

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 11:53 AM

Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony
Attachments: 20160509115241_Bill13.2016.LGBT.pdf

~~Speaker~~ Registration/Testimony

All fields marked "*" are required and must be completed in order for this form to be valid.

Note: Registrations are not accepted prior to the agendas being posted.

Name(*)	Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Phone (*)	808-358-4417
Email (*)	chair@glbtcaucushawaii.org
Meeting Date (*)	2016-05-10
Council/PH Committee (*)	Budget
Agenda Item (*)	Bill 12 (2016)
Your position on the matter (*)	Oppose
Representing (*)	Organization
Organization	LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? (*)	Yes
Written Testimony	See attached document.
Testimony Attachment	20160509115241_Bill13.2016.LGBT.pdf
Accept Terms and Conditions (*)	1

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May 9, 2016

Committee on Budget
City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu, HI 96813-3077

Hearing: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.

RE: **Opposition to Bill 13 (2016), CD 1, Manahan & Martin – Grant In Aid to New Hope**

Aloha Chairperson Ann Kobayashi and fellow committee members,

I am writing to you on behalf of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawaii's largest and oldest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) political and advocacy organization.

The LGBT Caucus of the DPH is against the City and County of Honolulu from granting New Hope Church a grant of \$250,000 for parking structure. We believe this is in direct violation of the constitutional mandate of the separation of state and church. In Councilman Manahan's request he writes that this grant will help build a 4-story parking structure for their "Center of Hope" and in the councilman's own words "The center will benefit its thousands of islandwide church members..."

This request for Grant in Aid is not centered on a secular need and serves no public service but to support the religious activities of New Hope Church and that is not something that we at the LGBT Caucus of the DPH can sit silently by and allow it to move forward.

The City and County of Honolulu is facing an epidemic when it comes to our houseless citizens and Councilmember Martin and Manahan have made a parking garage a priority, we find this completely unacceptable. We are aghast that this was even introduced since New Hope has defrauded our local public schools of hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid rental fees and utilities.

Please note that New Hope Ministries has no history of producing programs to assist the general public, a State Constitutional requirement for using taxpayer funds. Hawaii State Constitution requires public funds go for a public purpose, not a private religious purpose:

Article 7 Section 4: "No tax shall be levied or appropriation of public money or property made, nor shall the public credit be used, directly or indirectly, except for a public purpose. No grant shall be made in violation of Section 4 of Article I of this constitution. No grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law."

We respectfully request that Martin and Manahan requests be voted down and a reminder issued to all City and County of Honolulu Councilmembers of the State Constitutional requirements when it comes to spending taxpayer dollars.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair

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