

Bill 12 Testimony

MISC. COM. 293

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 6:02 PM
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Brian Lam
Phone 4153781154
Email brianlam8@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-20-2020
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item CR-84
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Organization Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I'm writing to voice my opposition to Council Bill 12. The current property tax relief allows owners to continue to care for culturally significant homes that would otherwise fall into ruin, support local builders and helps preserve our rich architectural heritage. The maintenance required for these homes is important and costly, so having the tax relief allows for quality upkeep and preservation of history. With the current pandemic, this bill's passing would become a huge burden on homeowners and communities who are already being affected financially as it is.

Brian Lam

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:11 AM
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name John Huffman
Phone 2145389322
Email john@360investtx.com
Meeting Date 05-20-2020
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item Bill 12
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I believe that the History that goes with the preservation of the architectural History is very important to the Island and its people. The incentive to keep old Hawaii must be keep in place to protect these properties from the onslaught of the mind set of "out with the old in with new" . PLEASE VOTE NO ON THIS BILL!!!!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 5:42 AM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Herbert M Mark
Phone 8089418133
Email herb.mark@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-20-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item CR-84, Bill 12 (2020)
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

I am a former member of the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board, serving for 12 years in the field of architecture. Of the many residential structures that were placed on the Hawaii Register by the Board during my tenure, rightfully, the historical and architectural importance of the residences were the primary considerations in Board actions.

Written
Testimony

However, the Board was very aware of the many sacrifices that would be made by owners of residences listed on the Hawaii Register, and supported the property tax reduction. The current tax reduction recognizes the sacrifices, especially those that limit what owners can change in the architectural character of their historic residences. The tax recognizes the high cost of maintenance and repairs of aging historic structures with the tax reduction. The tax reduction recognizes that the owners may be surrendering the potential for future financial gain that could be considerable, if the zoning of their neighborhood was upgraded from residential to a higher use.

The tax reduction recognizes that owners agree to give up all plans for major alterations that would alter the outside physical appearance of the residence, such as adding a second story, or enlarging the ground floor. Owners must also maintain the architectural character and design details of the original structure. This can be costly if the design details need repairs or replacement.

We also need to recognize the contribution of historic residences listed on the Hawaii Register to declining residential areas in which they are often located. The property tax reduction is an acknowledgement of how a well-maintained historic residence on a neat and attractive lot can promote a higher standard of maintenance throughout an aging

neighborhood.

The sacrifices of the owners of historic residences, and the important contribution of historic residences in setting a higher standard of maintenance in aging residential areas, more than justifies keeping the current property tax reduction.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and ¹
Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:53 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Beadie Kanahele Dawson
Phone 808-223-9996
Email Bdawson@settlemyerlaw.com
Meeting Date 05-20-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill 12
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

I stand in strong OPPOSITION to counsel Bill 12. I am a lifelong resident of Honolulu and have owned a Historic home for 55 years. It has not been easy to keep up with the endless maintenance all these years. I deeply appreciate the historic homes and Properties around our Hawai'i communities that have withstood the test of time, I was very involved in the restoration of Iolani Palace and I am a former Trustee of the Historic Hawai'i Foundation.

It is because the current property tax exemption supports preservation, maintenance and rehabilitation of significant buildings, neighborhoods and districts throughout Honolulu.

Written Testimony The partial relief from the property tax burden allows owners to continue the historic character and scale of many neighborhoods even in the face of continuing pressure from monster homes and other over-building in residential areas.

I would ask that you seriously reconsider any move to increase taxes on these historic homes. If you don't, owners will not be able to preserve these historic properties and you will begin to see a steady decline in the Historic nature of our communities and Hawai'i will forever lose its unique Historical quality.

Further, raising taxes during the current health and economic crisis would place yet another burden on already stressed families and communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this written testimony.

Testimony
Attachment

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 11:41 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Donne Dawson
Phone 808-888-9418
Email donne.dawson@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-20-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill12
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Organization Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

I stand in strong OPPOSITION to counsel Bill 12. I am a lifelong resident of Honolulu. As a Trustee of the Historic Hawai'i Foundation and someone who grew up in an historic home, graduated from a Hawai'i high school (La Pietra) situated in an historic home, I deeply appreciate the historic homes around our Hawai'i communities that have withstood the test of time, It is because the current property tax exemption supports preservation, maintenance and rehabilitation of significant buildings, neighborhoods and districts throughout Honolulu.

The partial relief from the property tax burden allows owners to continue the historic character and scale of many neighborhoods even in the face of continuing pressure from monster homes and other over-building in residential areas.

I would ask that you seriously reconsider any move to increase taxes on these historic homes. If you don't, owners will not be able to preserve these historic properties and you will begin to see a steady decline in the Historic nature of our communities and Hawai'i will forever lose its unique Historical quality.

Further, raising taxes during the current health and economic crisis would place yet another burden on already stressed families and communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this written testimony.

Testimony Attachment

TO: Honolulu City Council

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

DATE: Wednesday, May 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Bill 12, Real Property Tax Exemption for Historical Residential Property - **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Anderson and Councilmembers,

Thank you for allowing testimony on Bill 12, which would increase the minimum tax on historical residential properties from \$300 to \$1,000 among other things.

I support this proposed increase in minimum tax.

Please vote "yes" on Bill 12.