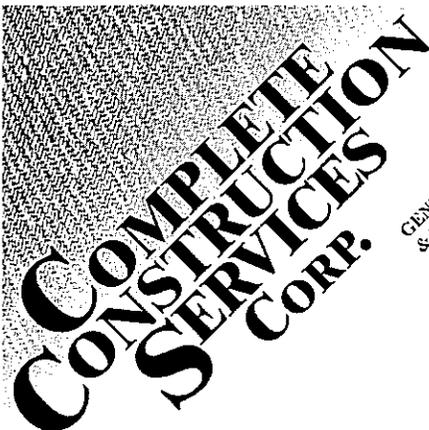


Bill 64, CD1
Early Testimony



GENERAL CONTRACTING
& DEVELOPMENT

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November 14, 2018

Honorable Ernest Martin, Chair
Honolulu City Council,
City Council Chambers
City Hall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

Dear Chair Martin, Vice Chair Pine, and members of the Council,

Subject: Testimony on Bill No. 64, RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS

I am writing in support of Bill 64 with some additional comments. The fact of the matter is that DPP already has existing deadlines imposed by rule and law that they completely ignore. Adding another requirement affecting processing time by itself won't solve the problem. What is needed is the political will to implement and monitor changes to the process of how plans are reviewed and permits issued.

The simple fact of the matter is that our building codes are largely the same as most of the rest of the country. They are based on the ICC model codes. So why is it the rest of the country is able to process building permits for the most part in days or weeks while we are averaging 250 working days? The answer is not in the staffing or the funding, it is in the process.

I respect and understand that it is difficult for the council to legislate process, but you can place expectations and link those expectations to the funding you provide. Ultimately this is a simple problem if the proper motivation is given. There are thousands of counties in this county and hundreds that I know of that deal with building permits in an expeditious manner. All we need to do is take a page from someone else's playbook.

Sincerely,

Greg Thielen
President/RME

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 9:09 AM
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Rodney H. Kim Jr.
 Phone 8083569073
 Email rodney@atlasconstruction808.com
 Meeting Date 11-14-2018
 Council/PH Committee Council
 Agenda Item Bill 64
 Your position on the matter Support
 Representing Organization
 Organization Atlas Construction
 Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

Written Testimony

I am strongly in favor of Bill 64. This will greatly help our construction industry in streamlining the building permit process. Currently the state of our industry for single family homes remodels, additions, and new homes is being held back in the current building permit process. This bill will help to streamline the process and alleviate the impact to the departments lack of manpower and resources.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
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Website: www.gcahawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via City and County of Honolulu Website

November 14, 2018

Honorable Ernie Martin, Chair
Honorable Kymberly Pine, Vice Chair
Honolulu City Council
City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING BILL 64 (2018), CD1, A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS.
Full Council: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Chair Martin and Members of the Council,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of approximately five hundred general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

The GCA is writing with grave concerns regarding the current draft of Bill 64 (2018), CD1 due to the impact that the current language could have on the priority of construction permit processing. The GCA recently learned that the bill, as drafted, could essentially give priority for approvals of building permits to one and two family residential dwelling over other building permits, including and not limited to commercial, industrial or other multi-unit building permit requests. The GCA recently became aware of this potential impact after the November 7, 2018 Special Zoning and Housing Committee meeting whereby testimony confirmed this potential impact. While the GCA supports streamlining and expediting the approval of building permits – the GCA would object to one type of construction getting priority over the other – potentially resulting in further delays for another sector of building permit approvals. Due to this recent information, the GCA respectfully requests that the bill be deferred to allow for further study on how to avoid such a negative impact.

Rather than give priority to one segment over the other, GCA considers it more appropriate to fix the entire system to allow proper processing of all building permits to improve efficiency and long-term improvement and success. The Permitted Interaction Group that is looking at the overall permitting process and its impact on construction is a better group to review the permitting process and how it interacts with the building code and enforcement of current laws.

For these reasons, GCA has concerns about how Bill 64 (2018), CD1 is currently drafted and kindly ask for a deferral at this time for further study on the matter. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support.

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 3:17 PM
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Frank Goerner
Phone 2812220384
Email frank.goerner@gmail.com
Meeting Date 11-14-2018
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Bill 64
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written
Testimony

My wife and I are both working professionals in Hawaii and have two young children and recently purchased a home on Oahu. Following this we learned that in order to build or renovate our home we would need to wait potentially a year or more just to get permits. The condition the house is in is not suitable for our young family and needs significant work. Even if we could move into the house we would then have to move out for construction 6 months to a year later and then move back in again after construction around 7 months after that. So our choices are to either spend up to \$40,000 to stay in our current rental while waiting on permits and only move once or move 3 times in a year and a half also because the permitting process takes so long. This is not only affecting the building industry negatively but also people trying to get a house built. I think waiting 8-12 months to get a permit to build a single family residential home is a very long time. I strongly support this bill and am confident that the folks in the permitting office can at least meet the national maximum of 2 months to provide permits. Passing this bill will not only help the folks in the construction industry but also working families trying to build homes.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1