

January 30, 2013

**The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair**  
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
State Capitol, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: H.B. 19, Relating to the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code**

**HEARING: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

I am Myoung Oh, Government Affairs Director, here to testify on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 8,000 members. HAR **supports** H.B. 19 which deletes the requirement that a landlord place a newspaper advertisement before selling or donating abandoned tenant property and allows landlords to sell a tenant's property abandoned after the tenant is removed pursuant to a writ of possession.

HAR believes that H.B. 19 will assist landlords with the rising costs of newspaper advertisements with respect to the sale or donation of a tenant's abandoned property.

Furthermore, the tenants are protected through the process within the Landlord-Tenant Code on disposition of a tenant's abandoned possession and ensuring that the property is abandoned. Also, H.B. 19 adds an additional safeguard by allowing the proceeds of the sale of the tenant's abandoned property, after deduction of the costs of storage, sale and advertising to be reduced from the amount owed by the tenant to the landlord.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.