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TO: Honolulu City Council
Kapolei Hale

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
Honolulu, HI 96825
808-395-3233

REGULAR
MEETING: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Bill 5 Public Park Activities - **COMMENTS**

Aloha Councilmembers,

Thank you for allowing additional testimony on Bill 5, which would ban certain commercial activities in certain beach parks on weekends.

I appreciate the work that has gone into this bill, including the exclusion of the filming industry and the focused attention on certain Windward parks. As stated in previous testimony, however, I would like to request Sec. 10-1.2 of the ordinance be revised.

It is currently illegal to "climb onto any tree, except those designated for climbing, or other structure, excluding play apparatus." Children love to climb trees, and based on my observations, a good climbing tree provides more enjoyment than the \$125,000 - \$300,000 play apparatuses we keep adding to our parks. (It should be noted I have never seen a tree on Oahu that indicates it has been designated for climbing.)

In addition, since the ordinance includes "other structure," it is illegal to use adult exercise equipment that is in our parks. It makes no sense to have this equipment when it is illegal to use it. **Please put some common sense back into our law and change Sec. 10-1.2(a)(2) of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu by removing "climb onto any tree, except those designated for climbing" and "other structure" from this section.**