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TESTIMONY
Honolulu City Council Hearing
October 27, 2009
Bill 7 (2008) CD1

Charles A. Prentiss, Chair Kailua Neighborhood Board

The Kailua Neighborhood Board has reviewed the proposed Bill 7 (2008) CD1 and adopted two motions at its meeting of October 1, 2009. The first motion strongly opposes Bill 7 (2008), CD1. This reflects the continuing concerns that Kailua citizens have expressed through this Board over the years. The Board has listened to dozens of hours of testimony, established a dedicated committee and a dedicated permitted interaction group. The studied conclusion is that Bill 6 (2008) was terribly wrong for our residential areas, and Bill 7 (2008) CD1 is even worse.

The second motion recommends that the Honolulu City Council adopt enforcement Bill 8 (2008) as a first step to provide adequate enforcement of the current LUO provisions regulating short-term rentals.

In discussion of the above motions, testimony included concerns of "permitting before enforcement", housing shortage, constant flow of overnight strangers, diminished property rights and values of neighbors, neighborhood safety, and much more.

Please consider the overwhelming opinion of our well-informed constituents on the subject of short-term rentals and the lack of enforcement. We stand ready to discuss any improvements that can be made in the regulation of short-term rentals that will respect the quality of life in our homes.

It is time to put this matter to rest by rejecting Bill 7 on second reading, and moving forward to improve the level of enforcement of current regulations.