

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

LAURA H. THIELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

On House Bill 2873 – Relating To State Parks

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**

February 6, 2008

House Bill 2873 amends Section 184-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make the conservation of park resources and values the fundamental purpose of the state park system. Where there is a conflict between the use and conservation of these resources, conservation shall take precedence. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this bill, the Department does not feel it is necessary as the Department already has a policy in place that meets the objectives.

The State Park System encompasses some of Hawaii's most significant scenic, cultural and natural places statewide. State parks are established because of these resources and have been developed so people can visit these special places, experience Hawaii's unique natural and cultural heritage, and learn more about Hawaii. The preservation and conservation of these resources are a priority in park planning and development.

The Board of Land and Natural Resources has a longstanding, formal policy which guides the Department in all decisions, which is that the natural and cultural resources will be given priority over public and commercial use of these resources. If the resources are too sensitive and protection and preservation requires restricted public access, these areas are placed under other programs, such as the Natural Areas Reserve System.



Sierra Club

Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.537.9019 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 6th, 2008, 1:30 P.M.

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2873

Chair Oshiro and members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with 5500 dues paying members statewide, supports HB 2873, clarifying that conservation of park resources is the predominant concern of the state in managing state parks.

The islands of Hawai'i are blessed with an abundance of natural resources, diverse ecosystems, and stunning beauty unparalleled elsewhere on the Earth. Our state parks are portholes into this beauty and provide residents and visitors the opportunity to experience natural resources firsthand. At times, however, recreation or commercial interests are at odds with the long-term conservation of natural or biological resources. House Bill clarifies that conservation of resources are of paramount concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

FINtestimony

From: Cinda diRaimondo [cindadiraimondo@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 4:07 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB2873

Aloha,

I support HB8273 and would like to see it pass.

Regards,
Cinda diRaimondo

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Frank O. Hay

6 February 2008: 1.30 pm in House Conference Room 308

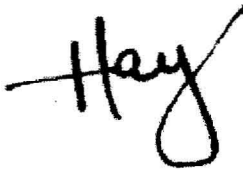
**THE HON. MARCUS OSHIRO, CHAIR AND THE HON. MARILYN LEE, VICE
CHAIR, House Finance Committee**

TESTIMONY OF FRANK O. HAY, in strong support of **House Bill 2873**: Clarifying that the conservation of park resources and values is the predominant concern of the state park system.

I've worked for more than ten years directly with State Parks in regard to the Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks. I've seen State Parks pay what appears to be "lip service" to the value of our historic community – now acknowledged as a Historic District, and the only recreation-residence community in the State of Hawaii – but a worrying and increased emphasis on using the Parks as a "cash cow". That appears to be Parks' intended use for Koke'e. Protecting the physical and cultural resources of Koke'e will ensure long term accessibility and attraction to residents and visitors alike.

I strongly support House Bill 2873 and ask that you pass the measure unanimously.

Me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that loops back under the 'y'.

P. O. Box 9
Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii 96752-0009
voice 1.808.639.7704

FINtestimony

From: Harmony Scott [harmonyscott@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 2:47 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: in support of HB2873

I am writing today in support of HB2873. I grew up on Kaua'I, and spent a lot of my childhood visiting friend's cabins in the forests of Kokee. I am not a leaseholder myself, but I feel very strongly that the top priority for Kokee is the preservation of this special treasure of plants, animals, and landscape for future generations, and for the people who live in and love Kokee. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Harmony Scott
199 Main St.
Carbondale, Colorado 81623
970-379-3978

2/4/2008

FINtestimony

From: Jeannine Johnson [jeannine@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 03, 2008 7:40 PM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: 'Michelle S. Matson'
Subject: 2/6/2008 HB2873 Agenda

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Re: HB 2873 RELATING TO STATE PARKS
Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Honorable Committee Members,

I strongly support HB2873 which clarifies that the conservation of park resources and values is the predominant concern of the state park system.

Mahalo,

Jeannine

Jeannine Johnson
5648 Pia Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821
Ph: 373-2874 / 523-5030 (w)
Email: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
"PUPUKAHI I HOLOMUA"
(Unite in Order to Progress)

FINtestimony

From: Basil Mayo [diandbas@hawaiian.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 9:04 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB 2873

Dear Sirs, As a resident of Kauai for the last 23 yrs, along with the scores of personal friends who ;have also lived here for over 2 decades, I seriously send my and their support for HB2873. The conservation of Park resources is very important to maintain and preserve Kokee as it has been for the generations of Kauai and world residents. DLNR's idea to exploit the park for monetary purposes doesn't fit in with this scenario. Mahalo..

B, Mayo

Kauai voter and resident

FINtestimony

From: Edward Wels [strabo@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 6:09 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: 2/6/2008 HB2873 Agenda #1

Aloha!,

I have been a registered voter on Oahu for 20 years. I never miss a chance to vote.

I am strongly in support HB 2873 as I believe the primary goal of the DLNR in regards to state parks should be to conserve park resources and values.

Mahalo,
Edward Wels
Honolulu

FINtestimony

From: pattywack69@hawaiiantel.net
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 6:41 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: Kokee

Aloha,

I fully support HB2873 and would like to see it pass. I am not a Kokee lease owner, but I am definitely a Kokee/Kauai and have lived here at least 25 years.

Mahalo,

Patrice McCloskey

FINtestimony

From: Linda F. Collins [lfc@kikiaola.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 10:47 AM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: Rep. Roland Sagum
Subject: HB2873

I AM IN SUPPORT OF HB 2873 RELATING TO STATE PARKS.

It is important for the State to clarify that the conservation of park resources and values (rather, for example, than income generation) is the predominant concern of the state park system.

Linda Collins

FINtestimony

From: RITA PEETERS [r.eaglepeak@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 11:51 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: 2/6/2008 HB2873 Agenda #1

I support HB2873 and would like to see it pass.

Rita Peeters

FINtestimony

From: Mokihana Ruiz [moki@kikiaola.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 12:04 PM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: Rep. Roland Sagum
Subject: Re: HB2873

I AM IN SUPPORT OF HB 2873 RELATING TO STATE PARKS.

It is important for the State to clarify that the conservation of park resources and values (rather, for example, than income generation) is the predominant concern of the state park system.

Mokihana Ruiz

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair
Committee on Finance

Wayne J. Jacintho

Wednesday, February 5, 2008

Support of HB 2873 RELATING TO STATE PARKS

Chair Oshiro, Vice-chair Lee, Members of the Committee,

My name is «GreetingLine». I am a lifelong resident of Kaua'i, and I am testifying in support of HB 2873.

Up until recently, the primary purpose of the Koke'e/Waimea Canyon Master Plan was to maximize revenue generation.

Peter Young, former head of DLNR/BLNR, responding to overwhelming public input, came to Kaua'i and announced that all language or references to revenue generation being the primary goal of the Master Plan would be removed.

However, current DLNR/BLNR head Laura Thielen, in recent non-public conversations on Kaua'i, has made it clear that revenue generation is very much foremost on DLNR's agenda.

This bill will serve as a check against Administration plans to develop Koke'e for maximum revenue generation, and help keep Kaua'i's uplands as near to the current "look" as possible, for the enjoyment of future generations.

I urge you to pass HB 2873.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.

Wayne J. Jacintho
Kalaheo, Kaua'i

FINtestimony

From: Donn Carswell [curly@aloha.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2008 1:23 PM
To: FINtestimony
Cc: Rep. Roland Sagum
Subject: 2/6/2008 HB2873 Agenda #1

We support HB2873 --- CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES INCLUDING THE CULTURAL
KOKE'E COMMUNITY SHOULD HAVE PRIORITY OVER JUST RAISING REVENUE.

PROTECTION OF THE PHYSICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE MOUNTAIN
WILL ENSURE LONG TERM ACCESSIBILITY AND ATTRACTION TO RESIDENTS AND
VISITORS. REVENUES WILL FOLLOW.

DONN & GALE CARSWELL
LOT 61 KOKE'E CAMP LOTS

FINtestimony

From: Joan Levy [joanlevy@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 9:15 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB 2873 and HB 2874

Dear legislators:

I am asking that you vote in favor of Bill 28873 and 2874. As a resident of Kauai, I think it is very important that we do everything we can to NOT commercialize Kokee Park and Waimea Canyon Parks. Of course it is necessary to have the funds to maintain these valuable natural resources. It is equally important that commercialization be prevented. Such would completely change the nature of these parks. The language in these bills supports the care and conservation of the park without supporting commercialization.

Thank you for protecting our precious park with your votes!

Aloha,

Joan Levy
 POB 160, Kapaa, HI 96746

.....
 "If you can't be a good example, then you'll just have to be a horrible warning!" Catherine Aird

"You can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights." Maya Angelou

JOAN LEVY, MSW, LSW, LCSW, ACSW
BodyMind & Breath Center
POB 160 Kapaa, Kauai, HI 96746 (808) 822-5488

Joan's Websites:

PsychoSpiritual Intensives: <<http://www.lauhala.com/joan>>

Fits and Fancies...Along the Evolutionary Path: Joan's web column in "The Kauaian"
 <http://www.kauaistyle.com/life/joan_levy/index.php>

For Holistic Health Practitioner Info on Kauai:

Kauai Healing Arts Directory: <http://www.kauaihealing.org> € Lightline directory:
http://GoKauai.com/garden/health_wellness.html

Hawaii Health Guide: <http://www.hawaiihealthguide.com/> € Inspiration Journal:
<http://www.inspirationjournal.com/contact.html>

FINtestimony

From: Rocky Riedel [rocky@bamboohut.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 8:47 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: I SUPPORT of HB2873 and HB2874

TO: Marcus Oshiro, Chairman of the House Finance Committee

Wednesday, 2/6/08 at 1:30

Please listen to Roland Sagum and SUPPORT HB 2874 and H2873. He, Gary Hooser and the other residents of Kauai, know what is best for our island.

Patricia "Rocky" Riedel
9 Hokualele Road
Anahola, HI 96703
808-635-7625

FINtestimony

From: Margaret [drawpastels@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 4:29 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2873

Thank you for accepting this email as our testimony in FULL SUPPORT of HB2873 - we would like to see it pass.

Sincerely,

Margaret and Stephen Cull
P O Box 743
Waimea, HI. 96796-0743

FINtestimony

From: Keone Kealoha [keone@malamakauai.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 1:15 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB 2873 Support

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-chair
Committee on Finance

Keone Kealoha
Malama Kaua'i
4900 Kuawa Road, Kilauea, HI 96754
(808) 828-0685

Tuesday, February 6, 2008
Support of HB 2873, RELATING TO STATE PARKS

Aloha kakou,

My name is Keone Kealoha and I am the Executive Director of Malama Kaua'i, a sustainability 501(c)3 organization based in Kilauea, Kaua'i. I am offering written testimony in support of HB 2873, a bill that seeks to elevate the priority for the conservation of parks by the managing entity, the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As a sustainability advocacy organization we are well aware of the constant threats to our natural resources. The parks are, and should remain, the places that we preserve nature and its beauty. We are the ears and eyes of the 'aina and it is our kuleana as stewards to protect it.

Please support HB 2873 and its intention.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration on this matter,

Keone Kealoha

Keone Kealoha
Director

Malama Kaua'i

808.828.0685 Office
808.634.8174 Mobile
808.828.0485 Fax
Email: keone@malamakauai.org
<http://www.MalamaKauai.org>

Frank O. Hay

6 February 2008: 1.30 pm in House Conference Room 308

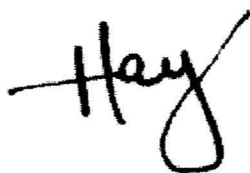
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CHAIR, House Finance Committee**

TESTIMONY OF FRANK O. HAY, in strong support of **House Bill 2873**: Clarifying that the conservation of park resources and values is the predominant concern of the state park system.

I've worked for more than ten years directly with State Parks in regard to the Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks. I've seen State Parks pay what appears to be "lip service" to the value of our historic community – now acknowledged as a Historic District, and the only recreation-residence community in the State of Hawaii – but a worrying and increased emphasis on using the Parks as a "cash cow". That appears to be Parks' intended use for Koke'e. Protecting the physical and cultural resources of Koke'e will ensure long term accessibility and attraction to residents and visitors alike.

I strongly support House Bill 2873 and ask that you pass the measure unanimously.

Me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hay", written in a cursive style.

P. O. Box 9
Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii 96752-0009
voice 1.808.639.7704

FINtestimony

From: David H Dinner [gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 11:05 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB2873 and HB2874

Dear Legislators

These are the times when it is critical for us to turn our full attention to the environment and preservation of our State Parks. If Kokee is turned into a commodity to benefit the coffers of the State, it will signal the end of our good intentions toward our aina. We must severely limit expansion of development in Kokee and keep any revenues generated by Kokee in Kokee for its improvement. Mahalo

Aloha
David H Dinner

FINtestimony

From: Dorianne Winkler [dwinkler@amicusfoundation.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 10:52 AM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: HB 2873 and HB 2874

Dear Legislators,

I am requesting that you vote in favor of Bill 2873 and HB 2874. Having lived on Kauai for 22 years we feel so much gratitude that we islanders have Koke'e park to go to, in lieu of the fact that so much of our island's beauty is disappearing before our eyes. This island is slowly but surely being taken over and we cannot recognize all the negative changes! It is beyond sad what is happening! However, you now hold the power of change in your hands. You CAN stand up for us. We voted for you and will continue to do so.

It is true that funds are necessary to maintain the parks pristine beauty, yet it is even more important that the commercial element and greed be stopped in its tracks before it is unstoppable.

We thank you for continuing to hear the voice of those who have trust in your decisions, and the future of our island...

With aloha,

Dorianne Winkler
4217 Waipua St.,
Kilauea, HI 96754

FINtestimony

From: Edward de Deo [ededeo@pixi.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 12:17 PM
To: FINtestimony
Subject: Support for HB 2873 and 2874

Let it be Known that I strongly support the passage of HB 2873 and 2874. Much needed. Pass them. Thanks Edward de Deo, Lawai, Kauai, 332-5092.