

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com



January 11, 2022

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Manager and Chief Engineer

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Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Radiant Cordero, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Cordero and Members:

Subject: Council Bill 48, Proposed CD1 – Relating to Underground Storage Tanks

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports Bill 48, relating to underground storage tanks. This bill amends Chapter 41, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990, by adding a new article 45 relating to Underground Storage Tanks that provides the City and County of Honolulu with the power to issue, modify, suspend, or revoke any permit to operate underground storage tanks that pose a threat to Oahu's principal source of drinking water.

The Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu Article II, §2-102 speaks to promoting the "stewardship of natural resources for present and future generations." This bill provides for oversight and inspection to ensure the community at large and Oahu's drinking water is protected. The need to protect groundwater quality and quantity now and into the future outweighs the Navy's need for continued operation of these large field-constructed underground storage fuel tanks at Red Hill.

The recent petroleum contamination from the Red Hill drinking water well and the health threat it posed to the military residents is another example of what could happen to Oahu's community at large. The BWS is committed to do whatever is necessary to protect our aquifer and the community's drinking water.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Bill 48, Proposed CD1.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer