

**BILL039(24)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 312**

COUNCIL

## **COUNCIL Meeting**

Meeting Date: Jul 10, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

|  |   |                                      |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Name:<br>Ted Kefalas                           | Email:<br>tkefalas@grassrootinstitute.org | Zip:<br>96813                        |
| Representing:<br>Grassroot Institute of Hawaii | Position:<br>Support                      | Submitted:<br>Jul 9, 2024 @ 09:51 AM |

July 10, 2024, 10 a.m.  
Honolulu Hale

**To: Honolulu City Council**  
**Tommy Waters, Chair**  
**Esther Kia'āina, Vice-Chair**

**From: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii**  
**Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns**

RE: Bill 39 (2024) — RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Kia'āina and other members of the Council,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii would like to offer its **support** for [Bill 39 \(2024\)](#), which would remove the affidavit requirements for individuals and businesses applying for building permits.

Current law requires an affidavit that shows ownership of the lot where the building permit would be used and paperwork that states the owner has no outstanding fines or liens payable to the city.

These rules can make it more difficult for some owners, such as businesses or individuals who own multiple lots, to receive a building permit.

Some applicants might struggle to obtain an affidavit in a timely fashion. For others, an outstanding fine on one property could prevent them from receiving a building permit to do work on another.

Removing this bit of red tape would be a step toward making the building permit process more efficient.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ted Kefalas  
Director of Strategic Campaigns  
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii