JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR



DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 PHONE: (808) 587-0620 FAX: (808) 587-0600 IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO: 23:PECB/xxx

Statement of DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

January 31, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of S.B. 763 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

HHFDC <u>supports</u> S.B. 763, which, for a five-year period, exempts affordable housing projects developed under Section 201H-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from specific state and county fees and exactions related to discretionary approval or ministerial permitting, provided that the units are exclusively made available to certain qualified residents who are owner or renter occupants and own no other real property.

These actions would serve to reduce development costs and encourage more affordable housing units to be produced.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU 630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET HONOLULU, HI 96843 www.boardofwatersupply.com



RICK BLANGIARDI, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair KAPUA SPROAT, Vice Chair MAX J. SWORD NA`ALEHU ANTHONY JONATHAN KANESHIRO

DAWN B. SZEWCZYK, P.E., Ex-Officio EDWIN H. SNIFFEN, Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer

ERWIN M. KAWATA Deputy Manager

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair and Members Committee on Housing The Senate Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Chang and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 763 - Relating to Affordable Housing

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly opposes Senate Bill (SB) 763, which temporarily exempts affordable housing projects by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) from all state and county fees and exactions related to discretionary approval or ministerial permitting relating to planning, development, and improvement of land, and the construction of dwelling units thereon . . . as part of a fee-exempted affordable housing project shall be exclusively made available to households having incomes at or below one hundred per cent of the area median family income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Loss of control over revenues can have serious financial impacts that would be borne by the community we serve. Every day BWS supplies precious drinking water to nearly one million people here on Oahu.

Our mission is to provide safe, dependable, and affordable water now and into the future. As a semi-autonomous agency of the City, BWS is financially self-sufficient and does not receive any funds from the City's primary revenue source – real property taxes. BWS generates its revenue directly from people paying their water bills and related charges. This money pays for the operation of the island-wide water system, for the renewal and replacement of aging infrastructure, and to develop new capacity to supply growth in our community.

Our Board of Directors (Board) passed Resolution No. 889, 2018, Adopting Revisions to the Schedule of Rates and Charges for the Furnishing of Water and Water Service for Fiscal Years 2019 – 2023, effective September 10, 2018, through June 30, 2023. The Board focused on providing safe, dependable and affordable drinking water for our

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair and Members January 31, 2023 Page 2

customers. The pandemic has only reinforced the importance of the service we provide.

At that time, the Board also recognized the importance of affordable housing in our community and included the waiver of the Water System Facilities Charge (WSFC) and new meter cost for the development of qualified affordable and homeless dwelling units, for up to 500 dwelling units per year. The amount of money that would not be collected for these 500 dwelling units is about \$1 million annually. This program will continue until 2023. The Board may extend this beyond 2023. Dwelling units must meet certain requirements as specified in the BWS Resolution. The limit of 500 units per year was critical to allow BWS to estimate its financial impact to the revenue collected for its operating and capital improvement budgets for that period. The majority of the waiver cost is covered by the WSFC. It is a fee that new water users pay to connect new projects and developments to the water system to pump, treat, transport, and store enough water to serve our customers. The cost for water system capacity is not free and must be paid for to accommodate new or expanding developments. BWS operates on the basis that growth pays for growth. This bill proposes to:

- 1. Exempt affordable housing projects from paying BWS fees for the water meters and related water system facilities charges (i.e., impact) with **no limit** on the amount to be waived while the law is in effect; and
- 2. Transfer the cost of providing water system capacity from the development or project to existing BWS customers.

Subsection (b) of this bill places a heavy financial burden on the people and businesses we serve. It makes it difficult for BWS to forecast the cost of these exemptions, and the cost to develop new capacity in the water system to supply growth would have to be borne by existing water customers. In other words, growth not paying for growth.

Section 4 of this bill indicates the exemptions from all state and county fees and exactions for affordable housing projects are temporary, until the sunset date of June 30, 2028.

This would effectively require the BWS to forego fees for such affordable housing projects, thus increasing the cost of water service for existing water customers. For these reasons, the BWS requests an amendment to subsection (b) of this bill as follows:

"(b) Affordable housing units in projects developed pursuant to this section shall be exempt from all state and county fees and exactions related to discretionary approval or ministerial permitting relating to planning, development, and improvement of land, and the construction of dwelling units thereon <u>except as provided in §201H-38 subsection</u>

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair and Members January 31, 2023 Page 3

(a)(2) above as it pertains to the various boards of water supply authorized under chapter 54; "

For the foregoing reasons, the BWS opposes SB763 as written and respectfully requests your consideration for the above-suggested amendments.

Very truly yours,

an

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer

.

cc: County of Kauai Board of Water Supply County of Hawaii Department of Water Supply County of Maui Department of Water Supply



335 Hahani Street #342132 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htt3000@gmail.com

January 31, 2023

<u>COMMITTEE ON HOUSING</u> Senator Stanley Chang, Chair Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair Committee Members

SB 763

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide non-profit dedicated to ensuring that appropriate land and water planning and management decisions are made to protect the environment, human health, and cultural and natural resources, opposes SB 763 which eliminates public involvement in affordable housing projects being built under HRS 201H.

Presently neither the State Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) HRS 201H or Honolulu Department of Planning and permitting (DPP) 201H Housing Program Rules Chapter 25 have a public involvement component within the agency rules or laws. The only opportunity for the community to comment on a 201H project is before a County Council.

SB 763 deletes County Councils, which are the legislative body and decision-making body and makes the various counties planning departments, which have no public involvement opportunities the approving body.

HTF urges the committee to not pass SB 763 so that community members can continue to be involved in the decision-making process for 201H projects.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 10:45:19 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Damien Kenison	Testifying for Kauhako Ohana Association	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in opposition to SB763. Although I am sure it was created with good intent, the intended purpose is not pono. This legislation will take the decision-making process away from the county council and deprive the public of commenting on or voicing their approval or disapproval on a proposed development. This bill will solely allow the Planning Department to make decisions on important land use proposals which will eventually corrupt the permitting process.

Please deny the passing of this bill and keep the decisions on land use in the hands of the County Council and the public.

Ke Aloha Nunui,

Damien Kenison

Kauhako Ohana Association

501 c3 community organization based in Kauhako/Hookena South Kona, Hawaii Island

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:28:53 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Momi Nuuhiwa	Testifying for Momilani Farm	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE SB763

HEARING: Tuesday, January 31 at 1:00 pm

Thank you for this opportunity, **I OPPOSE** <u>SB763</u> to delete all references to the legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word **county**. A legislative body is a decision-making County Council or legislative body.

This change means that each county's **planning office**, instead of the County Council, will review and approve 201H-38 applications without any public due process. There will be no

- public hearings before county councils
- opportunities to submit testimony
- opportunities to make comments or ask questions

THIS IS WRONG! It does not allow us to stop bad development initiatives and ensure we are in alignment with our Hawai'i State Constitution protecting the Native Hawaiian Traditions and Customary Rights. Under Hawai'i law, the State and its agencies are obligated to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights. It also grossly lifts a large list of permits that developers must go through that funds a process to ensure our land is being utilized in responsible ways. Getting rid of checks and balances is great for extractive developers and bad for affordable housing and land degradation for cultural and natural resources. I also oppose this bill because there is no definition on what qualifies as affordable housing is truly affordable housing must be defined as a percentage of income; for example, housing is truly affordable when mortgages and rents are less than 30% of a person's income. If the median income of a working person is \$55000, then yearly payments should not be more than \$16,500/year. What is happening is these affordable housing projects are not truly affordable to working class people. My friends pay upwards of \$24000/year in rent! This absolutely reduces their quality of life! Define affordable housing as something that is truly affordable!

I am asking you to OPPOSE SB763 today.

Momi Nu'uhiwa

Hilo 96720

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:45:58 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sylvia Dolena	Testifying for Pele Lani Farm LLC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please opose SB 763 and MAINTAIN TRANSPARENCY.

HEARING: Tuesday, January 31 at 1:00 pm

The real purpose of **SB736** is to delete all references to legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word **county**. A legislative body is a decision-making County Council or legislative body.

This change means that each county's **planning office**, instead of the County Council, will review and approve 201H-38 applications without any public due process. There will be no

- public hearings before county councils
- opportunities to submit testimony
- opportunities to make comments or ask questions

Sylvia Dolena

Pele Lani Farm LLC



<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 7:37:38 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikos Leverenz	Testifying for Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) supports SB 763.

HHHRC's mission is to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness, and fight stigma in Hawai'i and the Pacific. We work with many individuals impacted by poverty, housing instability, and other social determinants of health. Many have behavioral health problems, including those related to substance use and mental health conditions. Many of our program clients and participants have also been deeply impacted by trauma, including histories of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

PARTNERS IN CARE



Oahu's Continuum of Care

Our mission is to eliminate homelessness through open and inclusive participation and the coordination of integrated responses.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB763 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TO: Senate Committee on Housing,

FROM: Partners In Care – Oahu Continuum of Care (PIC)

- Hearing: Tuesday, January 31, 20231:00PM Conference Room 225 and Videoconference
- Position: **SUPPORT**

Chair Chang and Members of the Senate Committee on Housing:

Partner In Care, Oahu's Continuum of Care, stands in support/opposition/making comments on **SB 763 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.** Hawaii has been in a housing crisis for several decades, and the effects of the COVID pandemic has only worsened this crisis. The most vulnerable in our community are priced out of housing and yet so much of our housing goes vacant. Senate Bill 763 proposes to make the creation of more, truly affordable housing available throughout our community and keeps them affordable into the the future. Developers need to be able to make plans that will pencil out financially, otherwise we will only get more high priced units that only a few can afford. Cutting the fees to those developers who want to create work force housing antheaffordable housing will make thispossibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testifying on this measure. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Aloha

Jura E. Thielen

Laura E. Thielen

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/29/2023 4:49:47 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Matson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

We all badly want and need affordable housing. We don't want that affordable housing to be exempt from important public input and testimony. This bill appears to do that. Please fix/address that concern before proceeding with this legislation.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/29/2023 8:18:09 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tawn Keeney	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in opposition to this measure. The importance of the community's input into the process of designing its own environment should not be diminished. That input is provided by the legislative process in consideration of propriety of a housing development. That input must continue to be available to that community even if the project is designated as an 'affordable housing' project. Do not delete consideration by the representatives of the people and the community from the process of decision here.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/29/2023 11:10:40 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Harden	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

Please oppose SB 763. It will line developers' pockets by eliminating public hearings before county councils, and exempting projects from thousands of dollars in fees that would have funded government agencies.

mahalo,

Cory Harden

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 7:49:51 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Pulfrey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is pretty obviously a bill endorsed by unscrupulous elements of the real estate and development industry. Muzzling the people's constitutinal rights to free speech and testimony doesn't bother these people at all. Bad publicity does bother these people especially if it covers such horrors as the Manoa Banyan Court and Kuilei Place development projects. The purpose if SB 736 is to delete all references to "legislative body" and to replace it with the word "county." This change means that each County's planning office, and not the County Council, will review and aprove 201H-38 applications without any public due proceSs. There will be NO public Hearings before County Councils, NO opportunities to submit testimony, and NO opportunities to make coments or ask questions. Section (b) is also unnecessary and duplicative.

The unsaid motive is to promugate the horrible idea that "bad" people oppose affordable housing. No so. Good people oppose bad, unscupulous development projects that will destroy neighborhoods and force people to become homeless refugees from their destroyed neighborhoods, desecrate sacred sites and preservation lands, cause additional flood hazards, and to railroad destructive (but very profitable) projects through without community input.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:26:17 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Drena L. Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to this bill, specifically because it does not allow for the public's input. When we lose transparency with our government, we lose trust. There are too many exemptions when it comes to building public housing. One of the things I like about Hilo, Hi is that you can't build above a certain height. This bill allows you to build as high as you want with no input from the community. Do not vote for this bill . This is not a bill that supports what the people want, it's more to get around what the public wants or knows about.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 9:28:18 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Seth Kamemoto	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm concerned with the intent of the phrasing changes in 201H-38(a)(3) from "legislative body" to "county." I'm hoping that this is just a clarifying change, and "county" would still refer to the City Council (in Honolulu).

If this change in any way reduces the oversight of the City Council, and in doing so also removes what limited input the public currently has on these 201H projects, then I'd vehemently oppose such a drastic and abusive change.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 9:50:09 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha and Mahalo for this opportunity,

I OPPOSE <u>SB763</u> to delete all references to the legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word county. A legislative body is a decision-making County Council or legislative body.

This change means that each county's planning office, instead of the County Council, will review and approve 201H-38 applications without any public due process. There will be no

- public hearings before county councils
- opportunities to submit testimony
- opportunities to make comments or ask questions

THIS IS WRONG! It does not allow us to stop bad development initiatives and ensure we are in alignment with our Hawai'i State Constitution protecting the Native Hawaiian Traditions and Customary Rights. Under Hawai'i law, the State and its agencies are obligated to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights. It also grossly lifts a large list of permits that developers must go through that funds a process to ensure our land is being utilized in responsible ways. Getting rid of checks and balances is great for extractive developers and bad for affordable housing and land degradation for cultural and natural resources.

I am asking you to OPPOSE SB763 today.

Mahalo for your time,

Maki Morinoue 96725

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 10:00:05 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Abe	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

201H-38 projects already have many exemptions that favor the developer. This bill goes further by essentially taking away the public community's right to have input in these possibly detrimental developments.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 10:08:20 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, By eliminating the word "county", this bill removes, rather than improves, public participation in local governance.

i've been involved in local land use planning on Hawai`i Island for 40 years. i know what legislation meant to help the bottom lines of developers looks like: it looks like this bill.

for all of the reasons you'll hear to nix this bill, please be sure that's what you do: Get rid of this bill or replace language that increases the ability for the public to have the clearest say in how their lands, communies and quality of life will look like.

PLEASE OPPOSE SB 763.

mahalo,

janice palma-glennie

kailua-kona

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:04:44 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jean Jewell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose SB763 as it is written. It deletes all references to the legislative body and replaces it with the word **county**. This means that the county planning office will review and approve 201H-38 applications rather than the County Council. This means there may be no public hearings before the County Council, no opportunities to submit testimony and make comments.

THIS IS WRONG! It does not allow us to stop bad development initiatives and ensure we are in alignment with our Hawai'i State Constitution protecting the Native Hawaiian Traditions and Customary Rights. Under Hawai'i law, the State and its agencies are obligated to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights. It also grossly lifts a large list of permits that developers must go through that funds a process to ensure our land is being utilized in responsible ways. Getting rid of checks and balances is great for extractive developers and bad for affordable housing and land degradation for cultural and natural resources We have had far too many fly by night developers come to our community.. I am asking you to OPPOSE SB763 today.

I wish you would create a bill to sharply increase taxes on vacation rentals and decrease taxes for those who rent long term. This is the crux of our housing shortage, Mainlanders buying up our houses, renting short term so they have a place to come when they want. This has pushed the cost of homes way up and is preventing our children from getting their foot in the door.

Jean Jewell

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:33:07 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Auwe! SB 763 would take away the opportunity for public input on affordable housing projects statewide. Forgive me if I am wrong; I thought that we were a government run by the people. If that is true, why are you taking away our rights to voice our opinions?

Senators, who voted you into your seats? Didn't the people do that? Then why are you removing our God-given rights to speak?

When you shut us out it leads me to question your authority, respectability, and accountability.

Please know that we are watching you, as well as God, is watching you and you will be held accountable in the future for any injustice done to the public. I am praying you to do the right thing and vote no! Show your constituents you care about them and not just about putting money in your pockets.

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:35:00 AM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne ('Antu') Harvey	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity,

I OPPOSE <u>SB763</u> (deletes all references to the legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word **county**.)

Passing this bill would result in each county's Planning Department, instead of the County Council, will review and approve 201H-38 applications without any public due process. This would be a Civic Involvement take away. THIS WOULD BE THE WRONG DIRECTION for Hawaii to go! We would no longer have a say in specific matters. This bill would be a NO to:

- public hearings before county councils
- opportunities to submit testimony
- opportunities to make comments or ask questions

THIS IS WRONG! It does not allow us to stop bad development initiatives and ensure we are in alignment with our Hawai'i State Constitution protecting the Native Hawaiian Traditions and Customary Rights. Under Hawai'i law, the State and its agencies are obligated to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights.

Removing legislative checks and balances returns us deeper back into the old Colonial system of back room deals and more opportunity for fraud. That opacity and control by a few effectively stacks access exclusively toward insiders and wealthy investors who most highly value extracting short term profits, piecemeal, at the exclusion of the real needs and values of the community - that of protecting holistically our 'Āina that provides for our ohana - housing, food farms, healthy integrated land and sea environment including water resources. We, the people who live here full time and for generations, need to retain a say in these matters - directly and through our legislators, on behalf of our keiki, culture and future generations.

I am asking you to **OPPOSE SB763** today.

Mahalo.

Anne ('Antu') Harvey 96725

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 12:41:27 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hannah Hartmann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

Mahalo nui for the chance to OPPOSE SB763. I OPPOSE <u>SB763</u> for several reasons.

It will delete all references to the legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word county. This change means each county's planning office, instead of the County Council. This will allow the planning office to review and approve 201H-38 applications without any public due process, which includes:

- No public hearings before county councils
- No opportunities to submit testimony
- No opportunities to make comments or ask questions

This is extremely problematic in terms of adequate, equitable, and accessible public participation. The people of Hawai'i deserve to, and have a right to ensure all development initiatives are aligned with our Hawai'i State Constitution protecting the Native Hawaiian Traditions and Customary Rights. Under Hawai'i law, the State and its agencies are obligated to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights. It also grossly lifts a large list of permits that developers must go through that funds a process to ensure our land is being utilized in responsible ways.

Getting rid of checks and balances will create the environment for extractive developers to flourish, causing further irreparable land degradation for cultural and natural resources.

Please, for the life of our 'āina and the people, OPPOSE SB763 today.

Hannah Hartmann

96721

<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 12:44:05 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherri Thal	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and Happy New Year, Legislators!

I am writing to strongly OPPOSE SB763 to delete all references to the legislative body in HRS §201H-38 and replace it with the word county. A legislative body is a decision-making County Council or legislative body.

In these perilous times of Overpopulation and Climate Change, it is crucial that we keep a system of strict checks and balances in place with regard to land use, especially on an island. We also must do our utmost to protect and preserve Native Practices and Rights, specifically speaking of our Native Hawaiian Cultural Rights and Practices. Bill SB763 would relax instead of tighten these checks and balances and oversight, some of which include the rights of the Public-Kama'aina-to testify for or against land use projects as we see fit, as well as remove County Council oversight of land use and development, and remove Public Hearings on developments. Ouch!!! This bill will hurt both the 'Aina and its inhabitants if passed!!! Please oppose SB763. Our future is in your hands!

Aloha and Mahalo,

Sherri Thal, Kea'au, HI 96749



<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 3:55:11 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose



<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 7:26:11 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kurt Takara	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please do not pass SB763:

1) This removes the opportunity for public hearings, testimony, questions and comments

2) This exempts housing projects from exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any government agency relating to planning, zoning, construction standards for subdivisions, development and improvement of land, and the construction of dwelling units

Mahalo for your consideration,

Kurt Takara



<u>SB-763</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:34:00 PM Testimony for HOU on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lawrence S Franco	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I do not beleive that changing the County process from the legislature to administration is taking away from County self rule. We need our elected officials to determine whether housing projects meet the wishes of the people as described in the County's General Plan and subsequent Community Plans.