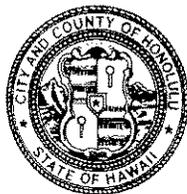


DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FISCAL SERVICES  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**  
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 208 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-3900 • FAX: (808) 768-3179 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov

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CITY COUNCIL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

RIX MAURER III  
ACTING DIRECTOR

MARK K. OTO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 9, 2009

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CITY CLERK  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

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The Honorable Nestor R. Garcia, Chair  
and Members of the Budget Committee  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Garcia and Councilmembers:

We are opposed to the changes proposed by Bill 3 (2009). This bill proposes to extend both the filing deadline and the qualifying date for acquisition of a property for home exemption purposes, with the resultant cumulative tax benefits for two consecutive tax years to be applied in the second tax year.

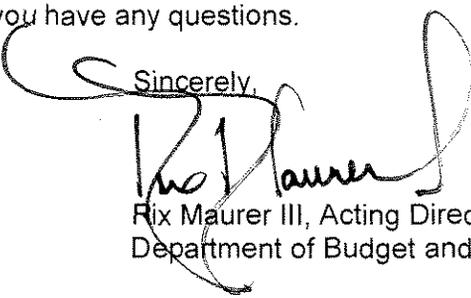
Due to the length of time between qualifying for the home exemption and the tax year that the tax benefit would apply to, it would present an administrative burden on the Real Property Assessment Division, due to possible changes in status, such as ownership and occupancy.

In addition, some of the newly qualified homeowners, under this proposal, could receive a lower benefit than they would under the current program.

There are other issues we have with this bill, and we would be willing to discuss them at your convenience.

Please call me at 768-3901 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Rix Maurer III, Acting Director  
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

RM:dw

APPROVED:

  
Kirk W. Caldwell  
Acting Managing Director

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