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P9, Bill 20

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*Eric Gill, Financial Secretary-Treasurer*

*Hernando Ramos Tan, President*

*Godfrey Maeshiro, Senior Vice-President*

September 1, 2015

Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Testimony: Bill 20 – LUO AMENDMENT RELATING TO ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS.

Dear Chair Martin and Council Members:

UNITE HERE, Local 5 represents over 11,000 workers in the hotel, restaurant and health care industries in Hawaii.

We **support** Bill 20 (2015), which would amend the LUO to allow the creation of accessory dwelling units and its provisions requiring ADUs be for long-term rental only. The Union agrees that ADUs may generate more housing for local residents and it is a start in addressing the housing crisis when used for its intended purpose.

We believe this bill could benefit many in our communities. It provides more housing inventory and is a viable solution for the following:

The multigenerational household, common in Hawaii, would benefit by having space and privacy.

The working poor unable to afford high rent would have more options available to them.

The “house poor” homeowner would be able to generate the additional income needed to keep their home.

The elderly who want to age in place are able to do so safely, with dignity and with less disruption to lifestyle for all involved.

The Union’s main concern regarding this bill was due to the possibility that ADUs may contribute to the problem of illegal TVUs. We appreciate this council’s effort to address this legitimate issue.

We strongly urge this council to address enforcement issues regarding the proliferation of TVUs and BnBs in conjunction to moving this bill forward.

Mahalo for your consideration.

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