

Bill 8 (2026) Testimony

From: Pikachu Billionaire <presidentbillionaire@gmail.com>
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To: Lam, Doris
Subject: Bill 8 - Conditional Support Fire plans Review budget WTF?

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****Aloha kakahiaka nui, Honorable Chair and Members of the Honolulu City Council.**** My name is ****Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM****, Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands, H.I. Chairman, Ohana Unity Party I submit this testimony in advance via email because the online system continues to block my voice. I was the ****only testifier from Wai'anae**** during the height of the Kona Low storms, and I am here again on ****Bill 8 (2026)**** — ***A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO FUNDS***. I have read the full bill. This ordinance creates a new ****Fire Plans Review Revolving Fund**** under Chapter 6 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu. The fund will collect fire plans review fees, any council appropriations, and interest earned, then spend that money exclusively on fire prevention activities: public education, fire investigations, plans checking, permit processing, inspections, and certifications. It requires the Mayor to submit an annual report on the fund's balance, revenues, expenditures, and accomplishments. ****He ali'i ka 'āina, he kauwā ke kanaka.**** The land is the chief; we are its servants. On its face, this bill looks pono — a dedicated revolving fund for fire safety is smart, especially after the Kona Low storms left debris, damaged structures, and increased fire risk across the island. Using user fees (plans review) instead of new general tax dollars is also reasonable in principle. However, I must speak plainly about the bigger picture you are creating with this agenda. This is yet another ****money bill**** on a crowded docket filled with budgets, capital appropriations, operating funds, and now revolving funds — all being moved forward while thousands of our 'ohana remain displaced, roads are still broken, cesspools are overflowing, and families are trying to rebuild after the worst flooding in over twenty years. The timing feels off. While the public is distracted by disaster recovery, you are quietly establishing new financial mechanisms and funds. This bill itself may be harmless, but the pattern on this agenda raises legitimate concern: are these measures being rushed through with minimal scrutiny while the community is still in survival mode? I offer ****conditional support**** for ****Bill 8 (2026)**** because dedicated funding for fire prevention is important for public safety. But I strongly urge you to slow down and provide full transparency on every money-related bill before you adopt them. Specifically: - Ensure this new revolving fund does not become another black hole with weak oversight. - Commit to public quarterly reports on how the money is actually spent. - Prioritize immediate storm recovery funding before creating more long-term financial structures. - Do not use this agenda to quietly expand city spending power while families who lost everything are still waiting for help. The Aloha Spirit (HRS 5-7.5) requires you to coordinate mind and heart for the good of others. Right now, too many of these money bills show more interest in administrative convenience than in the immediate suffering of the 'ohana. Pass this bill if it truly strengthens fire safety — but do it with full public accountability and only after you have addressed the urgent disaster needs still facing our communities. ****E ho'omaika'i kākou**** — but only if you do what is pono today. Mahalo nui loa for your kuleana. The people are watching. ****Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM**** Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands, H.I. Chairman, Ohana Unity Party ****A hui hou**** — Until we meet again on these sacred floors. 🌺