

City Council testimony of

Bob Twogood for the May 9, 2012 Council meeting

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[HONOLULU, HAWAII]

Council members:

Mr. Anderson, You gave me a list of 5 problems this bill is supposed to address. Of those 5 problems, 3 of them are too many kayaks in the park, in the parking lot of the park, and on the water.

I believe that most of the people that are in favor of this bill are not aware that this bill, as presently written, will have zero impact on those problems, because the largest vendor of kayak rentals in Kailua is just up the street from the park so the number of Kayaks they send into the park, and onto the water will increase because of this bill. That's because this bill will put our company, that has been serving this kayaking community for over 30 years, and two others out of business, put 30 of our workers – Kailua residents – out of work, and it will make a monopoly out of the company across the street from the park. Then the people that would have come to us for kayak rentals, and keep in mind, we deliver kayaks to a parking lot at the canal, which is outside of the park area, which keeps our delivery vehicles and kayakers out of the park, will be forced to go the new monopoly by the beach.

Another problem with this bill is that it will deny the use of the park to some other very small home based businesses, such as a young mother's exercise class, yoga classes, and Bounce houses for 1st Birthday parties, all activities that are so perfectly appropriate for the park and a benefit to our community.

So, if this bill will make the problem it is trying to solve worse, what is the sense in putting these companies out of business, and these Kailua residents out of jobs?

I'd like to request that you vote this Bill down. Then come up with a new one that it will accomplish what the majority of the residents want, WITHOUT creating all this unnecessary damage.