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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
FINANCE

Thursday, April 2, 2015
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1124, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO USE PERMITS FOR SMALL BOAT HARBORS.

Senate Bill 1124, House Draft 1, proposes to clarify that a person at least eighteen years of age need not obtain a marine surveyor's inspection nor provide documentation that the person is the owner of a vessel in order to be placed on a waitlist for a use permit to moor a vessel in a state small boat harbor. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this Administration measure as amended.**

Act 10, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, amended section 200-10(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to require that a person must be at least eighteen years of age prior to obtaining a use permit or being placed on a waitlist for a use permit. However, the manner in which the statutory language in the Act was structured has the unintended consequence of requiring that a person at least eighteen years of age to have obtained a vessel and a vessel inspection prior to being placed on the waitlist for a mooring permit. This requirement is unrealistic as the majority of people requesting to be placed on the waitlist do not own a vessel at the time they apply since they do not have a place to moor the vessel.

The Department notes that the House Draft 1 amends Section 200-10 (b)(1), HRS, at the request of the Department, to clarify that as an alternative to a vessel inspection by a marine surveyor, a vessel inspection can be conducted by an approved vessel inspector employed by the Department, as defined in Section 13-231-45 Hawaii Administrative Rules. Without the addition of this language Hawaii residents will potentially incur additional unnecessary cost and inconvenience in obtaining a vessel inspection prior to obtaining a mooring.

CARTY S. CHANG
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