

P.4, Bill 18

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From: Vincent Shigekuni [vshigekuni@pbrhawaii.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 5:50 PM
To:
Cc:
Subject: Budget Committee Testimony

City Council
 City and County of Honolulu
 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: Bill 18 (2013)

Dear Chair Ann Kobayashi and Members of the Budget Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed budget. I understand that in this climate of fiscal restraint, a direct approach to reduce operating costs is to cut funding of vacant positions. As a planning consultant (and taxpayer), I would like to express my support to the City Council in making sure the budget being considered includes funding of the Department of Planning and Permitting's (DPP) current vacancies. I am sure my colleagues/competitors in the planning, design and construction industry are much busier than in recent years. If we "strike while the iron is hot", this may result in an increase in real property taxes and revenues to the City and County of Honolulu for years to come. We in the industry cannot add to and/or renew the residential, commercial and industrial inventory without timely processing of permits and approvals from DPP staff.

Please make sure there are adequate financial resources for DPP to do its job.

Thank you very much for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Vincent Shigekuni

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 Council