



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII O'AHU GROUP

Sierra Club of O'ahu  
1164 Bishop St, Honolulu, HI 96813

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C & S OFFICE HONOLULU

Aloha Council members,

On behalf of the Sierra Club's O'ahu group and our 8,000 members and supporters we want to testify in support of Bill 59 regarding affordable housing. The proposed real property tax exemptions during the permitting and construction phases make affordable housing more profitable for developers and in turn encourages them to pursue more affordable housing projects.

Given the current low stock of affordable housing and the increasing demand going into the future, the O'ahu Group believes making the construction affordable housing more attractive to developers is key. This measure is mutually supportive of other aspects related to environmentally friendly urban design that the Club is in support of and we believe that this bill will play an invaluable part in obtaining the positive kind of growth we want in the future while making life just a little bit less financially burdensome for our islands families, moving into the future.

We thank you for taking the time to hear our thoughts and we hope that you will pass Bill 59

With aloha,

Elliot Van Wie  
Conservation Chair & Smart Growth Chair