

BILL030(26)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 373

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Sep 9, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Johnnie-Mae Perry	Email: waianaenb569@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 2, 2026 @ 09:37 PM
Testimony: I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, SUPPORT BILL030(26) RELATING TO PUBLIC PARKS.		
Name: Ted Kefalas	Email: tkefalas@grassrootinstitute.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 8, 2026 @ 10:24 AM
Name: Dylan Armstrong	Email: dylan.p.armstrong@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 8, 2026 @ 12:11 PM
Testimony: TESTIMONY FOR THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL THE HONORABLE TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR, AND ANDRIA TUPOLA, VICE CHAIR 8 September 2026 Bill 30 Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tupola, and Council Members, Thank you for considering my SUPPORT for Bill 30. This measure would permit farmers markets and food distribution organizations to be permitted for public parks, which currently prohibits such under commercial activity. As my friend Kathleen Pahinui indicated in her testimony, many communities are ripe for the revitalization of their parks that this measure could instigate. Honolulu's parks should be the vital heart of every neighborhood, and that means they should be actively and widely patronized by the people of Honolulu. I believe this measure can help. This is a reasonable and nuanced exemption to existing parks law and regulation. Mahalo nui loa,		

DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG

Individual Capacity

Sept. 9, 2026, 10 a.m.
Honolulu Hale

To: Honolulu City Council
Tommy Waters, Chair
Andria Tupola, Vice Chair

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

RE: Bill 30 (2026), CD1 — RELATING TO PUBLIC PARKS

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tupola and other members of the Council,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii **supports** [Bill 30 \(2026\), CD1](#), which would allow farmers markets and food distribution events hosted by nonprofit organizations to operate in city parks with a permit from the Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation.

Farmers markets and most other commercial activities are not currently allowed within city parks. Certain recreational activities, such as camping and sports leagues, can use park facilities with a permit, and this legislation would add farmers markets and food distribution events hosted by nonprofits to the list.

Selling food or homemade wares at a farmers market is a low-cost, low-risk way for people to turn an idea into a business. This measure would give more Oahu residents the opportunity to start up small businesses and participate in the tourism industry.

Grassroot welcomes this and other legislation that would lower barriers to entrepreneurship.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ted Kefalas
Director of Strategic Campaigns
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii