

CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Mar 14 10 33 AM '06

The Senate

The Twenty-Third Legislature

of the

State of Hawaii

STATE CAPITOL

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813



RECEIVED

ROBERT BUNDA
PRESIDENT
DONNA MERCADO KIM
VICE PRESIDENT
COLLEEN HANABUSA
MAJORITY LEADER
CLAYTON HEE
MAJORITY ALIEN LEADER
SHAN S. TSUTSUKI
MAJORITY CAUCUS LEADER
FRED HEMMINGG
MINORITY LEADER

BOB HOGUE
MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

GORDON TRIMBLE
MINORITY SENATE LEADER

FIRST DISTRICT
LORRAINE R. INGLIS

SECOND DISTRICT
RUSSELL S. FUKUNAGA

THIRD DISTRICT
PAUL WHELAN

FOURTH DISTRICT
SHAN S. TSUTSUKI

FIFTH DISTRICT
ROSALYN H. BAKER

SIXTH DISTRICT
J. KALAN BENGHIOH

SEVENTH DISTRICT
GARY L. HOOSER

EIGHTH DISTRICT
SAM RICH

NINTH DISTRICT
LIS HARA, JR.

TENTH DISTRICT
SHANN T. FAROUCH

ELEVENTH DISTRICT
CAROL FUKUNAGA

TWELFTH DISTRICT
GORDON TRIMBLE

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT
SUZANNE SHIM (OSKLAND)

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT
DONNA MERCADO KIM

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT
KOFMAN SAKAKOTO

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT
DAVID J. JOE

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT
RON MENEZ

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT
CLARENCE N. NISHIHARA

NINETEENTH DISTRICT
BRIAN KAHAKO

TWENTY DISTRICT
BILL ESPERO

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT
COLLEEN HANABUSA

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT
ROBERT BUNDA

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT
CLAYTON HEE

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT
BOB HOGUE

TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT
FRED HEMMINGG

CHIEF CLERK
PAUL T. KAWAKUBO

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
530 S. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in support of Bill 17 - RELATING TO A MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX FOR BUSES USED AS TEMPORARY SHELTERS FOR THE HOMELESS.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Honolulu City Council:

Please accept my testimony in strong support of City Council Bill 17 which seeks to reduce homelessness in the City and County of Honolulu by exempting vehicles that are converted into mobile homeless shelters from the motor vehicle weight tax.

The homeless crisis that exists in our islands is unacceptable. With over 6,000 men, women, and children suffering, we must take advantage of all available opportunities to provide relief, shelter, and access to training so that Hawaii's homeless may transition into safe and stable housing.

Given the recent inclement weather and subsequent flooding and water contamination, I strongly support efforts to shelter those who have lost their homes. This legislation will take a positive step towards providing shelter and transport for those who so often are forced to go without.

I have meet with Utu Langi, the founder and director of the H-5 Project personally and am quite familiar with the great work that his organization is doing in our community to alleviate the challenges of the homeless. Having listened to the compelling arguments of Mr. Langi and Brother George Lee (of the Ohana Family of the Living God), I urge you to take this opportunity to affirm their dedication to serving and advocating for Hawaii's homeless by passing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Hooser
Hawaii State Senate
7th Senatorial District - Kaua'i & Ni'ihau

mm: GLH

Misc. Com. No. 0603

PH