

BILL034(26)

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 171

*ZONING & PLANNING (ZON)

***ZONING & PLANNING (ZON) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Apr 30, 2026 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 0

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Stefanie Sakamoto	Email: ssakamoto@imanaka-asato.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: BIA Hawaii	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 29, 2026 @ 01:59 PM



**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Committee on Zoning
HONOLULU HALE
9:00 AM**

April 30, 2026

Subject: Bill 34 - Relating to Flood Hazard Areas

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

My name is Roseann Freitas, CEO 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 submits the following comments regarding Bill 34, which proposes to amend the Flood Hazard Area Ordinance, Chapter 21A, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, to adopt language and construction standards consistent with the requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to maintain the City and County of Honolulu's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS).

BIA Hawaii supports the goal of ensuring that the City and County of Honolulu remains in good standing with FEMA and retains its eligibility for the NFIP and CRS. However, BIA Hawaii urges the Council to consider the practical implications of these amendments on the building permit review and approval process, which is already subject to significant delays. Any new regulatory requirements adopted through Bill 34 must be accompanied by a clear plan to ensure that the Department of Planning and Permitting can administer them efficiently and without exacerbating delays.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on this matter.