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February 20, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

**Re: SB 2474, SD 1 Relating to Aviation Noise In and Around HVNP**  
**Hearing Date: 02/21/18 – 10:08 am; Conference Room 211**

I support SB 2474, SD 1, and thank you for giving it a hearing.

SB 2474, SD 1 would require that the Department of Health conduct a study on the impact of aviation noise on residents of the Puna District and surrounding areas of the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (HVNP). It also appropriates \$200,000 to the Department of Health to conduct the study.

I know that funding is tight, but this noise issue is one of the most vexing that we face. Helicopters have been a source of endless complaints from communities that lie in the flight path to HVNP, and there should be no doubt that noise can constitute both a nuisance and a health hazard, especially in otherwise tranquil rural areas.

Tour companies that bear the brunt of the public's ire could also benefit from such a study, if positive suggestions and/or compromises emerge from the study's findings.

I have met with tour operators and asked them to develop a plan to address noise issues. They have taken some initial steps, and I commend them for that. Moreover, I am hopeful that tour operators and community members can work together. Having the study called for in SB 2474, SD 1 would be a positive way of moving the process forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim  
Mayor, County of Hawai'i



**SB-2474-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/19/2018 12:20:18 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:08:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lani Hernandez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Waste of money.