

**Testimony to the Zoning Committee - Nov 18, 2008
Re: For Extension of Time to Consider Bills 6 & 8**

Much has been said about the need for development on our Island but the recent development plan for Kailua has created a housing shortage. Over 200 rental units have been demolished in the downtown area close to shops and buses. They will be replaced (someday—work on them has stopped) by high-end condos that our children and most locals cannot afford.



Left photo: The old affordable units



Right photo: Vacant lot awaiting condo development

In recent years the conversion of residential homes into illegal B&Bs and TVUs has taken even more rentals off the market. I am now seeing homeless people in Kailua. This woman frequently sleeps at the bus stop in Kailua park.



Photo: November 2008, 6:45 AM near Times Supermarket, Kailua

I believe more rentals will become available if the 1989 B&B bill is upheld. Some B&B's are re-converting to rentals as they anticipate enforcement measures by the DPP. This desirable conversion of illegal B&Bs back into rentals is likely to increase if you reject Bill 6. To illustrate, here is a recent advertisement from Craigslist:

3/5/08 - "furnished apartment, about 900 sq.ft. 2/1....includes almost everything, it used to be a bed and breakfast..."

I ask you to please protect the residential zoning of our neighborhoods. Reject Bill 6, and add B&Bs to Bill 8; [Relating to Regulation of Certain Visitor Accommodations ...] require that advertisements for TVUs include certain information that would facilitate the City's ability to locate illegal TVUs and to enforce the prohibition against their operation in residential and certain other areas.]

'Mahalo nui loa' for your service to the people of Hawaii.

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