



March 29, 2018

The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto
Chairman, House Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 421
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 95813

Chairman Nishimoto and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of our chapters in Honolulu and Hilo, and hundreds of individual members across Hawaii, the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on SB2619, An Act Relating to Aeronautics. EAA is the world leader in recreational aviation, and we are committed to ensuring the future of aviation by keeping the world of flight affordable, accessible, and safe for all users.

EAA supports this bill. Hawaii is the only state in the nation that levies criminal penalties for violations of airport and hangar use regulations. Even the smallest infraction can result in a misdemeanor charge, a gratuitous punishment that can have wide-ranging consequences in a person's life, particularly in the case of pilots.

EAA has extensive experience working with airport users and airport sponsors around the country on issues such as access and hangar use policy. In our opinion, simple violations of airport rules should never merit criminal charges. Security violations and other serious offenses such as tampering with aircraft and deliberate negligence continue to carry appropriate sanctions under state and federal law.

Thank you for your consideration of SB2619, and please support its swift passage. If you have any questions, please contact me at 920-426-6124 or tcharpentier@eaa.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Charpentier", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tom Charpentier
Government Relations Director