

From: Elaine Kam hulanews@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: COUNCIL BILL 3 (2017), CD1, ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS regarding Taxes & Financial Accountability
Date: March 22, 2017 at 5:00 AM
To:



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COUNCIL BILL 3 (2017), CD 1 (OPPOSE) March 22, 2017, 10 am

My name is Elaine Kam
I am in Trevor Ozawa's District IV.

As member of the Financial Accountability for Rail Mass Transit Association of Honolulu, I strongly **OPPOSE Council Bill 3, CD 1** because the huge percentage of underlined material the Mayor wishes to omit in this bill, reveals a very concerned leader who desires to hide a lot of financial secrets from us, his constituents, who are very anxious to learn ...

whatever happened to all of our rail money? Where did it go?

All possible financial accountability for the rail project has been crossed out so we may never know where our money disappeared to.

This Bill 3, CD 1 is also too premature to remove the 1/2% state excise tax before the legislature grants approval to perpetuate the 1/2% surcharge for the rail over costs.

I'd like to add **these 6 additional important AMENDMENTS to this bill:**

- (1) to require the Mayor to submit a Financial Accountability for Rail Mass Transit Report every 3 months**
- (2) this Report is to be given to the City Council for their critical scrutiny & oversight
- (3) upon receipt of the Mayor's quarterly Financial Accountability Report every 3 months, the City Council is to conduct, without fail, a public hearing to discuss this rail report & to allow testimony. Fortunately, taxation with representation is a privilege we still have altho we seem to have to fight for it at this time.

(We citizens would like to be able to view this financial accountability rail report whenever we wish. access it via the computer & print it if desired. or

pay to have it printed at Honolulu Hale.)

(4) some testifiers have to return to work after testifying...allow the citizens to testify before the Mayor & department spokespeople commence discussions with Council members.

(5) allow a reasonable period of time for Questions & Answers between testifiers, council members & relevant persons.

(6) add an amendment called "parking leniency" with the consent of the police officers in the area ... to encourage more citizens to participate in government ... by being able to go to Honolulu Hale &/or the State Capitol to testify without the stressful, negative & expensive consequence of receiving a \$40 parking citation.

Here are some negative conditions presently discouraging testifiers:

a) lack of an adequate number of designated parking spaces nearby
b) lack of small change, time, & energy to keep running out to feed the parking meter

c) need for parking leniency. Wish the police officers around this area had a more positive attitude toward citizens who participate in government & testify. Wish they were educated to appreciate & commend a citizen for testifying rather than issuing a \$40 parking citation. How can a police officer tell if a person is testifying? Perhaps a citizen ought to generate a "Testifying" vehicle placard to display on his dashboard with the date, time, Bill or Resolution, place, room no., citizen's name & text/cell phone no. Perhaps a council member can discuss this stressful parking concern with Acting Chief of Police Cary Okimoto (808 529-3111 or 808 529-3161). Being a taxpayer, himself, Okimoto may benefit from a testifying watch dog.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns. It's very important for our overburdened taxpayers to have financial accountability, Council oversight & public hearings at this time..

With the many improvements of the driverless cars, and other rail options, I think we ought to stop wasting our money on this poor steel-on-steel rail investment.

It's better to lose a smaller amount of money to the Feds than throw away billions of dollars for an outdated antique.