

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
**CARTY S. CHANG**  
Interim Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
**CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

Wednesday, April 1, 2015  
2:30 pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of  
**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 162/HOUSE RESOLUTION 99**  
**REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO EXAMINE IF AND**  
**HOW OTHER STATES REGULATE TOUR OPERATORS WITHIN THEIR**  
**JURISDICTION**

House Concurrent Resolution 162/House Resolution 99 requests the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to examine if and how other states regulate tour operators within their jurisdictions. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures and offers comments.**

The LRB examination of how other states regulate commercial tour operators comes at an opportune time for the Department. There continues to be an increase of unauthorized activity on both managed and closed areas. The recent legal issues associated with "lava tours" on Hawaii Island are a good example. The proliferation of kayak rentals and tours creating local community impact is another good example. Across the Hawaii chain, there is a proliferation of both land and water related tours due to our reliance on tourism and the visitor trends relating to continued interest in a unique outdoor experience. This appetite has been stimulated by the proliferation of social media where visitors are continually posting images of new and oftentimes remote locations. The tour industry has recognized that there is a growing niche market servicing this interest.

The Department would be very interested to learn of how other states have responded to both managing and regulating this type of tourism to see if there are applicable, successful and affordable models in place to apply to land and water under the jurisdiction of the Department.

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 8:30 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HR99 on Apr 1, 2015 14:30PM\*



**HR99**

Submitted on: 3/31/2015

Testimony for CPC on Apr 1, 2015 14:30PM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)