



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

Testimony on PEA-3(1)

Re: Hawaii State Association of Counties 2018 Legislative Package
Monday, October 16, 2017

Dear Chair Sugimura, Vice Chair Crivello &
Members of the Committee,

Aloha and Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the following proposed bills to be included in the Hawaii State Association of Counties 2018 Legislative Package:

- A Bill For An Act Relating to Taxation for the purposes of providing a tax payer who hires an individual with a disability and elderly individual with a nonrefundable tax credit. We support both proposed state bills as this will incentivize these hires. In the case of hiring the elderly, because of Hawaii's healthcare age banding, the costs to hire elderly workers are far higher than the costs for younger employees. This bill could help increase the number of jobs for elderly workers and give them the opportunity to earn more. While discrimination in hiring is not allowed, there are economic realities in what companies can and cannot afford that must not be ignored and these proposed bills may help offset the costs initially.
- A Bill For An Act Relating To Transient Accommodations Tax for the purpose of eliminating the cap for distribution of TAT revenues. We support this bill as we do not feel the neighbor island counties, including ours, are getting their fair share of the TAT tax revenue.
- A Bill For An Act Relating to Transient Accommodations Tax for the purpose of amending the law to require online travel companies and other transient accommodations remarketers to pay TAT. We support a fair and equitable playing field and feel that everyone involved in transient accommodations should have to pay the TAT. We previously testified in support of this bill.
- A Bill For An Act Relating To Transient Accommodations Tax for the purpose of providing a fair, consistent, and predictable priority allocation of TAT revenues. We support increased and fair distribution of TAT revenue to neighbor island counties.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on these important matters.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

RECEIVED AT PEA MEETING ON 10/16/17
(CHAMBER COURTS)

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.