

SB

382

EDT



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES**
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
ON
February 25, 2009

S.B. 382

RELATING TO THE STADIUM AUTHORITY

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 382.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes this bill because it is unnecessary. The bill proposes to change the way Stadium Authority (Authority) members are appointed without changing any of the qualifications or selection criteria. This will not improve the quality of selections over the current method, which works well. In addition, if this bill passes, the Authority members would be appointed from a combination of lists submitted by the Senate President and Speaker of the House, and directly by the Governor. The selection from the list submitted by the Senate President will be for the first, third, and fifth vacancies, and the selection from the lists submitted by the Speaker of the House will be the second, fourth and sixth vacancies. This may result in the Governor not directly appointing Authority members

until the end of the Governor's term, or perhaps not even that. Further, this fractionalized selection process may produce candidates that do not represent the cross section of business and civic backgrounds needed to complement each other and make the Authority more effective in its deliberations. This appears to be change without any advantages, and in fact disadvantages over the current method. DAGS recommends that this bill be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



ALOHA STADIUM

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

TESTIMONY
OF
KEVIN CHONG KEE, STADIUM AUTHORITY CHAIRMAN
STADIUM AUTHORITY
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ECONOMIC, DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
ON
FEBRUARY 25, 2009

S.B. 382

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 382. The Stadium Authority appreciates the intent of the bill but does not feel it is necessary to increase the number of board members from nine to eleven members or to change the way in which members are chosen. The current practice of having all nine board members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate appears to insure that the process of advise and consent as well as the separation of powers are maintained. Therefore and on behalf of the Stadium Authority, we do not support this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

fukunaga4 - Michelle

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2009 1:59 PM
To: EDTTestimony
Cc: ashley@bubbleshackhawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB382 on 2/25/2009 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for EDT 2/25/2009 1:15:00 PM SB382

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ashley Harding
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Submitted on: 2/24/2009

Comments:

With the overwhelming amount of legislation introduced in the 2009 Hawaii legislative session involving the leadership of Aloha Stadium, HB4.DOC - SB248.DOC - HB3.DOC - SB484.DOC - HB1624.DOC - SB1518.DOC - HB200.DOC - HB39 HD1.DOC, it is now obvious that extreme changes are needed at Aloha Stadium.

This proposed new appointment process/board composition will help bring new energy and traction on long overdue projects and desperately needed promotions to grow the event schedule and overall business of Aloha Stadium. Do not be mistaken, this is absolutely not change for change sake. This is simply creating a Stadium Authority that will hold themselves accountable, hold stadium management accountable, properly review and enforce existing contracts and aggressively promote the Authority's rules, obligations and responsibilities.

I believe the future success of Aloha Stadium is a complete process of first supporting SB382 and/or SB484 and bringing new Stadium Authority leadership to Aloha Stadium. Next, already in process, is amending/lifting the deed restriction with the Department of the Interior. Finally keep an objective, motivated, SB382 appointed Stadium Authority in place, not a University of Hawaii Stadium Authority.

Please support SB382 and help all of Hawaii witness the real potential of Aloha Stadium.