

**BILL020(24)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 109**

COUNCIL

## **COUNCIL Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 25, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 12

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Tonic Bille	Email: bbtvu2@aol.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 22, 2024 @ 08:32 PM
Testimony: The fines are unrealistic and does not fit the violence.I am concerned about these measures as currently written and strongly oppose Bill 020(24)		

Name: Victoria Johnson	Email: beachholdings2005@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 23, 2024 @ 10:35 AM
Testimony: The distribution of civil penalties funds in Hawaii to the department that charged the penalty raises concerns related to conflict of interest and fairness. This practice can create a conflict of interest as it may incentivize departments to pursue penalties aggressively to benefit financially, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement 1 . Moreover, this arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions 2 In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.  Respectfully submitted Victoria Johnson		

Name: Karen Young	Email: kareny402@gmail.com	Zip: 94118
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 23, 2024 @ 12:38 PM
Testimony: This Bill will create a conflict of interest as it will incentivize the department to pursue penalties aggressively for financial benefit, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement.  Moreover, this arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions.  In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.		

Name: Ken Kribel	Email: kkribel@icloud.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 23, 2024 @ 01:03 PM
Testimony: I oppose Bill 20. This Bill will create a conflict of interest as it will incentivize the department to pursue penalties aggressively for financial benefit, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement.		

Name: Stuart Simmons	Email: stu_simmons@hotmail.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 23, 2024 @ 02:57 PM
Testimony: I strongly support fines and fees going directly to the DPP to assist in their budgeting.		

Name: Michael Brant	Email: michaeljbrant@hotmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 23, 2024 @ 10:15 PM
Testimony: NO on allowing DPP to establish their own fiefdom - generating funds for themselves by actions they take at their own discretion. Since when are County agencies allowed to independently levy fines that benefit themselves? This is a clear conflict of interest and no way for a government agency to operate. If they choose to levy fines, those should go into the General Fund that in turn funds their operation, under the supervision of the Council.		
Name: Mike Jackson	Email: mikejacksonatlarge@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 24, 2024 @ 06:03 AM
Testimony: This Bill will create a conflict of interest as it will incentivize the department to pursue penalties aggressively for financial benefit, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement. Moreover, this arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions. In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.  DPP fines and punishment for violations are too extreme and unfair already, and passage of Bill 20 will give them even more incentives to penalize and make money.		
Name: Lillie McAfee	Email: lilliemcafee@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 24, 2024 @ 06:21 AM
Testimony: This Bill will create a conflict of interest as it will incentivize the department to pursue penalties aggressively for financial benefit, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement. Moreover, this arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions. In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.		
Name: Kelly Lee	Email: kelly.beachsiderealty@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 24, 2024 @ 02:22 PM
Name: Mitch Maxwell	Email: mitchatbt@aol.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 24, 2024 @ 02:24 PM
Testimony: This is yet another "money-grab" bill. After all the corruption and bribery scandals involving the DPP, it's shocking that the council would even consider granting that department even MORE power. The potential conflicts of interest, and the chances that certain individuals, or certain areas, will be unfairly targeted, make this bill a terrible idea.		
Name: Virginia Dudden	Email: virginia@dudden.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Mar 24, 2024 @ 08:36 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Oppose Bill 20.</p> <p>This Bill will create a conflict of interest. The Department will be motivated to pursue aggressive penalties for financial benefit. This will potentially compromise the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement. This arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions. In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.</p> <p>Please oppose Bill 20. Thank you for reading my testimony.</p> <p>Virginia Dudden</p>		
Name: Dan Dudden	Email: dan@dudden.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 24, 2024 @ 08:38 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Oppose Bill 20. This Bill will create an unjust conflict of interest. The Department will be motivated to pursue aggressively penalties for financial benefit. This will potentially compromise the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement. This arrangement could lead to a perception of bias or favoritism, undermining public trust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions. In summary, allocating civil penalties funds to the department responsible for imposing the penalties can give rise to conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of penalty enforcement processes in Hawaii.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Daniel Dudden</p> <p>Kailua, HI</p>		
Name: Roanne Abe	Email: roanne.abe@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 25, 2024 @ 08:03 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>This Bill will create a conflict of interest as it will incentivize the department to pursue penalties aggressively for financial benefit, potentially compromising the impartiality and objectivity of penalty enforcement. This arrangement could also lead to a perception of favoritism, creating public distrust in the enforcement process and raising questions about the fairness and transparency of penalty decisions.</p> <p>I oppose this Bill as allocating civil penalty funds to the department responsible for imposing them can also create conflicts of interest, potentially impacting the integrity and credibility of the penalty enforcement process in Hawaii.</p>		

Kelly A. Lee  
808-225-0349

Honolulu City Council

Hearing Scheduled: March 24, 2024

Re: Bill 20, Relating to Fines, Fees, and other revenues of the Department of Planning and Permitting

### Testimony in Strong Opposition

Aloha Members of the Council

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding Bill 20, specifically the allocation of funds from fines and fees to the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). This approach raises significant apprehensions, especially in light of the DPP's history of inefficiencies, corruption, and potential misuse of authority.

The DPP's notorious delays in processing permits, instances of corruption, and the alarming lack of accountability serve as compelling reasons to oppose this bill. Allocating funds to an entity with such a track record raises serious questions about transparency, equity, and fair governance.

The repercussions of empowering the DPP to selectively enforce laws and wield discretionary power are alarming. Such authority could lead to unbridled targeting and penalization, affecting individuals and families who simply seek fair treatment and due process in permit applications.

The real-life impact of this bill cannot be overstated. The longer wait times for basic permits, the threat of selective enforcement, and the shadow of corruption cast a cloud of uncertainty and fear on individuals, like myself, who depend on fair and efficient permit processing.

I urge the Council to reconsider this bill and ensure that funds from fines and fees are allocated equitably and transparently into the general fund, prioritizing the well-being and trust of the community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmest Aloha,

  
Kelly

