BILL044(26)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 341

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Aug 12, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Solomon Young	ysolomon813@gmail.com	96701
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Aug 12, 2026 @ 07:37 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Council,

My name is Solomon Young, a 14-year-old resident of Aiea, and I am writing in strong support of Bill 044(26).

The Honolulu Zoo is probably my favorite place to visit. I've had such a special connection there since I was a little boy. It's where I first learned to love and care about animals and conservation.

That is why it hurts to see the animals just look sad. Many of the habitats need to be enlarged and revitalized. There needs to be more enrichment activities provided for the animals so they are not just sitting there, but are active, happy, and healthy.

We need to ensure the animals are happy and in good health to carry out the Zoo's mission of conservation and education. We need to think of the animals also. They depend on us completely.

Bill 044(26) helps fix this. By dedicating a portion of the Transient Accommodations Tax, money paid by tourists, to the Parks Maintenance Fund, the Honolulu Zoo Fund, and the Botanical Gardens Fund, we make sure the places that tourists and residents love most get consistent care. The Zoo won't have to fight for leftovers every budget year.

This is a fair way to take care of our parks and our animals.

I urge you to please pass Bill 044(26).

Mahalo nui loa for taking the time to listen to the voices of the people and for your service to the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Solomon Young

Aiea, HI 96701