BILL061(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 528

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Oct 1, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Craig Nakamoto	dbedt.hcda.contact@hawaii.gov	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Hawaii Community Development Authority	Support	Sep 29, 2025 @ 10:16 AM

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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

STERLING HIGA
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority
before the

Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, October 1, 2025
10 AM
Kapolei Hale
1000 Uluohia Street, Conference Rooms A, B and C

In consideration of
Bill 61
Relating to real property taxation.

Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tupola, and members of the City Council.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) supports Bill 61 and respectfully urges the Council to adopt this bill that makes clarifying changes to Ordinance 16-21. This measure is vital to the survival of small, family-run businesses in Kaka'ako — businesses that have served our community for generations and remain a cornerstone of the area's identity.

In adopting Ordinance 16-21, the City and County of Honolulu recognized the importance of "preserving and promoting industrial uses within areas designated as transit-oriented development zones." The ordinance acknowledged that one of the most effective ways to achieve this goal was by providing tax relief to qualifying industrial properties. HCDA fully shares this commitment and continues to champion the preservation of industrial activity in central Kaka'ako.

These businesses operate under difficult conditions, facing outdated and inadequate infrastructure, such as the absence of sidewalks, drainage, and other basic improvements. Without the exemption, many would face a financial burden that could force them to close their doors — threatening not only livelihoods but also a vital part of Kaka'ako's cultural and economic fabric.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Bill 61.