

HONOLULU



CITY LIGHTS

PRESENTED BY THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF HONOLULU
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE
FRIENDS OF HONOLULU CITY
LIGHTS

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HONOLULU, HAWAII

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May 18, 2009

The Honorable Nestor R. Garcia
Budget Committee Chair and
Members
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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RE: Bill 15 (2009) CD-1

Dear Budget Chair and Members:

As we prepare to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Honolulu City Lights, we ask that this committee support the City funding needed for this month-long signature holiday event.

Thousands upon thousands of island families and visitors regard the opening of Honolulu City Lights as the kick-off of the holiday season on Oahu. They flock to Honolulu Hale and line King Street to see the Electric Light Parade and the lighting of the 50-foot City Christmas Tree.

We have found that many island families cannot afford to purchase a Christmas tree or have a photo taken with Santa. But they know that if they come to Honolulu Hale during the month of December, they can see the decorated trees and lights, the giant outdoor displays, hear holiday music and see Santa *all for free*.

The Friends of Honolulu City Lights work hard all year raising funds to supplement the City's funding. Tough economic times are making it difficult this year to secure private funds but we are doing all we can.

During these tough economic times, now is not the time to reduce funding for Honolulu's most highly-anticipated holiday celebration.

Sincerely,

Pauline Worsham

Pauline Worsham
President
Friends of Honolulu City Lights

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