy on different levels. First, they generate income from guests who pay taxes into the state and local municipalities. Second, they stimulate local tourism. People travel more as a result of more abundant supply of lodging options. The platforms offer a wide range of lodging options, from a couch in a living room to an Ohana house on a homeowner's property. In high tourist season, people who used to be prevented from traveling because of scarcity of hotel rooms suddenly find themselves blessed with many more choices. People who used to not be able to travel because of expensive hotel rates now are able to afford a comfortable accommodation that makes the trip possible. Short-term rental properties are a boom to local economies.

Short-term rentals help middle class families. The hosting income stays in the community rather than going to a huge multi-national hotel corporation. The income helps families cover mortgages, education, etc.... The money that a visitor saves by staying in a short-term rental is then spend at local shops and restaurants. With Hawaii's economy taking such a huge hit due to the shutdown and the large number of people unemployed many families will benefit greatly from being able to rent out a portion of their home. Many of the locally owned business recommenced by hosts will benefit from the visitors shopping and eating in their stores and restaurants. When I travel I prefer to stay in a hosted short-term rental rather than in a hotel. The money that I save staying with a host allows me to spend more money in the community.

For all these reasons mentioned I think that short-term rentals should be able to operate without fear of punishment from the state of Hawaii. Allow homeowners to rent out a portion of their house and welcome visitors to this beautiful state. The new laws passed limiting the number of short-term rentals, fees and increased property taxes will only hurt local families and business. At a time when many people in Hawaii and worldwide are struggling to make ends meet we need to provide as many options as possible to bring Hawaii's economy back to life. If Hawaii is too expensive or has limited options visitors will choose to visit other destinations and spend their hard earned money in some other local economy.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 2:41:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am very concerned about the draconian measures being proposed to regulate Short Term Rentals. While I understand the need to regulate and supervise said rentals, I do not understand why you feel that such harsh measures are called for. Most of us have already complied with the new STVR rules imposed on each county where they apply. Why couldn't a similar process apply to rooms or ohanas being rented from private homes? As long as we comply with local and state regulations what is the issue?

There is never enough "affordable housing" in Hawaii. Putting the onus of providing that on private homeowners is not the way to supply more. Most of us would simply stop renting our available spaces rather than run the risk of getting a "deadbeat" tenant. And what about the homeowners? We pay dearly for the privelege of living in paradise. If we can offset some of that expense by renting out a room then what harm is there?

I fear you are listening too much to the hotel industry lobby. They tell you that short term renters are looking for cheap lodgings and they don't add to the economy. I beg to differ. I have hosted people from all over the world, professionals, athletes, students, retired couples, etc, you name it. I charge them the same Occupancy Tax that hotels do. They appreciate not being gouged by add on fees for parking, Wifi, resort charges, etc. which all hotels add. They often stay two to four weeks and believe me they spend just as much money on dining and activities as hotel guests do, probably more since they don't have to pay all those fees. Do not blame STRs for the reason many people don't want to stay in a hotel. They brought it on themselves by overcharging their guests.

I would hazard a guess that tourism in Hawaii would decline if STRs were outlawed or limited, or forced to raise their rates to hotel standards. These foreign guests can certainly go many other places in the world and find affordable lodgings in STRs. There are, of course, many people who prefer hotels and don't feel comfortable staying in someone elses home. There's room for both of us.

In conclusion I propose you give an "amnesty" period for STR owners to comply with the new rules and start collecting tax, the same way non-hosted STVRs were recently required to do. Require a permit, charge a registration and an annual renewal fee and get everyone onboard. Most of us will be happy to comply.

Sincerely,

Michael Anderson

Kailua Kona

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 3:02:19 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamlyn Hunt	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill's attempted regulation of STRs is heavyhanded and unnecessary. It is also insufficiently tailored to each county and region's needs. It also invades privacy rights and infringes on private rights to dispose of private property freely. As such, this bill should not advance and the state risk's years of legal challenges if it does advance.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 3:34:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Bayot	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I would like to express my strong opposition to HB460 SD1. It is much too restrictive and extremely intrusive to our rights as private citizens and small business owners. At a time when the economy is hugely suffering and small businesses are reeling from financial strain, it sickens me that the Hawaii State Legislature chooses to focus on ways to suppress the people of Hawaii rather than focusing on ways in which we can recover and become strong again.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 3:39:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Estling	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Living in the state of Hawaii continues to be more and more expensive by the week. The prices of electricity, property taxes, water, car registrations, food and auto insurance increase more and more. I work endless hours trying to remain on Maui and yet it just becomes more difficult as the days pass.

As we are currently learning our existence in Hawaii is driven by tourism. Not all tourists can either afford to rent a hotel room nor do they want to stay in hotels. Short term vacation rentals offer the "common man" a reasonably priced place to stay in Hawaii. If there is an issue of illegal rentals maybe you need to look at the policies that you put in place to cause this. Having to spend close to \$5000 to make your rental "legal" is ludicrous. Likewise, you mention that short term rentals result in a housing shortage. I truly beg to differ as the lack of affordable housing being built has resulted in a shortage of affordable housing. Remember when each new project on Maui required the developer to provide so many affordable units for that development? Gosh- I haven't heard of this happening for years. Maybe you should look at why this is no longer a policy which is being followed.

I truly feel insulted by the ineffective decisions that are being made for the citizens of Hawaii. The "big guys" get all the benefits as we work our back sides off to live. Now we're in the middle of a pandemic and the legal rentals we own have been shut down for months and tourism isn't expected to rebound for quite some time and YOU want to impose more restrictions. Really? I mean seriously! When is this going to end? I think you forget that if you continue to treat the citizens of this amazing state as poorly as you do things will change. Many people will continue to move away and the people who work the jobs that our economy relies on to keep things up and running will start to re-think wanting to be in those positions and then who will be here to work?

Rather than choosing to pick on short term vacation rentals why not look at other areas for your revenue. Maybe increase the sales tax and then not tax unprepared food. That benefits people who live here and the tourists won't bat an eye about a higher sales tax as in the mainland 9% sales tax is common. Please start supporting the truly great workers of Hawaii who put their hearts and soul into the jobs they do each day to make our visitors feel the spirit of aloha. WE are the ones making sure that tourists come back year after year because WE care about them and show them kindness and caring which is not found in most parts of the US.

I hope you take what I've said to heart as life in Hawaii is already hard enough without these constant threats to those of us who have followed the rules with our legal vacation rentals and constantly have to feel stressed out with your ever changing policies.

Stay well, stay safe and keep fighting for the truly amazing citizens of Hawaii as we all could use a break during this extremely trying time.

Aloha,

Michelle

The Senate
The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

To: Senator Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair

Date: June 26, 2020 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Auditorium

RE: House Bill 460 HD1 SD1, Relating to the Counties

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

Everyone agrees that illegal vacation rentals are a scourge. As a legal vacation rental owner, I resent paying taxes that illegal operators avoid while still being tarnished with the same brush.

However, this proposed bill goes too far. Requiring my advertisement to show my exact address along with my calendar of bookings will allow bad actors to know when guests are in my vacation rental and when my vacation rental is vacant, thereby risking both the security of my guests and my property.

The idea of collecting accommodation information from every airline passenger, while creative, is entirely impractical. Just imagine the stacks of paper piling up at the airport every day, each sheet needing to be entered into a database and followed up on.

The bill will achieve its objective with the county registry. Once the county compiles its registry of legal vacation rentals, they will know which vacation rentals are not legal and can pursue action against those owners and/or cross reference that data with the advertising platforms.

In short, I agree with the objective of the bill, but Keep It Simple.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Neal Halstead
Owner of Legal Vacation rental on Maui

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 3:47:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 4:32:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dianne Moore	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am adamantly opposed to this bill. Our state economy is based on tourism. Many people from various countries and mainland states want to visit Hawaii in a convenient and economical way. Resorts are fine for many people, but other travelers prefer the freedom and affordability of a short-term vacation rental. All monies spent from short-term vacation renters go to the local economy. There is no corporation that makes a profit. Local owners also have a chance to personally give advice on local businesses and areas of interest.

This bill is infringing on the rights and privacy of private ownership. It is one more step to try to eliminate short-term vacation rentals. On the east side of the Big Island, we have only a handful of hotels available for tourists. Short-term vacation rentals help promote tourism and provide convenience and services to visitors of our state.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 5:23:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ronald steiner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have been providing a STR from my home for over 10 years now in Honolulu and have always paid my TAT and Excise Taxes. As a retired Vietnam Vet the additional income allows me to keep and maintain my home while providing a clean, convenient and quiet cottage to Island visitors, be they local family members, business individuals or tourists. The guests have always preferred to stay in a quiet home and would not return if their only option would be expensive Waikiki accommodations. Many returning family members could not afford to come back home and with all excessive fees, lack of parking the hassle of getting in and out of Waikiki many visitors will just go elsewhere for their vacation.

Do not destroy this viable and necessary segment of the accommodation industry. Many of us rent only a room, on part-time in our homes, we don't have folks coming and going and partying all night. I'm 30-40% occupied, not 90% as the hotels are, or were before COVID-19. Many have become life long friends and when returning, feel like they are coming home.

Please do not over burden this group with State regulations on top of County regulations. Oahu has already put in place controls to limit the number of STR's in each area and these will only be owner occupied residences. We need smart regulation not additional layers of regulations. We are tax paying local home owners, not off shore absentee money grabbers!

I have to admit that I find your opening Section I of this proposed bill offensive! "Short-term rentals pose health and safety risks to local residents and guests, reduce the availability of permanent housing, drive up rents, and adversely alter the character and quality of residential neighborhoods".

We pose neither health or safety risks, who gave you this info?? How do you figure we reduce the availability of housing when we rent a room in our home?? You think I'd rent it out long term? Drive up rents?? It's a room, 300 sq ft, no kitchen, it's not a full on house!! STR individuals are here for a reason; visiting their LOCAL families, on a quick business trip in the area, or a couple on a vacation for a week! How is that destroying the neighborhood??

In closing please reconsider this Bill and think about all the local families it will affect, many like myself are retired on a fixed income, We are not Hotels!! We made some additional income to help offset our high cost of living, pay our property taxes and keep our neighborhood stable.

Thanks you for listening,

Ron Steiner

Honolulu

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 5:36:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fred Hsu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB460 HD1.

Short-term rentals do not adversely impact the state. Short-term rentals greatly benefit the local economy. Our guests from around the world spend money in Hawaii on restaurants, sight-seeing and entertainment. I have a condo in Honolulu (properly zoned for short-term rentals). I hire local property mgt company, maintenance people, cleaners, accountant and pay my taxes (GET, TAT and property tax).

Short-term rentals not only benefit the economy, but also add to the culture and flavor of Hawaii.

Thanks for your time.

Regards,

Fred Hsu

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 5:43:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Barnett	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am opposed. I am retired and have a registered STR in our o'hana in the lower level of our home. We never rent unless we are present to welcome and supervise our renters. This is important income for us in our retirement years.

I do object to people who have 2nd properties here in the state, live somewhere else, and renter to visitors without supervision. They are making profit on their homes while away. Very different than those of us who play host to our visitors and make them feel welcomed here in Hawaii.

We are already registered and pay TAT and Excise Tax on our rental incomes.

I believe it unnecessary to have STRs supervised the way the HB writes. It is an overreach to our freedom, and puts us into county administrators whose processes are laborious and ineffectual.

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL IN THIS FORM....DR. JOHN J BARNETT,
Kealakekua, HI. 96750

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 5:55:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathleen Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the bill. I am a vacation rental owner at a condotel resort in Lahaina. I do use Airbnb to book my unit. I support more control over TVR's. I pay the short term property tax rate , GET and TAT and know for a fact that many TVR owner's do not. There are plenty of properties available that are legally allowed to function and I believe that the illegal ones do not contribute to our community. They reduce housing units for residents, and don't contribute their share in taxes. Thank you for making a concerted effort to provide more oversight by the State and Counties.

Aloha Kathleen

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 6:13:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha, Licensed Vacation Rentals currently on the Big Island must have a license. We are retired and have lived in Hawaii in the same house for 40 years. We are the owners of a licensed Vacation Rental on the Big Island and oppose this bill. The process that the Big Island of Hawaii has for us, includes posting our name and contact information on the outside of our rental. The county already has a registry of the licensed vacation rentals and if the other islands do not, then they should follow the same process as the Big island. In addition, having us have to put our addresses on the listing opens us up to burglaries and more and is a violation of our privacy. Hotels are staffed by security and we are Kama'iiana. Currently, for location of the vacation rental the guests searching for the vacation rental will see the general area. Once their booking is confirmed, then they are given the exact address. Vacation Rentals provide another experience for the visitors to Hawaii and many jobs. The Hotel industry and Mayors like the county of Honolulu are against allowing vacation rentals to operate and are trying to make it so they disappear. I think that you should look at the amount of money that vacation rentals bring into the state. Many people coming to Hawaii cannot afford to stay at the very expensive hotels that we have in Hawaii. They spend money on eating out and all the other things that visitors spend money on, but would not be coming to Hawaii if there were not vacation rentals. Please do not pass this bill to take away the one size fits all of Hotels and take away our livelihood and much needed jobs. Mahalo!

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 6:31:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I would like to go on record opposing this bill. It is an undue invasion of privacy as well as an attack on letting us enjoy our property in a way we see fit. The bills to date have already vastly infringed in our ability to enjoy and benefit from our property. It is the most un-american bill to date. A public register correlating a complete physical address with other information equates to an invitation for robbery and abuse and should never be instituted. The question simply boils down to "Do the ends justify the means" and my conclusion is simple: ABSOLUTELY NOT.

the continued restrictions are clearly interfering with our right to the quiet enjoyment of our property rooted very deeply in the US justice system.

Please do your part to provide balance and enable us to share our home with visitors of the state of Hawaii instead of furthering the power of BIG FOREIGN HOTEL OWNERS to the detriment of both visitors and homeowners alike.

Thank you .

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 6:39:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am opposed to HB460 SD1 as this is too restrictive on individual property rights and will have a huge negative impact on our local economy. This is a terrible Bill to try and pass during this Covid-19 period of Hawaii and the world. I would like to see at the State and Counties focus on managing, maintaining, regulating, protecting and enforcing thier own properties first, before enacting laws that will affect most private property owners and small businesses. Please do not go forward with this Bill, and work towards better solutions to help local families in Hawaii.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 7:40:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mele ke	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill because you are taking away our right to privacy. We pay our taxes & bills. We are not doing anything wrong. I am a stay at home mom who is an Airbnb host in order to pay our mortgage & provide for our children. We certainly aren't rich & we follow all the rules & pay our taxes. Please do not take away our right to our privacy.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 8:09:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clare L Bromley III	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I run an AirBnB unit in my Ohana. It is registered and taxes have always been paid on time and in full. I have standing.

Hawaii's legislators should be ashamed of themselves. Who's your daddy? Hotels? What say you sponsors of this affront to Hawaiians? From whom are you receiving campaign money?

This bill is further intrusion into the private affairs, privacy, first amendment, and private property rights of Hawaiian citizens. It is only a matter of time until Hawaii is sued for infringement of rights by citizens in a class action.

Meanwhile, bills such as this are further examples of Hawaii's acceptance of feudal behaviors, residuals from Hawaii's royal days. Wake up. We have private property and other rights today. The king cannot command payments or obedience. Obviously, it is surprise news to this Hawaiian legislature, but in fact Hawaii's legal residents are your boss.

The arrogance and hubris displayed in this legislation is despicable. But, regrettably, it is just more of the same from Hawaii's one-party government. Shame on you.

The results of this bill will create progressively more and more disregard for Hawaii's politicians and government. Hawaiians and other citizens of this beautiful state are already in full blown contempt of their politicians and government. Hawaiians are fed up with being YOUR victims. Hawaii's government obviously believes that it is authorized to take the rights of a citizens, create a bureacracy and tax, and sell your God-given rights back to citizens and call it a license or a privilege. Hello you dumb asses. This is no longer an 1800's feudal state where the king redistributes rights and property. It is not a privilege to do business, it is a right. It is not a privilege to keep your personal information private, it is a right. Just a couple of this bill's infringements.

This bill is abhorrent and should be rejected and condemned. It is a direct infringement of the 4th Amendment as well as 1st Amendment and other rights and court-tested legal precedents.

What the Hawaii legislature should be doing is investigating and prosecuting the sponsors of this legislation and their contributors. Follow the money. That is how a democracy and a republic would behave.

Do you want to totally destroy the economy of Hawaii and make it slave to giant corporate hotels and the travel industry? You are well down that path already.

Who's your daddy? Those corporate special interests? Or Hawaiians?

Reject this bill and let Hawaiians build and grow. De-regulate private property and rights.

Aloha,

Clare Livingston Bromley, III

Holualoa, June 24, 2020

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 8:56:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allen Moore	Testifying for Taxpayer and voter	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am adamantly opposed to this bill. Our state economy is based on tourism. Many people from various countries and mainland states want to visit Hawaii in a convenient and economical way. Resorts are fine for many people, but many other travelers would never set foot in a Corporate property . All monies spent from our short-term vacation renters go to the local economy. There is no corporation that makes a profit on our rental.. Local owners also have a chance to personally give advice on local businesses and on areas of interest.

Additionally there is no opportunity for people on the East side of the Big Island to experience what this side has to offer without staying in one of the resorts in Kona. Almost to a person they hate that experience.

The conflict of interest in the highest levels of Hawaii government and the legislature with regards to Big Hotel is disgusting.

This bill is infringing on the rights and privacy of private ownership. It is one more step to try to eliminate short-term vacation rentals. Short-term vacation rentals help promote tourism and provide convenience and services to visitors of our state that no resort can match. We are a registered STVR and pay all of our taxes yet have no say as to policy. Please vote this hideous legislation out of existence.

Allen Moore

Pahoa

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 9:19:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daisy Murai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz

Ways and Means Committee Chair,

Honorable Committee Members

IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB460, HD1, SD1

Aloha Senators,

The rate of Short Term Rental (legal & illegal) has become wide-spread on all Islands and

neighborhoods now. Some Rentals charges are comparable as staying in a luxury hotel. This

competition seems to be causing more Hotels & Resorts to switch to Time Share Rentals,

Some Short Term Rental operators have built "MONSTER HOMES" to compete for

customers in the Visitor Industry, causing more families not to be able to find affordable housing

for their families. I agree stricter regulations such as being on the State Registry to protect the

consumers and having the Tax Map Key of the property being displayed. Thank you.

Daisy Murai, 3039 Kaunaoa Street, Honolulu, HI 96815

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 9:26:54 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Isola	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha!

I am a 56 years old single owner and operator of a legally permitted and certified Transient Accomodation (short term rental) small business studio unit in an Hotel in Waikiki which has become basically my only source of income (apart from the current pandemic unfortunate long pause) and therefore fundamental for my livelihood and financial future.

While I understand your intention with HB460 to inforce only legally permitted and certified short term rental I urge you to stop considering short term rental an enemy to unfairly choke and instead start considering it a friendly high tax paying legit small business for which private free American citizens in our community have a fundamental need (especially in the hope of recovery from the pandemic economic downturn) and an intrinsic right to operate earning a legit livelihood providing a sought after service without government highly invasive legislations and unfriendly choking restrictions.

I can still find acceptable your HB460 proposed legislation except for two points: 3) partially and 5) that I oppose and therefore I ask you to please reconsider and delete them form your proposal:

- in your proposed point 3): I have already listed as previously required on my adversting platforms my certificate number for my legal short term rental and this is ok but I oppose disclosing my unit number and tax map key on public advertising hosting platforms because it infringes my privacy. Hotels do not disclose the room number and tax map key on the advertising platform to the public and I am paying my high property taxes to the City&County of Honolulu in the "Hotel&Resort" category therefore I ought to receive the same friendly protection and privacy rights as Hotels. Furthermore, it is unsafe to expose on public adertising platforms my unit number and tax map key as it exposes my property to possible criminal activites. Therefore I exort you to delete these requirements from your HB460 proposed legislation.

- in your proposed point 5): I oppose your proposal to authorize the counties to prohibit hosting platforms from collecting a fee for ancillary services to the short term rental like the cleaning service because it is essential for my legal short term rental small business

to provide the cleaning service allowing my hosting platforms to collect the extra fee for the cleaning service separately from the nightly rate as the number of nights varies greatly on each reservation and I still pay TAT and GET on the cleaning fee even though it is not in itself a transient accommodation. Continuing to allow the hosting platforms to collect the extra fee for cleaning services is especially essential moving forward, as I am responsibly committed to safely follow covid-19 CDC approved guidelines for enhanced cleaning services, also recommended by my responsible hosting platforms, that will be obviously more expensive but without wanting to increase the nightly rate to promote visitors safe come back, while it is not essential to your need to enforce only legal short term rental to operate therefore I exhort you to delete this point 5) from your proposed legislation.

Trusting in your prompt understanding I thank you for your kind attention and I send you my

Best Regards

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/24/2020 10:16:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
MARY MORRIS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have a problem with Item 3.

While I understand the need to have all vacation rentals permitted and listed (mine is) , **Item 3** of the bill is dangerous to me as a home owner and to any STVR guests who come to stay at my home. I do not think that it is safe to require that our street address and T.M.K. number be listed on these rental platforms. We guard our exact address from the public view on the internet and the address is only given to the guests once they sign a contract. You will be exposing us to burglars and others who feel that vacation rental homes (and their guests) are an easy target. The County of Hawaii has our address, we have their permit, legitimate guests who are going to rent get the address from the rental platform, and it does not serve anyone to have the address and TMK listed on the internet. You are exposing us to danger. I am a senior citizen who spends a great deal of time at my home and this worries me very much. This is not a good idea and it seems vindictive rather than necessary. Please do not pass the bill with item 3. Thank you.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 12:27:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roland Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I support HB460, because we live in a residential building in Waikiki that still has short term rental units, and the owners of those units flout, or bypass the current laws of this land regarding short term rentals. The rampant number of mainland guests to my building makes it ground zero for possible COVID-19 infections from visitors that also have no regard or respect for laws around self quarantine. I am afraid for the health of my family, and especially my elderly parents. We sometimes feel like prisoners in our own home, while other people, obviously new to our building, disregard social distancing, wearing of face masks, etc. Tourism is critical to our society, but safe tourism is better than deadly tourism. Please pass HB460 and let's keep these types of people accountable for their own safety.

Thank you.

A concerned citizen in a Waikiki residential building.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 3:29:50 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mei xue	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly think this Bill HB460 HD1 is highly restrictive and extremely intrusive, it's putting STVR owners into much more difficult situation. After this pandemic and the prelong lockdown and quarantine requirement in Hawaii, our business can barely survive. With this bill, many of our STVR owners will be out of business.

In the past years, I host so many happy travelers, who helps contribute to the flourish of Hawaii economy. Myself works diligently, pay Hawaii TA and GE tax plus rental income tax. I have also provided jobs to my property manager, house keepers, gardener and contractors. I think STVR places a big part in Hawaii's economy success, STVR owners' right need to be protect to allow us continue help Hawaii to prosper.

Thank you!

Mei

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 5:58:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cindy Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 6:02:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lee wilkerson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 6:10:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doris L. O'Brien-Tamoro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I believe that HB460 is a detriment to everyone involved. This will require extra work and time on individual STR owners, hosting platforms, as well as guests wishing to visit Hawaii for vacations, reunions, honeymoons or many other reasons. It sounds as if anyone traveling would need to fill out a form while traveling that would be turned into the county on arrival. This would therefore also create extra work for visitors and modes of transportation.

I am an owner of a STR and I have complied with all the steps you have required including the licensing requirements of last summer through September. I submit my taxes and comply with all rules set out. This has already cost me more than previously and we are continuing to be penalized by even more restrictions. It is burdensome for all involved including the county that needs to follow up on all the added paperwork.

Please consider strongly the added cost and weight of added unnecessary work for all involved. How much will this add to airlines, ships, owner, host platforms, and county. I believe it is unfair to all involved and adds extra fees to all.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 6:25:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marcia M Braden	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am strongly against this bill. The invasion of privacy involved in requiring travelers to counties to list where they will be staying is unreasonable.

During a health emergency, I support the DOH in having the ability to contact travelers, residents, crew and all others coming to our state. However, I cannot support having counties gather this information every time I travel home or inter island.

I do not support the continued restriction on vacation rentals and short term rentals. I feel we now have enough laws in place and those should be enforced. We do not need to invade the privacy of all persons travelers between counties in this manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 6:28:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liz Lees	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I very much oppose the HB480 SD1 opening paragraph and premise, particularly as it applies to hosted stays. We open the guest suite portion of our home to travelers when it is not being used by family and friends. The extra income we earn allows us to improve our home and our neighborhood is in turn improved with better maintained and cared for properties like ours. We would not offer our guest suite as a long term rental, so it would not improve the availability of affordable housing. We also pay increased property taxes, GET and TAT taxes, which helps our overall economy.

The bill creates an undue invasion of privacy and another layer of bureaucracy and cost to the counties. How about spending time enforcing existing legislation before adding new issues? I think abandoned vehicles create much more of a public nuisance and health hazard , and we can even seem to get those picked up in our county in a timely matter.

Respectfully- Liz Lees, Hawaii County Resident.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 7:10:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kelly mcdonald	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Good morning

It is my distinct pleasure to submit my comments and observations regarding the bill and the impact of illegal short term rentals i have personally witnessed in my building where i own - Waikiki Lanais. This house bill is essential b/c we have many non-resident owner-investors who openly violate the current STR prohibitions including during the COVID shut down when Vacation rentals were deemed nonessential businesses. These owners include many members of our board of directors which creates an untenable situation where those who are violating the county order both benefit from the violation and have management oversight of the association's resources. Our resident manager and property manager are of course feckless to impact this behavior b/c they are employees of the board. Regulation via legislation is necessary as every incentive is in place for the mismanagemnet and misappropriation of AOA resources to benefit those who use STR as an income course. Further, as an owner-occupant, I would not have had ANY oversight to this issue without attending a board meeting. The county ordinance was clear at the time I bought so I naively presumed that people would not / could not violate the order. Short term tenants have ZERO investment in the property itself and are infact staying in the units out of a pure economic motive - save money over a hotel or resort. They treat the property as a hotel vs an resident owner or responsible owner-investor. I have reported to our RM several excessively loud gatherings occuring on our pool and roof decks when a STR tenant invited friends over from the college and conference goers back for socializing that included consumption of excessive alcohol and smoking cigarettes and marijauana. Efforts I have led to bring conservation measures for our water and electricity have been blunted b/c the board with STR wants there guests to enjoy free and unfettered access to AC or high flow showers and toilets. Due to the highly transitory nature - by definition - of STR tenants, they create a disproportionate impact on the common spaces of the property. Frequent in / out use wears carpets, dragging luggage and banging walls creates maintenance for building services staff, excessive beach sand (my building is proximate to Waikiki beach) and flagarent violations and lack of consideration for use of common resources like GUEST / VISTOR parking as STR are either a) too entitled to park in assigned parking or b) b/c of having a second car w/ two families staying in 2 bedroom unit, they often park in the limited guest / vistor parking in our building. Their vehicles are evident as the barcode on the window readily makes apparent which car is a rental / fleet vehicle. The lack of registry creates a potential health and safety hazzard. When I called

HPD to report two STR occupants of a neighboring unit who were in violation of the state's quarantine (I saw when when I drove into my building garage unloading their rental Dodge Caravan minivan w/ groceries from Costco and luggage with tags still on it), they explained to the HPD officer they 'arrived before the quarantine was imposed and had to move units b/c their building closed.' A second unit the officer checked on reported an identical story - meaning both were coached by the scofflaw owners they rented from. Moreover, the very nature of untraced, unregistered in and out guests in a residential setting is dangerous. Whether from individuals trafficking in narcotics, sex workers or in the business of manufacturing drugs as obvious cases, the background, identification and contact information for individuals coming in and out of our building where we have shared doors, hallways, and limited elevator posts a safety risk to all residents. Should there be an instance of sexual or physical assault or battery, there are very few cameras on property to capture the incident and even if captured on camera, a resident would have been violated. Legal residents / owner occupants complete registrations in our building and each and everytime i check into a hotel or resort i have a credit card for incidental charges and damages after presenting my government issued ID. We are a residential condominium and NOT a hotel or resort. We have no front desk, we are not zoned to be such. Regulation is the only way to provide owners who wish to preserve the value of their investments and safety of their persons and property with appropriate recourse. I urge the passage of this bill for the governor's signature. Working in healthcare i see the strain on our public health system daily and know that without appropriate safeguards and measures meant to protect the public health and interest, short term economic decisions will always induce individuals acting in their self interest to undermine the commonweal and against the interests of the larger ohana. I must also note that I am a real estate investor in the state of Arizona where I lived for 17 years before coming to HI. I owned nearly a dozen investment condominiums and a commercial property. I now own single family homes in suburban Phoenix as i saw changes in the market. I have only held LONG term leases with tenants who stayed in my units for 3-4 years on average. I have lower maintenance costs, less damage, and other associated costs and concerns with long term tenants - both my interests and the tenants are aligned - having a safe, clean, habitable, family friendly community to live. I sold my condominiums b/c i saw less scrupulous owner-investors doing STR / vacation rentals where there was less scrutiny like background checks and credit checks. As a consequence, I saw increasingly negative impacts on the property, excessive and damaging use of common spaces like pool, spa, bbq and gym and clientele who were engaging in illegal activities including the consumption, sale and manufacture of drugs. I strongly urge this committee to advance this legislation. Respectively, Kelly M McDonald

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 7:15:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Christensen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill for multiple reasons. It restricts family's abilities to come to Hawaii and make special memories together without having to be split up into hotel rooms. It throws "Aloha" completely out the window. And as in the book Atlas Shrugged, producers creatively work to provide quality services that customers are willing to pay for (like vacation rentals), but bills like this halt such progress by continually adding more and more hoops for entrepreneurs to jump through. We live in America, the land of the free and the home of the brave, but one step at a time we are continually legislating away our freedoms. There are ways to keep tabs on vacation rentals, but this bill is not the answer. There are lots of countries where a bill such as this might be expected, but in America, the land of the free, we can do much better.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 7:55:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peri Steffenhagen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Honorable Legislators,

Short term rental offerings in owner-occupied homes, essentially room rentals, fuel our economy. They boost the income of local people who might otherwise struggle to make ends meet. Unlike whole house/unit short-term rentals that can have loud, obnoxious, and disrespectful occupants and ruin the peace, quiet, and serenity of a neighborhood, guests of owner-occupied short term rentals follow house rules, observe practices to keep the hosting family and community safe, and visitors can get a real sense of our culture.

There is less impact on hotels as the willingness to stay in the home of a family is very different than the mindset of visitors who want a home to themselves. They are better suited to a hotel. Local owner-hosts can even help support the observation of requirements put in place to keep us all safe during the pandemic. Everyone benefits.

Please make a distinction between owner-occupied and other short-term rentals in your legislation. Owner-occupied short-term rentals are a safe and valuable asset to our communities. Thanks in advance for supporting this ongoing source of revenue for our local people and businesses.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:14:06 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roxanne Trott Corff	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello -

I am an owner of a Short Term Rental unit in a resort which is 90% all short term rentals built in 1974. It is the Kihei Kai Nani, 2495 South Kihei Road. A few people live there, and it is set up and designed as a condo-style short term rental resort. I support Hawaii's need to get a handle on this population, so I would not mind being registered, having my physical home address on registry, and have my records from Air B and B subpoenaed. I would - on the other hand - not want to lose my ability to rent this condo out to STR guests, for a number of reasons: 1) I employ house cleaners who are paid a living wage from my work. 2) I hire work from vent sniffers, plumbers, window washers, and misc. services with an on-island manager who is paid monthly, and I would like these services to continue to have income from the work we do. 3) By having this rented part of the year, we can come to Hawaii and stay there ourselves to manage our property and keep it up perfectly, as a win-win situation. 4) we pay taxes monthly to Hawaiiitaxonline.gov, and this keeps Hawaii revenues up.

.

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:21:57 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kurt Weigelt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear honorable congresspersons,

As an owner for almost 20 years of a legal BnB in Kona, I encourage you to pass HB 460. We have worked hard to present a very positive image of our state and to offer affordable, comfortable accommodations to Americans and foreigners alike. It has been an enjoyable profession.

Now, there are too many cheaters. People who don't pay taxes. People who are into the job only because of the money. They are not good for our industry. AirBnB is a company we work with (along with Booking.com and Expedia). They have encouraged us to fight against this bill, but this is only because it is in their own financial interest..

Thank you for your service to our state, Kurt Weigelt

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:32:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:36:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LeeAnne Loney	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in regards to the proposed bill HB460 SD1. I am a hosted vacation rental in Holualoa, Hawaii island. We rent out our ohana on airbnb and have been for the last 4 years. I am a stay at home mother of two young children and my vacation rental has been essential for us to continue to live in Hawaii. Both my husband and I are local; born and raised. Our families are here and we want to stay here.

While the other items in the bill seem acceptable, I am extremely concerned about item 3 of the proposed bill. "Authorizing the counties to require short-term rental operators or owners to list the complete physical address, including unit number if applicable, short-term rental registration or certificate or permit number, and tax map key of the short-term rental property in any posting or advertisement on a hosting platform;"

By imposing the publication of our physical address where we live and also host is a violation of our privacy and also raises safety concerns for my family and children. My picture and name are already published, as well as, the fact that I live in the same house as the rental. This bill will require I publish my address where we live as well. NO, this is not absolutely not ok. This potentially puts myself and my family at risk to people with ill intentions, i.e pedophiles, kidnappers, burglars. For this reason, this bill must not be passed as proposed.

Thank you,

LeeAnne Loney

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:56:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karrie Sebastian	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a host of an STVR in Kailua-Kona. I am against this bill, I do not want my physical address publicly published. This is a major safety concern! Our vacation rental is an ohana attached to our private/primary residence, we live on the property full time with our young children (5 year old twins), and I'm often alone as my husband works off island. I do not want my address publicly available, only to accepted guests. People may not realize I live on the property full time and try to access our property illegally if they think the ohana is vacant and no one is home.

Please be aware of people's privacy rights and ability to feel safe in their own homes. This bill is unacceptable and a major safety concern.

Karrie Sebastian

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 9:40:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martina Wing	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Committee Members, I strongly oppose HB460 SD1 as it is highly restrictive and extremely intrusive, especially during a time when many hosts, small businesses incl myself are reeling from financial strain. Please give us a fighting chance in these highly challenging times.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerley
Martina Wedig-Wing
Big Island of Hawaii

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 9:49:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesus Mendoza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support bill HB460 HDI. Short term rentals in buildings like Waikikiki Lanais, that are not even permitted by its bylaws and the City of Honolulu, are endangering the health of many of the long term residents . With short term vacationers coming and going, breaking the quarantine rule, long term residents are at an added risk.

Thank you for your attention.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 10:07:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beatriz Hansen-Baehr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a senior, I am afraid the short term visitors are going to bring COV19 to Hawaii, therefore to our building, which last summer was flooded with visitors. I am concerned for my health and the health of the other seniors in the building. Thank you

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 10:10:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Cizek	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hello,

My husband and I have owned and operated a STVR legally since 2012. We do anything and everything the state has asked us to so we could rent out our home as a STVR until such time that my husband retires in a little over a year from now. While we do agree that the state should keep a registry of the legally operated STVRs, which I believe they do when we filled out the lengthy packet for our license and then renewal, it is not fair to publish the address of our STVR which could leave us vulnerable to vandalism or harassment of our renters. Please, do crackdown on illegally operated STVRs but don't punish those of us who are operating legally.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 10:53:23 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Palin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha. I am strongly opposed to this bill.

I think we can all agree that there is a problem with STR popping up in residential neighborhoods. Having said that, after reading this bill, all it seems to do is put a bunch of extra work on legal operators and the airlines.

In my opinion we don't need more laws, we just need enforcement of existing laws. Counties have control over their zoning and the issuance or not of permits to allow STR.

While you can sit back and point to this law that 'you' did something to address this problem, you really have accomplished nothing. The counties need to figure out how to shut down these illegal operators using the tools they have. If you don't want the legal ones that were previously allowed, then they will need to find some way to fairly shut them down.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 11:27:12 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Cadiz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill on the grounds that it is overreaching. I believe that the county planning departments should have the autonomy to modify their fines based on new information. Often fines are levied before all information is discovered and revealed. This measure could be interpreted as micro managing the counties by the state legislature. The Counties should have the latitude and authority to adjust their own fines - and the state should demonstrate their confidence in the county planning departments by allowing them to do so.

The subtle message of this proposal is that County Planning departments are all corrupt and need state intervention to impede special favors. That is hardly the case. This measure is categorically flawed and should be resoundingly defeated.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 11:27:18 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Lee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

It is telling that this bill is being rushed through quickly, giving us no time to review and respond... It shows intention of the legislature to ram through overly extensive and intrusive new laws. Some aren't really "new" though. These same clauses had been rejected previously in extensive deliberations and public testimony. Now they are being pushed through today, with the excuse of "Covid-19". Shame on Hawaii AG and the legislature for blatantly discriminating against small businesses and securing the profits of the multinational hotel industry.

If the state and counties really wanted to shutdown illegal STVRs, there would be many ways to specifically go about it. This bill does not implement this. This is a sloppily written bill infringing on all STVRs property and personal rights under the pretense that Hawaii just doesn't know what to do about illegal STVRs... Of course the Hotel industry and associated unions have been trying to get rid of the STVR competition for years. And our political leadership and legislature is happy to sell out the mom and pop local small business for corporate profits and hand total market control to the hotel industry. We are paying attention and we will vote accordingly on county and state level.

Reviewing the Bill:

1. Strongly disagree with the characterization and bad-mouthing of STVRs in Section 1 and the overall bill. It becomes obvious that the legislature is catering to the Hotel industry. In our neighborhood the STVRs have had a very positive effect on neighbors income and ability to maintain their homes, pay increased property taxes, insurance and mortgages. Houses are well kept and neighbors have found jobs in our neighborhood working with STVRs. Now you also add that STVR pose a health and safety risk to neighbors and guests? Obviously this is not based on facts, yet taking advantage of Covid-19 related "emergency" legislative rush jobs.

2. This bill talks about posting physical address and TMK number in every advertisement. Huge privacy and safety issue for hosts. The county could hold this information, no need to publish it everywhere.

There is a reason that hosting platforms like VRBO or Airbnb only hand out the address after a booking is paid for and confirmed by a verified guest, not blast it out to the whole Internet.

3. Notice the bill is not targeting illegal STVRs but attacks in a blanket, including fully legal STVRs. For example: Why is there a clause that prohibits ancillary services to short-term rentals?

4. Why is there a weird clause about airlines forcing passengers to give info? Wouldn't that belong in a proper Covid-19 emergency declaration?

and more...

Wish we had more time to review and comment.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 11:50:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Kwok	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 12:17:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Prentiss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 12:47:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
gary mareigard	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please reconsider HB 460. It is the wrong legislation at the wrong time. The industry and supporting business community is trying to revive after a very difficult time. Adding more meaningless oversight is only going to creat ill will and it will fail to solve any problems going forward.

Best,

Gary Mariegard EA

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 1:53:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher LaDue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Gentlemen and Gentlewomen Hawaii State Legislators,

I write in support of HB160 HD1. I feel this bill could not come at a more urgent or pressing time. The current state of short term rentals is a severe contributing factor to public health risk when combined with the current pandemic spread of Covid 19.

No longer are the issues concerned limited to negative and harmful economic impact, housing availability, quality of life, tenant safety and other related issues - they have now widend to include matters of life and death. It is essential that action to effectively end the continuance and proliferation of renegade short term rentals be taken immediately. This is particulary true for condo buildings like ours, at 2452 Tusitala Street, and neighborhoods like ours, in Waikiki, with many elderly and immunocompromised residents living together in close proximity. Transient short term rentals in these communities present a horrific vector of disease transmission with the potential to turn hard earned retirements or hoped for convalescences into sudden and fatal nightmares.

Further, I would like to add that even in the best of times, it is my family's opinion that these unregulated rogue short term rentals are predatory in nature. They exploit and damage the collective resouces of individual tenants, building associations, communities and the rich environmental resources of the state of Hawaii through their pursuit of profit without accountability or respect for the law.

For genuine, substantive and enduring change to occur at the public health, economic, social and environmental levels, policy must put the rubber to the road and the bite with the bark. This bill is a significant step toward providing the needed monitoring and negative legal consequence required both to save local lives- as well as improve the Hawaiiin quality of life which has been harmed for too many years now by transient short term rentals.

I strongly support this bill and urge you to do the same.

Respectfully,

Christopher LaDue

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 4:05:59 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
NORMAN GARDNER	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 6:28:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Garcia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to express my outrage that you are trying to blame the lack of affordable housing on the homeowners of Hawaii who rent rooms or ohanas to tourists. This problem has been going on for years, long before the rise of websites like Airbnb that empower property owners to make a little extra money off their hard earned homes. Our state government does very little to nothing to alleviate the affordable housing situation. So your plan now is to make it difficult or impossible for us to rent our own property unless it's to long term tenants. I, for one, will not be renting my apartment if that's the case. I don't want to get stuck with a "deadbeat" tenant in my home. A lot of STRs are actual bedrooms inside the owner's home. I doubt they would want to rent them long term, and even if they did it wouldn't do much to help the lack of affordable housing.

I'm sure the hotel lobby is feeding you their skewed information that these guests don't spend enough money, or another lie, that these rooms all belong to out of state owners. Nothing could be further from the truth. These guests have more money in their pockets because they aren't forced to stay in over priced hotel rooms and pay extra for things like parking and wifi. And we, the homeowners, also have more money to spend in our communities.

Now I'm down for everyone paying their tax like I do. And I don't object to getting a permit and paying an annual fee, as long as it's reasonable. Having some sound regulation is also a good idea as long as it's aim isn't to drive us out of business. I suggest you give an amnesty period for everyone who hasn't done so to get a tax license then start the process to qualify for a permit. You did that for non-hosted STVRs and it seemed to work just fine.

Lots of people still prefer hotels, so I think there's room for all of us.

Sincerely,

Louis Garcia

Kailua Kona

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 8:41:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Croly	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

The introduction to this bill is Offensive, unsubstantiated and racist in it's assertions. However, the intent of this bill to better regulate short term rental uses to ensure tax and zoning compliance is a worthy pursuit. Unfortunately, this bill is a gut and replace measure and such measures, while technically legal, are as much an affront to the legislative process as unpermitted Non tax compliant short term rentals are to the legal vacation rental industry.

As a legally permitted Bed and Breakfast operator for more than a decade speaking as someone who has dedicated more than 15 years towards honest practical regulation of the short term rentals industry, i have the following comments to make on HB460 HD1 proposed SD1:

1. I don't believe that the Counties have any authority to regulate internet based businesses. Maybe the State could try to assert such authority, but even then it would surely be challenged in court. Really, only the federal government has the authority to regulate this type of interstate commerce. The Counties must regulate land uses and the State must regulate tax collection, but regulating internet transactions or advertising, is not really either of these.
2. I don't mind posting my actual address, and to the extent that it could help enforcement of unpermitted rentals, I would gladly comply. But I understand the argument that it could lead to security issues for unhosted properties.
3. I like the idea of asking arriving passengers to declare where they are staying and this should be done in conjunction with the HTA collection of demographic information and shared with Counties. But again recognize that 20% of the people coming to Hawaii are not staying at any type of rental. They could be staying in their own property, a friend's property, or a family member's long term rental. So, this information, in and of itself, is not actually evidence of any violation.
4. I like the idea of creating lists of legal places and I would like to see the State or County turn this list into a website where legal places could be advertized with links to their own booking platforms. Or better yet, have the State set up a booking platform like airbnb or VRBO where the State would be the transaction facilitator and could collect

their taxes directly from visitors while monitoring income earned by legal owners. Such a website would pay for itself in more complete tax revenue collections.

Overall, there are some worthwhile ideas contained in this bill, but they have not been fully fleshed out and vetted to determine if they are legal and if they could be effective in regulation of short term rental uses.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 2:36:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elise Lee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose HB460 HD1 because it jeopardizes privacy and safety for the owner-residents who may live there or next door to the STR, especially if it is a Bed+Breakfast, and really, the entire suburban or country neighborhood. Sometimes the property caretaker is mom, dad, grandmother or grandfather, who are retired. Over the past few months since COVID quarantines, with inmates out in Honolulu and many people out of work, there have been a much larger number of burglaries in neighborhoods where there are STRs and demand for STRs. I live in a suburb outside of Waikiki and have Ohana that live in Kailua. Some of my neighbors, relatives who live 5-minutes away and Ohana in Kailua have experienced burglary & vandalism this past month, although they live in supposedly the safest residential neighborhoods on Oahu! The police mentioned they see a lot more of these crimes every day since COVID quarantine. With so many tourism-related businesses having employees out of work or who will not be seeing the same income or revenue, we may see more petty thefts, burglaries and crimes like this. If the addresses of the STRs are exposed, the elder STR property owners who reside there may be vulnerable to criminals, vandals & overly upset people who are suffering from the downturn in the economy. Unlike hotels, these STRs do not have security guards or policemen 5-minutes away.

LATE

HB-460-HD-1

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 7:47:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 6/26/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert R. Ellison	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I own and operate a legal TVU on Oahu, and testify from an Oahu perspective. I strongly oppose this bill because:

1. It is being rammed through using Covid-19 as an excuse, with little public awareness or debate, and without any provision for the law to expire when the pandemic has ran its course.
2. The SECTION 1 assertion that "Short-term rentals pose health and safety risks to local residents and guests, reduce the availability of permanent housing, drive up rents, and adversely alter the character and quality of residential neighborhoods" is simply not true and is not supported by facts, and certainly not where legal vacation rentals are concerned.
3. It would be a serious invasion of privacy for visitors coming to Hawaii, unlike anything anywhere else in the United States.
4. It would create even more cumbersome and expensive regulations for all concerned.
5. The Counties already have the necessary tools to identify and crack down on illegal operators, or could create them without State of Hawaii involvement.
6. Legal vacation rentals would be collateral damage in this overreaching and ill-conceived legislation that draws no distinctions between legal and illegal operators.
7. The problem of illegal vacation rentals could easily be solved by simply enforcing laws that are already on the books.

Regarding SECTION 1's erroneous assertions about health: Other than where a visitor is subject to quarantine and front desk policing action is required, a TVU (or a BB with a separate guest entrance and no shared common areas) is far safer health-wise, with far better social distancing, than a hotel. Unlike hotels, TVU guests do not have to interface with front desks, cleaning staff or room service. And when the TVUs are homes, there are no lobbies, hallways or elevators for guests to negotiate.

Regarding SECTION1's assertion about rents and housing availability, the current 770 legal TVUs and 38 legal BBs on Oahu have nil effect on either. That number has steadily shrank since legal vacation rentals were grandfathered in during the 1980's, and thus have ever diminishing impact. If there truly is a problem, it would be with the proliferation of illegal vacation rentals, due to existing laws not being enforced.

The C&C of Honolulu already has a publicly accessible register of licensed, legal vacation rentals on Oahu, showing their TMU, File and NUC numbers, as well as physical addresses and the total number of legal TVUs and BBs. It can be seen on the DPP website:

<http://www.honoluludpp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/HotIssues/NUC2018.pdf>

Additionally, Honolulu's Bill 89 went into effect on August 1, 2019, requiring all advertising for short term rentals to include their license numbers. In my experience, both Airbnb and VRBO are complying with this law. As Mayor Caldwell was quoted by Hawaii News Now when signing the bill, it "gives inspectors improved enforcement powers because they can simply log onto a computer to see if a vacation rental listing includes a permit number, as it is now required to do." Or for those playing the "cat and mouse" game of including "minimum 30 rental" language but actually renting short term, identify the ones with more than one guest review during one-month periods.

If more transparency is needed, the Counties and/or the State should crack down on the booking platforms, rather than on visitors, airlines and hospitality providers. The booking platforms have all of the necessary information at their fingertips, in their data bases. If required to do so, they could easily provide lists of short term stays that were booked without having provided license numbers.

The Honolulu DPP and its neighbor island counterparts may not have the personnel available to spend the necessary time to identify the illegal operators. If the booking platforms cannot be forced to provide information on illegal operators, a simple suggestion to remedy this would be to hire contractors to do the web-searching with 100% commission-based compensation – illegal operators would be identified very quickly and then could be shut down.

Respectfully,

Bob Ellison

From: [Don Maxwell](#)
To: [Mary Deneen](#)
Subject: HB 460 HD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 9:52:07 AM

Thank you, Mary for your information this morning.

Please ensure that all members of the Senate Ways and Means Comm. receive the following statement prior to their meeting tomorrow morning.

I appreciate your assistance.

Don

I wanted to submit a statement in opposition to HB 460 HD1. If passed this bill would constitute an invasion of privacy to HI VR owners, and the visitors who use them. This is a case of government using a procedure designed for public safety, and subverting it to spy on citizens.

For many years, the DPP has utilized inspectors, and more recently, high tech computer apps, and public ads to find illegal renters. They continue to want more power even to the extent of invading the privacy of our own citizens and businesses. This is also not just about illegal vacation rentals anymore, this is about ALL VRs even though legal rentals have been in business, and paying taxes for over 30 yrs. Why harm all VRs when the intent is to close the illegal ones?

When you travel, would you like local authorities at your destination to know your name, the name of your accommodation and the address, as well as your room number, and length of stay?!! Conversely, if you are the Hawaii host, would you consent to having your property address, right down to the room number, published along with the visitor names, and dates of stay?

Your consideration is very much appreciated.

From: [Romeo Foxtrot](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:44:27 AM

OPPOSE THIS STUPID BILL. This bill is unlawful because for a 30 day listing on the platforms it is as legal as advertising on craigslist or Zillow and many other websites.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Juliet Romeo](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:56:47 AM

Dear state of Hawaii

I never know who this government will come down to this we're people in the government have to find information about a rental I have an any listing on any platform.

This is a privacy infringement and not constitutional

Goodbye dear comrade

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Richard Fernandez](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:51:42 AM

This is wrong!! I oppose HB460. People who have a need to make an income and Hawaii are feeling harassed by all these privacy infringement's. There are sufficient laws on the books that regulate 30 day rentals or more in the disclosure of GE license information I will be contacting my attorney to litigate this.

I'm very unhappy and unsatisfied constituent

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Romeo Foxtrot](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:49:08 AM

Dear Hawai'i state government

I am an attorney and I do plan to challenge this legally if this thing passes. I have been contacted by many clients saying that this kind of imposition imposes privacy information. Furthermore the reason why this can be easily challenged is because it does not affect all other rental advertisements which will be very very difficult to regulate.

See you in court

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cecilia Gomez](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:54:40 AM

Totally against this HB 460

Hawaii is starting to become more like North Korea or communist Cuba. Word privacy information of peoples homes that are rented legally are being disclosed and shared by government officials for no reason at all. This is a privacy matter that doesn't belong to anybody.

I will consult With an attorney regarding this matter

Mahalo
Craig

Sent from my iPhone

From: bbtvu2@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#); bbtvu2@aol.com
Subject: Oppose HB 460 SD1
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 10:29:16 AM

Aloha Chair DeLa Cruz and the members of WAM Committee .

I strongly oppose the SD1 amendment, which violates the privacy of the guests and the owners of the property being a hotel, vacation rentals or other lodging facility.

No other State in the US has laws dictating such strict enforcement and Hawaii is suppose to be the Aloha State.

Stop the harassment of your constituents, who voted for you.

Mahalo for reading my testimony.

Tonic Bille

262-8286

Sent from my iPad

LATE

From: bbtvu2@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#); bbtvu2@aol.com
Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 SD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:52:57 AM

Chair Delà Cruz and committee members,

NOTE: if enacted as is, HB460 SD1 would allow counties to require the public posting of a property's address - a violation of privacy and an invitation for break-ins, if the property is vacant or an elderly owner is home alone, the elderly would be in danger.

There are many elderly owners in Hawaii that rely on renting 30 days to tourists in order to survive.

Protect your constituents, do not destroy their lives.

Mahalo,

Tonic Bille

262-8286

Sent from my iPad

**Shawn Reed
Oahu, Hawaii**

June 29, 2020

**Senate Ways and Means Committee
Meeting June 30, 2020 10:20am**

Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 SD1 Proposed

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. HB 460 SD1 Proposed is a terrible piece of legislation.

Please vote NO to HB 460 SD1 Proposed.

Sincerely,

Shawn Reed

Elizabeth O'Malley
Oahu, Hawaii

June 29, 2020

Senate Ways and Means Committee
Meeting June 30, 2020 10:20am

Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 SD1 Proposed

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify regarding this proposal.

Please vote NO to HB 460 SD1 Proposed.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth O'Malley

**Angela Reed
Oahu, Hawaii**

June 29, 2020

**Senate Ways and Means Committee
Meeting June 30, 2020 10:20am**

Subject: OPPOSE HB 460 SD1 Proposed

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. This entire proposal is an affront to common sense and citizen liberties.

Please vote NO to HB 460 SD1 Proposed.

Sincerely,

Angela Reed

From: [Norm Nichols](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: testimony in opposition to HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:48:47 AM

Dear Committee,

WAM testimony:

As a tax payer and former B&B forced to close we are in **STRONG** opposition to this bill. It needs to be voted down as it is an affront to our constitutional rights and over reach by the State of Hawaii.

Respectively,

Norm Nichols

From: [Martine Aceves-Foster](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:31:27 AM

Testimony for HB 460 (HD1) SD1

Tuesday, June 30, 2020

Aloha Senators:

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony on HB 460 (HD1) SD1.

I am against the bill because it's redundant, so it does not lead to "better regulation and accountability of short-term rentals."

The bill proposes to do this by "Clarifying the authority of counties to regulate hosting platforms." Counties already have this authority and have implemented it. One example is Bill 89 (Ordinance 19-18), which was passed on Oahu on June 25, 2019.

Even more unfortunate, HB 460 is counterproductive. In item 3, the bill allows "counties to require short-term rental operators or owners to list their complete name and physical address, ... and tax map key of the short-term rental property in any posting or advertisement on a hosting platform." This proposed optional requirement invites vast opportunities for abuse of that information by any individual or group anywhere in the world. This could leave the State of Hawaii or its individual counties vulnerable to legal liabilities.

HB 460 does not lead to improved "regulation and accountability," and it does not accomplish what the State of Hawaii needs, which is the ability to collect Excise and Transient Accommodation Taxes for short-term rentals in areas where they are able to operate legally.

Please, vote no on HB 460. At best, it achieves nothing. At its worst, it can be harmful to the people you are trying to protect.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Martine Aceves-Foster
acevesfoster@gmail.com

From: [Will Page](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony regarding HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:12:56 PM

LATE

Aloha House Ways and Means committee,

This letter is in response to the proposed HB460.

Isn't it time for the State of Hawaii to issue rules and regulations regarding the operation of transient vacation rentals and bed & breakfast homes?

You may be aware that Kirk Caldwell called together a short-term rental task force in late 2018. That committee met until the middle of 2019. In July Kirk announced a new ordinance to address the issue of short-stay rentals. All rentals were to be closed effective August 1, 2019 and would be required to close for 14 months. There after only B&B homes would be allowed at 1/2% of the housing units in each City Council district separated from each other by 1,000 feet. This would allow for less than 40 B&B homes in Kailua, even though the 1/2% of homes would allow

I assure you that none of this was ever discussed in any meeting of his short-stay rental task force. Nothing of the kind was discussed. No closure. No permitting of 1/2 of 1%. No 1,000 foot separation.

The Department of Planning and Permitting came up with an improved bill. The DPP bill would not allow any transient vacation un-hosted whole home rentals and an unlimited number of bed & breakfast homes.

This bill never saw the light of day.

Instead Mr. Caldwell put together a special committee who hammered out Bill 89. What a sham!! None of this bill was ever discussed in his short-term rental task force.

14 months is longer than any Coronavirus lock down anywhere in the world.

A closure of 14 months for almost any business would cause economic ruin on the operator. You can't pay your bills with zero income. You cannot pay taxes with zero income.

Nonetheless, this is what Mr. Caldwell demanded with Bill 89.

It is now time for the State of Hawaii to regulate these rentals in the State of Hawaii.

Not piecemeal. Not just part of the law. The entire law.

In other jurisdictions, short-stay rentals have demonstrated a "rocket recovery" with the end of Coronavirus recovery. Folks would rather stay in local residences in local neighborhood with local neighbors.

Unless this part of this issue is re-examined, there will be no true visitor industry recovery for the State of Hawaii.

Mahalo,
Will Page
Kailua

From: [pollyannaf](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose bill 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:53:41 AM

I strongly oppose this bill.

Our privacy rights are constantly under threat and this bill further puts our safety at risk.

Oppose this bill and listen to your constituents.

Pollyanna Fisher from Haleiwa

From: [laurentpool007](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose bill HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:41:30 AM

I am a Honolulu resident and I oppose HB460.
Laurent

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: curtis8716@yahoo.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose Bill HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:10:52 AM

Aloha my Kakou,

We are opposing Bill HB460 as it is the **Fourth Amendment (Amendment IV)** to the [United States Constitution](#) is part of the [Bill of Rights](#). It prohibits unreasonable [searches and seizures](#). In addition, it sets requirements for issuing [warrants](#): warrants must be issued by a judge or magistrate, justified by [probable cause](#), supported by oath or affirmation, and must particularly describe the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.

Fourth Amendment case law deals with three main issues: what government activities are "searches" and "seizures," what constitutes probable cause to conduct searches and seizures, and how violations of Fourth Amendment rights should be addressed. Early court decisions limited the amendment's scope to physical intrusion of property or persons, but with [Katz v. United States](#) (1967), the [Supreme Court](#) held that its protections extend to intrusions on the privacy of individuals as well as to physical locations. A warrant is needed for most search and seizure activities, but the Court has carved out a series of exceptions for [consent searches](#), [motor vehicle searches](#), [evidence in plain view](#), [exigent circumstances](#), [border searches](#), and other situations.

The [exclusionary rule](#) is one way the amendment is enforced. Established in [Weeks v. United States](#) (1914), this rule holds that [evidence](#) obtained as a result of a Fourth Amendment violation is generally [inadmissible](#) at criminal trials. Evidence discovered as a later result of an illegal search may also be inadmissible as "[fruit of the poisonous tree](#)," unless it [inevitably would have been discovered by legal means](#).

The Fourth Amendment was adopted in response to the abuse of the [writ of assistance](#), a type of general [search warrant](#) issued by the [British government](#), and a major source of tension in [pre-Revolutionary America](#). The Fourth Amendment was introduced in Congress in 1789 by [James Madison](#), along with the other amendments in the Bill of Rights, in response to [Anti-Federalist](#) objections to the new Constitution. Congress [submitted](#) the amendment to the states on September 28, 1789. By December 15, 1791, the necessary three-fourths of the states had [ratified](#) it. On March 1, 1792, Secretary of State [Thomas Jefferson](#) announced that it was officially part of the Constitution.

Because the Bill of Rights did not initially apply to state or local governments, and federal criminal investigations were less common in the first century of the nation's history, there is little significant case law for the Fourth Amendment before the 20th century. The amendment was held to [apply to state and local governments](#) in [Mapp v. Ohio](#) (1961) via the [Due Process Clause](#) of the [Fourteenth Amendment](#).

It also a violation of your privacy and an invitation for break-ins when your property is vacant.

Mahalo for time consideration,

The Curtis Ohana BIG Island

From: [Karin](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:10:06 AM

This law is a violation of privacy and puts homeowners at risk. The hotels do not need this protection at taxpayers expense.

Thank you

Karin O

From: [Dan](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:38:09 AM

I oppose HB460

Aloha,
Dan.

From: jillpaulin@gmail.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:21:59 AM

Aloha,

As an Owner of a legal short-term rental, I oppose HB460 due to the privacy and security issues it will result in. I do not want my address or other sensitive data online so that the general public knows when my unit is open or has guests.

Please work on bringing more, much-needed revenue to our State, not taking it away.

Mahalo,

Jill Paulin
Halewia, HI



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: hagadone@techexperts.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:49:25 AM

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for your service to our community.

I oppose HB460 for the following reasons:

1. This is an important community issue, you as legislators know or should know this, and as such should wait until full public scrutiny and testimony is available. Although tempting, take the high road, this should not be a "COVID rush to legislation" without proper community input.
2. The Bill as written will violate the public's rights to privacy by requiring the public posting of property addresses. This will result in legal challenges leading to needless wasteful and expensive litigation against the State, ending in a recognition that our public rights to privacy are guaranteed by the State's own Constitution.
3. This is wasteful use of your precious legislative time, considering the budgetary shortfall and economic freefall we find ourselves in. " We have much bigger fish to fry".

Sincerely,

Mark R. Hagadone

From: [kelly nash montone](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:28:38 AM

I oppose the bill HB460. I do not agree to have my private information shared publicly, this violates my rights and leaves me vulnerable for fraud and potential break-ins.

Thank you for understanding and taking the time for consideration of our family's privacy and respect.

Best Vibrations,

Kelly Nash Montone

<http://www.microcurrentelectrotoxicologist.com>

From: [Beach Front Villas](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:12:23 AM

I am writing my opposition to HB460, this is a dangerous infringement on homeowners rights and needs to be voted down.

If it does pass it will further waste taxpayers funds as it is challenged in courts.

Thank you
Mike Muller

From: [John Kanos](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:52:10 AM

Aloha,

I am submitting my written testimony in opposition of bill HB460, a bill that further punishes short-term rental operators and owners by subjecting to invasive tactics, which includes but not limited to, disclosing transactions made between the operator and guests, sensitive information about the owner and the property address, and sensitive information about the guests.

Not only will this bill strengthen the point that Hawaii is becoming a police state for its unfair, draconian laws on short-term rentals, but it will further wring Hawaii's economy dry. This is especially the case in which the world is tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and not many people are traveling at this time. This unfair treatment on short-term rentals has to stop. The policing on these owners has to stop. You have not been offering an equal playing field for these owners and operators to compete in the same market as hotels and resorts. In fact you have made it extremely difficult for anyone to operate a short-term vacation rental in Hawaii without running into the serious recuperation of being fined and/or imprisoned. Who will benefit from this bill? Hotels and resorts that are operated by multi-billion dollar corporations? Unions who represent the hospitality workers? Disgruntled neighbors who complained of unruly tourists?

If I can digress a little, I am astonished by the acceleration by the government to draft this bill to further punish short-term rentals despite all the ongoing, albeit serious issues with this state. To name a few, chronic homelessness, growing number of Hawaii residents leaving the state, lack of transparency that comes from the government. Honestly if you can put the same amount of effort as you did drafting this bill to those issues I just listed, then Hawaii would be able to move quickly on their fixes.

I can understand why you would want to regulate short-term vacation rentals. I fully support the idea of regulating short-term rentals in Hawaii, but I do not support the rhetoric or the proposals that have been laid out in HB460. You mentioned something along the lines of short-term vacation rental operators not paying their fair share of taxes to the state or failing to disclose their revenue. That is not true as I have been operating a short-term vacation rental in Hawaii and I have been reporting my taxes on-time because that is *pono*. Also there was a bill presented to the governor that would have allowed hosting platforms like Airbnb and VRBO to collect and remit taxes on the owner's behalf so the state would have received their cut. That would have given the state the money it badly needs, and it would most likely have deter the bad actors (the ones not paying their taxes) from continuing to use those platforms to advertise their listings.

There is also this conception that short-term vacation rental operators are not physically present in the property, and escalates the housing issue in Hawaii. Not true. I am operating my own home because I happened to have some open rooms available for rent. I refuse to hand my entire home, in the events that my guests will require immediate assistance with something. I do not own multiple properties in Hawaii, nor do I have the cash flow to afford additional properties. The reason why I say this bill gives an unfair treatment to hotels and

resorts, is because you are hurting a lot of small businesses that do not have much cash flow in order to appease the hotels even though the trend shows more people are likely to book short-term vacation rentals for their next stay as that is the more affordable option. The housing issue has been an ongoing issue in the state for so long, these hosting platforms offer people the opportunity to lend their vacant rooms and homes, which some of them own outright, for people who want to visit Hawaii without paying for the ridiculous prices of staying in a hotel room in Waikiki.

Finally there is the issue that by allowing short-term rentals to operate in the state would possibly invite unruly tourists to reside in residential areas. I would like to emphasize on the word, *possibly*. It is possible that by leaving these tourists or guests unattended, they could cause havoc. The issue is not with the short-term rental property, the issue revolves around bad management. But I can argue that neighbors can have a bad neighbor who is constantly unruly and disrespectful, but that person is residing there in the long-term. Even if issues or complaints arise with tourists or guests residing in a short-term vacation rental, the issue is not prolonged as a bad neighbor. Out of all the guests I have welcomed, I have had one unruly guest who was blasting loud music in my home to which I had to remind them a couple times to keep the noise down which they obliged. Short-term rentals would not be a problem if you can ensure there is someone physically present to manage them. Even if there is the possible risk of having unruly guests, my experience hosting people has overwhelmingly positive. I have welcomed people from all over the world, most of them were happy to share their stories with me of where they came from or the adventures they have gone in Hawaii. I was even blessed to welcome a Make-A-Wish foundation family who had a child who was diagnosed with a terminal illness. For all my guests, I always offer them immediate assistance and recommendations about places they should check out on their first time to Hawaii, because I always felt that was the right thing to do. To welcome people in Hawaii, to educate them about the state's history and culture, and to show them the Aloha spirit while giving good hospitality. By staying in a short-term rental can people receive a more intimate hospitality than any hotel or resort could. I can speak this from experience from having stayed in countless short-term rentals and hotels in several states and countries.

I kindly ask you to seriously reconsider this bill and the repercussions it will create to the state, for both small businesses and the state economy. I am a short-term operator but I really care about the state, because I seriously want Hawaii to thrive but I do feel more tender, love, and care need to be given to short-term vacation rental operators in coming up a fair, balanced treatment that works for both the short-term property owners, hotels and resorts, and the state. I would be more than happy to offer my suggestions on how to better regulate short-term vacation rentals. But this is not the way to go.

Mahalo,
John Kanos

From: [Rita Wong](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:15:57 AM

To Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I oppose HB460 because this bill is a VIOLATION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY, AND AN INVITATION FOR BREAK INS TO PERSONAL PROPERTIES ON OUR ISLANDS WHEN PROPERTIES NOT OCCUPIED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

MRS WONG

From: [Virginia](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:43:40 AM

Members,

Please oppose HB460. The reporting requirements of HB460 would seriously violate the privacy of property owners like me who rent their home through the platform, even those of us who rent for 30 days or more. The State of Hawaii would also expose my home to the more significant potential of vandalism by forcing me to list my home's address on the public platforms.

We work diligently to comply with listing and reporting requirements. Please do not expose us to even more burdensome State laws.

Vote NO on HB460.

Mahalo
Virginia Dudden
Virginia@dudden.com

From: [Kittie Raskowsky](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: OPPOSE HB460!
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:21:52 AM

Aloha,

I'm opposing HB460!

Most importantly, I oppose HB460 because it would allow counties to require the public posting of a property's address - a violation of privacy and an invitation for break-ins when my property is vacant. Also causing a threat to any visitor, local tenant or Myself and family as the owners of the property being exposed to theft and possible physical/sexual predators. Very disturbing that there's no regard for personal safety being considered in this bill. Total violation of privacy that would be legally challenged if it passes.

Mahalo,

Kathleen Raskowsky
Kailua
808-352-3588

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Scott Brazwell](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposed to HB 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:36:10 AM

Wanted to express by concern and opposition to HB 460 due to a number of privacy and security reasons.

James Brazwell

From: [Wendy Chen](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposing HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:01:09 AM

Hello,

Please stop HB460. As a frequent traveler, I don't want to reveal where I stay, as it violates my privacy, and I am also worried about break-in if the address of the rental is public.

Please don't pass HB 460.

Thanks.

Wendy

From: [Barbara Haight](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposing HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:13:46 AM

Please DO NOT pass this bill. Overstepping boundaries of privacy and hammering down on personal vacation rentals will continue to harm local economies. Broad blanket laws that infringe upon privacy rights is wrong.

The state must stop trying to make small business operations in Hawaii harder and harder for the average resident to be successful in. Hotels get their fair share and VR offer an entirely different market the opportunity to visit Hawaii and spend their money at stores and restaurants. This will further limit this niche market from visiting and adding to our economy.

Thank you,
Barbara Haight

From: [meixiaoxiao](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: opposition to HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:28:41 AM

I strongly think this Bill HB460 is highly restrictive and extremely intrusive, it's putting STVR owners into much more difficult situation. After this pandemic and the prelong lockdown and quarantine requirement in Hawaii, our business can barely survive. With this bill, many of our STVR owners will be out of business.

In the past years, I host so many happy travelers, who helps contribute to the flourish of Hawaii economy. Myself works diligently, pay Hawaii TA and GE tax plus rental income tax. I have also provided jobs to my property manager, house keepers, gardener and contractors. I think STVR places a big part in Hawaii's economy success, STVR owners' right need to be protect to allow us continue help Hawaii to prosper.

Thank you!

Mei Xue

From: [MARGARET BLASER](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: opposition to HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:43:31 PM

I OPPOSE any bill that violates my right to privacy and the right to privacy of any tenant. In particular, this bill limits the ability of many Hawaiians who wish to travel within out state and have the choice to stay in an affordable place without having to report to government officials, not to mention Hawaiians who need to travel inter-island to work. This is WRONG.

From: [Iris Kahaulelio](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: RELATING TO THE COUNTIES. Provides the counties with authority to: regulate hosting platforms-OPPOSED
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:57:11 AM

Aloha,

I am strongly opposed. Allowing counties to require the public posting of your property's address would be a violation of our privacy.

Since the short term vacation rental ban, it has affected our ability to contribute to our own economy and now with this pandemic, like many we are experiencing financial hardship. As a result, crime can increase. Fortunately, our family is able to use our vacation rental for our own personal use, but having our addresses available to the public is an invitation for break-ins when our property is vacant. We don't know how much longer we will be able to afford to keep it only to be sold to a mainland investor, but I respectfully ask for your support in opposing this.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Iris Kahaulelio

RATING TO THE COUNTIES.

Provides the counties with authority to: regulate hosting platforms; require owners or operators to list certain property information on any hosting advertisement or post on a hosting platform; establish short-term rental registries to prohibit hosting platforms from completing booking transactions unless the rental is listed in the registry; prohibit hosting platforms from collecting fees through an agent or intermediary for short-term rental ancillary services; subpoena records from hosting platforms. Requires persons arriving in any county to declare their place of stay for short-term rental enforcement purposes. (SD1 PROPOSED)

From: [George Heiligman](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:03:55 AM

I oppose the bill as it would publish personal information about vacant properties. Please take action to kill it

Mahalo,

George Heiligman

P.O. Box 21345
Eugene, OR 97402
Cell 541-914-7363
Ph. Wk 541-343-1081
Email: protrade@teleport.com
Sent from my iPad

From: [JIM haas](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:11:33 AM

As a voter,I oppose Hb 460 as it invades my privacy by publishing my address,making my vacation home prone to invasion when vacant!

Martin Haas

From: [Jan Davis](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:13:50 AM

I strongly oppose HB 460 due to Privacy Concerns for Hawaii's Property Owners.

We do not need more Government Oversight over Property Rights of our Residents.

We need more Aloha and to provide the accommodations that customers want. They don't want to be crammed into a hotel with 500 other people. They want a more local experience. A more connected and higher quality experience.

Mahalo,
Jan Davis

Sent from my iPhone

From: dhcondos@gmail.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:26:24 AM

OPPOSE HB460

Regarding HB460 – I highly recommend voting “NO”. This is an invasion of privacy to our guests. Such information is not required by any other state and would certainly lead to litigation and possible constitutional issues. There are so many issues to focus on amid this economic crisis. This will be a waste of tax payer dollars in forthcoming lawsuits. We need to save taxpayer dollars now more than ever.

Mahalo for your time.

Kathleen Ochsenbein

From: [Mike Andersen](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:56:59 AM

HB 460 is a terrible invasion of privacy.
It will be challenged in court.

From: [Lois](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:04:20 AM

I am writing to voice my concern over this bill.

Your assumptions are totally off base.

"The legislature finds that the proliferation of "short-term rentals", ... has adversely impacted the State. Short-term rentals pose health and safety risks to local residents and guests, reduce the availability of permanent housing, drive up rents, and adversely alter the character and quality of residential neighborhoods."

Let's just stop right here. You really need to get your facts straight before you spend all this effort banning every short term rental that's allowing people to keep their homes, provide income to local and businesses, airlines, car rentals, restaurants, State coffers.... **WHO** has **PROVEN** they post health and safety risks and adversely alter the character and quality of residential neighborhoods? Why don't you wait and read the Windward study that UH is doing on STR's? Where are the **FACTS**?!! I'm tired of heresay.

After you get the facts, then let's make sure people follow the law. And while we're at it, let's also make sure the real estate people follow the law and those people who don't get building permits for additions, and those who try to build monster houses next to our residences....

Then we have testifiers using a case of an offshore owner flaunting any responsibility by allowing people to come to their renters and not self quarantine.

"Recent media reports and findings by the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 indicate that, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, illegal short-term rentals have also provided a haven for visitors who arrive in Hawaii with the intent to violate Hawaii's emergency orders. Such illegal short term rentals, facilitated by online hosting platforms, potentially endanger the health and safety of

Hawaii's residents and visitors. This undermines the efforts of our government officials who are working tirelessly to manage the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our community."

What about the hotels who allowed their people to break quarantine? There were many that were caught, but we all know there were plenty who weren't.

Regarding the bill itself, I'm just plain tired of everyone going after all owners of STR's because you **MUST** separate those who live in the home as opposed to those who are using their investments to make a profit at the expense of the neighbors. Until that happens I cannot support these kinds of bills.

Lois Crozer

From: [rob.caveney](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:01:22 AM

I'm opposed to this bill on so many levels. Vacation rental have gotten such a bad rap over the years. Of course there are a few people who rent, and who own, that don't care about the neighborhood they are in. As long as the check clears, we payed so we can do whatever we want. That isn't how most home owners run their business. Most renters are respectful and a delight to meet. If the "bad apples" could be weeded out, the remaining good business owners could make a huge contribution to the dollar shortfall in the current budget. Why would the government shoot themselves in the foot by passing this bill when they could put on the running shoes and make it work for everyone, including the tax payers who complain about the rentals. This isn't a way to fix the problems with contact tracing. The honor system that is in place now has proven to be very inefficient. The only way to keep virus infected people out of the state is to keep them from getting on an airplane. Take a look around the world and see what other countries have done so successfully. Little Hawaii doesn't have to re-invent the wheel. It's already being done in so many places.

My philosophy is, there is always a solution. You just have to think of it. Bill HB460 is not a solution to anything. It's just another problem waiting to happen.

Sincerely, Aloha, Rob Caveney

From: [Ken Kribel](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:37:59 AM

I am against HB460 it is not only an unfair bill but is also an invasion of privacy of any traveler coming to Hawaii. Stop being so unfriendly to tourists who want to stay in a home or condo, cook their meals and enjoy family time. The people who cannot stay where they want will go someplace else.
Regards,

Ken Kribel

From: [Francisco Arango](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Hb460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:42:01 AM

Stop any bill that prevents locals from making money from visitor stays and local traveler accomodations.

From: [Kamuela's iCloud](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:57:35 AM

Dear Senate Committee,

I strongly oppose HB460. It is DANGEROUS to both visitors and the communities they are staying in to publicly post any information about visiting guests to our state.

In the current climate - where fear and misinformation is taken as fact - making public any visitor information opens the door for vigilante-like behavior. As a state we are now risking making the visitor the enemy of our collective health. We shut down everything, we have made arrests and threatened arrests of visitors - cementing the idea that if we keep "them" out we will be ok. Making where "THEY" are and for how long a part of the public record invites not only real social unrest in our community, but a real possibility of the local community attacking visitors either in person or online or both.

Tourism is the economic plan we invested in. It will take years to turn the ship in a viable and different direction. In the immediate, it is all we have. In addition we kama'aina have a long tradition of welcoming visitors who respect us and who we are, because we gain a benefit from this exchange just as much as the visitor does. Do we really want to now abandon this and make visitors the enemies or even send the mixed message of aloha & welcome to our police state? Do we want the liability of being responsible for the health and safety of any visitor who does dare to enter the new police state? And, how does this effect how local-mainland families can visit with their family at home? The kid who grew up here and comes home with his family for a week in the summer is now seen as an outsider, not a returning member of our community. How do we welcome them home?

This bill lacks the very definition of Aloha at its core, it instead invites discord among neighbors and vigilantism as a whole.

Please do not pass HB460, it is not good for Hawaii and its citizens.

Aloha,
Kamuela Klemmer
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

From: pappysurfs@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:16:57 AM

I write in opposition to this bill.

The violation of privacy in this bill is abhorrent.

Many people use these platforms to advertise long term rentals as well.

Michael Plowman
Ewa Beach

From: [Elijah Ah Sing](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:11:19 AM

I am against this bill as publicly posting one's address will lead to nefarious intent when the property is vacant.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Mike](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460 HD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:29:03 AM

I support **HB460 HD1**

From: [Kelli Lundgren](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460 oppose
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:54:43 AM

My name is Kelli Lundgren. I am a resident of Hawaii, Maui County, Kaanapali. I own a condo in Kihei that is sometimes rented to vacationers, short term. I oppose HB460. To place detailed information on the web, including an address, whether a condo is vacant or not, and pictures of the contents, I will need to remove it from the advertising sites and simply won't advertise anymore.

Particularly now, when most condos sit vacant, they are vulnerable to break-ins with information showing they are vacant and their address

Also, my condo is already registered with the state, online even. Tax ID numbers are demanded by the state on the advertising platforms. I feel you are taking charge of an individual's condo by further demanding you know the guests who stay and more importantly, you decide whether or not guests can stay at the condo with your registry. That's overreach.

The state and county previously generated \$15,000 a year off of my one condo; excise, TAT, property taxes. I wish my profit were as great. Presently, the state is getting zero dollars off GET and TAT because the condo is vacant and will remain so likely through this year. Presently, I pay \$1,500 a month to keep the condo vacant.

Condo owners are not out to price-gouge the government. This bill implies the opposite.

Please do not pass HB460.

Kelli Lundgren
312 Aalii Way
Lahaina, HI 96761
801-915-7515

From: oneunit@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460 opposition testimony
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:52:43 AM

Dear Sir,
I oppose to pass this Bill HB460.
Mahalo,
Itsuji Hatano

From: [Fred Klemmer](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: HB460 Testimony
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:57:49 AM

Dear Legislators,

I strongly oppose HB460. It is DANGEROUS to both visitors and the communities they are staying in. It runs totally against the spirit of aloha that is at the heart of what it means to be a kama'aina: "O ke aloha ke kuleana o kâhi malihini."

In the current climate - where fear and misinformation is taken as fact - making public any visitor information opens the door for vigilante-like behavior. As a state we are now risking making the visitor the enemy of our collective health. We shut down everything, we have made arrests and threatened arrests of visitors - cementing the idea that the if we keep "them" out we will be ok. Making where "THEY" are and for how long a part of the public record invites not only real social unrest in our community, but a real possibility of the local community attacking visitors either in person or online or both.

Tourism is the economic plan we invested in. It will take years to turn the ship in a viable and different direction. In the immediate, it is all we have. In addition we kama'aina have a long tradition of welcoming visitors who respect us and who we are, because we gain a benefit from this exchange just as much as the visitor does. Do we really want to now abandon this and make visitors the enemies or even send the mixed message of aloha & welcome to our police state? Do we want the liability of being responsible for the health and safety of any visitor who does dare to enter the new police state? And, how does this effect how local-mainland families can visit with their family at home? The kid who grew up here and comes home with his family for a week in the summer is now seen as an outsider, not a returning member of our community. How do we welcome them home?

This bill lacks the very definition of Aloha at its core, it instead invites discord among neighbors and vigilantism as a whole.

Moreover HB460 as it is currently written is also nothing but a tribute to the money of the hotel industry lobby and a testament to how concerned they are about protecting their profits at all costs. The hotel industry is scared and they see this as an opportunity to destroy all competition, which they are intent on doing even at the expense of also destroying all their thousands upon thousands small business partners that make a living from supporting a healthy and robust tourist industry where power is not concentrated in the hands of a few foreign corporations.

Finally, HB460 as it is currently written is a huge overreach that will doubtless be tossed out by the courts.

For all these reasons, shame on anyone who votes for this bill in its current form.

Fred Klemmer
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734

From: [Ralph Gray](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: I appose Bill HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:15:35 AM

To Whom it may concern,

I appose Bill **HB460**. This is discrimination against home owners and our privacy. Please do not move this Bill forward.

If you want to manage vacation rentals, make it legal, charge a fee for the license, and create rules and regulations that protect the public and the neighborhoods and provide taxes for the state and city coffers. Create a small nice tax for the City so we can take care of our infrastructure and reduce the 10% TAT tax a little to offset this tax cost. The city gets nothing from the TAT tax. That is unfair to the City budget.

The covid 19 pandemic will prove people want to stay in vacation rentals. It is safer then a hotel and offers a affordable alternative for families. **Money from vacation rentals feeds right back into the community instead of large corporations in other countries!!!** We are going to need the economic recover that vaction rentals will provide for the communities.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Ralph Gray
808-295-0704

*"I believe our philosophy of conscious capitalism
will eventually be widely adopted
primarily because it is a better way to do business &
it creates more total value in the world for all its stakeholders."
~ John Mackey ~*

From: [TODD CAPEN](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: NO - Please NO - Oppose HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:02:49 AM

HB460 is a terrible bill. This invades privacy. Please....NO.

Todd Capen
Kailua, Hawaii

From: [Mark Petritz](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Against Bill hb460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:51:31 AM

This is a county issue and not a state issue.

From: [Christy Cote](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Against HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:46:11 AM

Please DO NOT make life any more difficult for host of vacation rental property. This is NOT fair and is over kill. It can even lead to break ins of vacant properties with addresses being made so public. THIS IS NOT A GOOD IDEA!

Christy Cote
San Francico

From: [Susan Bootsma](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose bill 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:48:07 PM



Date: 6/30/2020
WAM Testimony
Oppose bill 460
Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:53:41 AM

I oppose bill 460 as it is written. As it is currently written it negates people's privacy rights. In addition it puts the safety of homeowners, neighbors and small businesses at risk.

Thank you,
Susan

From: [Kate Dennis](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Oppose
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:48:48 PM

LATE

I oppose HB 460, HD1.

Respectfully,
Ruth C
Kailua

LATE

From: [Joseph Casale](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposed to HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 6:36:17 PM

As a Hawaii resident, I am opposed to HB460. This bill is a violation of privacy and clearly an effort to use the COVID crisis as a means to use visitor location information as a method to enforce short term rental laws.

Mahalo,
Joseph Casale

LATE

From: [Bill Carney](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Opposing HB 460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 6:10:42 PM

I oppose HB 460 as it is yet another measure taken by the State of Hawaii and Counties to over reach with their powers and authority and unfairly take away civil rights as well as impose exorbitant fines that are designed to financially destroy perceived offenders.



LATE

From: leftsidepromo@aol.com
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: No on HB460
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:01:21 AM

I urge you all to vote No on HB460 this morning. Home sharing is a right of property owners and has a long history in Hawaii. Having guests stay at my home should not be controlled by government anymore than religion or free speech, in fact government should promote and facilitate this important local economic driver where locals get to share in the prosperity of tourism. Politicians have bowed to the giant tourism machine in Waikiki for too long, where employees are basically serfs to the global companies that profit on the Hawaii image and beauty. These corporations take their profits right out of the state and give nothing back. Home share provides meaningful benefits not only for the host, but for all the other local services that are invested in this home share. Conversely, all economic benefits stay in Hawaii. The tourism machine in Waikiki does not want competition from local families and has tried to tarnish the image of home sharing with negative propaganda, but in actuality it's the best way for locals to share culture and educate visitors. Visitors are also more apt to respect the host culture and make a smaller impact on the community because they are more contentious when staying with a host family.

Everyone talks about diversifying the economy, yet no true ideas have made it to the table, other than home sharing, where local families get to participate in the economic driver that runs the state. This is equality and must be preserved. It's your obligation to vote NO on HB460. Mahalo.

Kekoa Heflin
Kaimiuki, HI

From: [Helen Petrovitch](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: [Helen Petrovitch](#)
Subject: HB 460 (HD1) SD1
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 7:57:00 PM

LATE

I oppose HB 460 (HD1) SD1 - this bill represents a serious breach of privacy for tourists coming to Hawaii. Our state is desperate to get tourism going again with so many in the industry out of work. How are tourists going to react if they not only have to present a test certificate proving they don't have COVID - 19 within 72 hours of boarding the plane to Hawaii and pay for that test (which is appropriate although not necessarily easy or inexpensive for the tourist) but then when they get here they will be cross examined by officials about where they are staying. What if they don't like the reserved hotel and end up moving - do they have to also report this immediately? This bill would just make it harder for everyone in the tourist industry to get back to work. It will discourage tourists from coming - find some other way to deal with transient vacation rentals.

Helen Petrovitch