

From: [Rachelle Onaka](#)
To: [Planning WPC Testimony](#)
Subject: Submittal of Written Testimony for Bill 147
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2026 9:24:29 PM

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Planning Commissioners,

My name is Rachelle Onaka, and I am a current B&B host on Hawai'i Island. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on Bill 147.

I respectfully ask the Commission to consider allowing existing, approved bed and breakfast operations on Hawai'i Island to be grandfathered in under any new regulations. Many of these businesses have been operating responsibly for years, and it would be helpful for the proposed bill to more clearly address how they will be treated moving forward, especially on AG zoned land. Without that clarity, there is concern that current operators could unintentionally become nonconforming or risk losing their ability to continue operating. Thoughtful consideration of these existing businesses and their value to the community is really important and appreciated.

The short term rental community provides necessary housing to locals and visitors, construction workers, traveling professionals, families with medical needs, families traveling for sports and youth activities, the needs are many and the job creation from short term rentals is significant. Specifically, allowing a minimum stay of 30 days—rather than the proposed 180 days—would make a meaningful difference in meeting the diverse housing needs of our community.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Rachelle Onaka