

BILL044(23)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 380

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jul 12, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 8

I wish to comment: 2

Name: Marcus Tanaka	Email: changemyoil66@yahoo.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 10:23 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose this because it has the making of overreach down the road. Waters said on the news it's because monster home people lie about their square footage. So does this mean that DPP only go by verbal? I mean there is no way to check building permits that shows sqft or the Beauru of Conveyances and the Oahu Property Tax websites that all show sqft. I mean, 1 can even use google maps and some pics will show that something is obviously not 1000 sqft.. So to say that this bill is because people are lying about their square footage is a cover for other "investigations" down the road.</p> <p>It will also be very hard to prove "knowingly" giving false info. Many homeowners don't know how many square feet they have off the top of their head. But I guess "the process is the punishment" will happen.</p> <p>This bill will apply to all C&C forms and processes that require approvals. Camping, fireworks, firearms, pot holes, etc...</p> <p>Will this also apply to testimonies? The Counsel is technically "investigating" something during hearings like this one. So if someone is told information like say the corporate counsel with regard to Bill 57 and how "history and tradition" needs to be applied. And now they say something otherwise, is this a violation of ordinance? I mean the corp counsel can just say IDK or not respond like how they did when Augie asked them for a list of every sensitive places "history and tradition". Their reply was "we will talk later in executive session" and then Augie stated in the next hearing that corp counsel never got back to him.</p> <p>Will you as the ordinance maker when telling other members "it's for public safety" and knowingly have zero data to back up this claim or all data doesn't support this claim? Will this bill apply to you as well?</p>		
Name: Julia Fink	Email: julia@aiahonolulu.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: AIA Honolulu	Position: Support	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 03:29 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>The American Institute of Architects, Honolulu Chapter, is in support of this measure.</p> <p>We are pleased to see action taken to inhibit the rule-breaking of a few instead of increasing limiting measures that affect the whole.</p> <p>Mahalo,</p> <p>AIA Honolulu</p>		
Name: Stefanie Sakamoto	Email: ssakamoto@imanaka-asato.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: BIA Hawaii	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 03:44 PM
Name: Tonic Bille	Email: bbtvu2@aol.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 04:49 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Tommy Waters has outdone himself this time voting getting double the salary and showing how little he cares about his constituents. Why does he just put on the handcuffs on all of us instead of writing bill 44 that clearly shows he is not wasting time wanting us fined or going to jail, if he gets his way. I am starting to believe we are living in a George Orwell world.</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

lois crozer	lbc@hawaiiintel.net	96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 06:38 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Are you kidding!? Up to a year in jail for a false statement? That's WAY over the top!</p>		
Name: Dani Tow	Email: mygoldenpalace@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Jul 11, 2023 @ 09:35 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Esteemed Chairperson and honorable members of the City Council,</p> <p>I am here to provide comments regarding Bill 44. The intent of the bill is unclear as written. I have since learned that this bill is related to monster homes. But as it is currently, the language is vague and ambiguous and could potentially have unintended consequences.</p> <p>I suggest the council consider revising it so it is clearly written for its intended purpose regarding monster homes. Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>		
Name: Melissa Tomlinson	Email: mel_tomlinson@ymail.com	Zip: 94549
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 12, 2023 @ 04:09 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>This Bill is absolutely offensive. The entire "State of Hawai'i" is fraudulent. Who does this bill serve and whom does it criminalize. The Mayor forcing a church to stop feeding people in need and using fraudulent statements such as "enabling" etc should be locked up. Every politician involved in their 63% raise should be locked up. Watching "Hawai'i State" leadership from CA I lose more and more faith that America is anything this world needs and that there isn't anything but corruption there, which makes all the corruption nationwide much more visible as well. Taking the time to write this likely affects nothing, but at least I get to voice that I find the legislative body in Hawai'i particularly disgusting. Hiding behind an illegal annexation and so many human rights violations it's a wonder the entire island doesn't revolt. Ohh right, you've forced out ,via the tourism industry, majority of Knaka Maoli and bring in wealthy foreigners that will keep you in position for their benefit. Because of the lack of integrity and sincerity required to continue to allow a so far 130 year violent occupation, I pray everyday for the failures of "State of Hawai'i". I pray for the Kingdom of Hawaii to return to its full power over the Hawaiian archipelago. Absolutely disgusted at the suggestion when to even hold office is to take on fraudulent responsibilities. Everything you all uphold is a lie and now you want to criminalize others if they do the same. Typical do as I say not as I do.</p>		
Name: Natalie Iwasa	Email: iwasajunk@mail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 12, 2023 @ 06:13 AM
Name: Karin OMahony	Email: k7omahony@aol.com	Zip: 96695
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 12, 2023 @ 09:18 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please vote no on this overbroad unreasonable bill 44.</p> <p>This is just another way for the city and county of Honolulu to cost it's constituents money defending themselves against unfounded allegations.</p> <p>Please consult counsel before bringing any more of these threats to the constituents to make up for the city not doing its job. Actually, just please stop threatening the constituents.</p>		

If you're having a problem cleaning up the monster homes the city allowed to be built, then go inspect them. Do a better job with your building permits. Pay attention to these problems before they are created.
Punishing constituents for a mistaken statement or because some city official accuses them of making a statement is an abuse of power and a further waste of taxpayer and constituent money.
Please spend the money on cleaning up the building permit process, inspections and the corruption within the city.
Thank you

Name: Derek Bown	Email: dbown@yahoo.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 12, 2023 @ 09:48 AM

Testimony:
Please vote no on Bill 44

Stop burdening the residents for the mistakes and corruption in the DPP building permits department. The responsibility for the monster home problem should stay with the city and county and not cause further collateral damage among the community.

This bill just creates another imbalance of power, a new opportunity for city and county corruption and coercion of residents to keep quiet and not object on threat of being punished for making a statement that some city official can allege isn't accurate. No matter how you look at it, the burden is on the taxpayer: both defending oneself against trumped up allegations and wasting taxpayer monies going after citizens.

City council and city and county of Honolulu is well paid to do the work themselves.

Name: Brian OMahony	Email: brianomahonyll@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jul 12, 2023 @ 09:49 AM

Testimony:
Oppose bill 44



**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Honolulu Hale
10:00 AM**

July 12, 2023

RE: Bill 44 - RELATING TO FALSE STATEMENTS

Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kiaaina, and members of the Council:

My name is Max Lindsey, Government Relations Committee Chair of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA Hawaii offers the following comments on Bill 44, Relating to False Statements. This bill creates the offense of “making false statements to city officials”, sets penalties, and defines the offense. BIA Hawaii offers the following comments on this bill.

We understand that the intent of this bill may be to deter the illegal building of so-called “monster homes” in our communities. While we certainly agree with that intent, we have concerns with the overly broad definitions in the bill. The bill defines “false statement” as: “any statement...that is incorrect, inaccurate, or not in accordance with truth or fact”. We have objections to this definition. We agree that knowingly lying to a city official should be an offense, however, the definition would not allow for any unintentional errors or alterations. Further, the inclusion of the “incite” definition is extremely unclear. It would seem that it is intended to deter bribery, however, it could also mean that someone who is simply “asking” a city inspector a question could be in violation. Additionally, we would suggest that government officials should also be held to the same standards.

We thank the Council for looking for ways to fix our current building permit process, and hope that we can continue to be a part of the conversations going forward.

The state of Hawaii is in a dire housing crisis. As the Council is aware, the cost of housing in Hawaii is extremely high, with Oahu’s median price of homes being currently over \$1 million. Approximately 140,436 U.S. households are priced out of buying a home for every \$1000 increase in price, according to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). We are in support of legislation that would allow for the building of much-needed housing at every price point in Hawaii. The proposed revisions in Bill 18 allowing for use of the SAI process for residential development will do this and accordingly, we support the original version of Bill 18.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TO: Members of the Honolulu City Council

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

DATE: Wednesday, July 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Bill 44, False Statements to City Officials - **OPPOSED**

Aloha Chair Waters and Councilmembers,

Thank you for allowing testimony on Bill 44, which would make it illegal to knowingly provide false statements to city officials. Penalty would be a fine of not more than \$2,000, up to a year in jail and/or up to 80 hours of community service.

This bill is too broad. In addition, my main concern is that a person may make a statement that is incorrect by merely a mistake and then would have to defend him or herself from prosecution.

Please vote "no" on Bill 44.