

Speaker Registration/Testimony

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Name(*) Victor Geminiani
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Meeting Date (*) 2015-08-20
Council/PH Committee (*) Zoning
Agenda Item (*) Bill 20
Your position on the matter (*) Support
Representing (*) Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*) Yes

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Written Testimony

I am a resident of Kailua and I am in strong support for the passage of Bill 20 which would permit the building of Accessory Dwelling Units on lots larger than 3500 square feet. We are in the midst of a homeless crisis with the worst ratio of people living on the streets than any other state in the nation. We are also in the midst of a affordable housing crisis caused by bad planning and the dramatic escalation of rents over the past 10 years. Virtually no new affordable rental housing has been created for those earning less than 80% of the AMI. Bill 20 provides the only relief in sight for the creation of significant affordable rentals. Modeled after successful initiatives in a number of high cost/high demand locations one the mainland, ADUs have proven a critical tool to respond to the multiple barriers of building affordable housing. They do not require any funding from the government; can be built and managed by landowners throughout the county; avoid NIBYISM by integrating the ADUs into the existing communities and help avoid NIBYISM, use existing infra structures, help generate rental income for the landowner; and allow seniors to age in place. The bill has been reviewed by the council and this committee on multiple occasions without any significant objection. It is time to begin resolving our homeless and affordable housing challenges immediately. Please pass out Bill 20 today. Aloha, Victor Geminiani