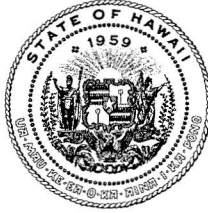


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

**House Concurrent Resolution 204 - REQUESTING A COMPARISON OF REVENUES
FROM AND EXPENDITURES FOR EACH STATE SMALL BOAT HARBOR**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
WATER, LAND, OCEAN RESOURCES, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

March 24, 2008

House Concurrent Resolution 204 requests the Auditor to compare the revenues generated by each small boat harbor listed under Section 13-234-3, Hawaii Administrative Rules, against operating maintenance, and debt service expenditures for the harbors. The Auditor is also requested to reasonably apportion among the small boat harbors the liquid fuel taxes received by the Boating Special Fund and overhead expenditures of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) and central service agencies. Finally, the Auditor is requested to make a comparison for the past three completed fiscal years. The Department does not support this resolution and offers the following comments.

Restricting the use of funds generated in a small boat harbor will impact maintenance in others as a few small boat facilities generate most of the revenue for the Boating Program, and some small boat facilities generate no revenue, and have little potential to ever generate revenue. The State has an obligation to make small boat facilities available to all our residents, regardless of whether they live in urban areas, rural communities, or near small boat facilities with high visitor traffic. Accordingly, the Department needs the ability to use funds from urban and high use boating facilities which generate revenue, in order to support to support our operations statewide.

In order to make the most efficient use of limited resources, and to maximize flexibility, the Department is making a request for a lump sum CIP appropriation of \$10,000,000 for facility improvements to small boat facilities statewide. The benefit of lump sum appropriations is to allow us to redeploy cost savings from one project to complete other repair and maintenance projects. Creating sub-accounts defeats this sort of flexibility within the operating budget, and has the unfortunate unintended consequence of making small boat facilities statewide less efficient and in poorer condition. The Department notes as an example, Act 292, Session Laws of Hawaii, which created a sub-account for the Diamond Head State Monument, while not a small boat facility, has already had the effect of hampering statewide operations.

From: HBPAA@aol.com [mailto:HBPAA@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2008 11:38 AM

To: WLHtestimony

Subject: Testimony in Support of HCR 204

HBPAA

Hawaii Boaters Political Action Association

282 Aikahi Place, Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Representative Ken Ito, Chair

Representative Jon Riki Karamatsu, Vice Chair

House Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources and Hawaiian Affairs

William E. Mossman

WLHTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

WLH hearing 3/24/08

10:30 am Rm. 312

Testimony in Support of HCR 204

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Karamatsu and members of the committee,

The many Hawaii boaters who use the perennially funds strapped small boat harbors of the State need to know more about the funding that is available and how it is used. This knowledge is sure to help mitigate the growing mistrust that many boaters have with DLNR-DBOR. For this reason we support HCR204.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

William E. Mossman

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March 21, 2008

Testimony in Support of HCR204 With Reservations

House Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
Room312 at 1030 on Monday, 24 March 2008

Chair Ito and Respected Members of the Committee;

My name is Reg White. I have been a tenant and a resident of our state small boat harbors for over 35 years. During that time, like you, I have seen our facilities suffer from neglect and poor management. At present I feel we at last have a management team in place at DOBOR that can and will manage our boating facilities well and is, for the first time in my recollection, planning how to restore our boating system and its facilities to health. I would fully support this resolution to take a close look at where the fees collected are spent only if it would not take so much time as to detract from the progress that is presently being made by the DOBOR management and staff to repair and operate our facilities. The annual budget reports, a sample copy attached, show where the revenue is generated, how much it costs to operate each particular harbor and what, if anything, is left over to be contributed to the harbors that are not, and for the most part because of their small size, cannot be self supporting. We have always operated on the principle that the larger harbors would give a surplus that would be used to overcome the shortfalls of the smaller harbors that cannot support themselves so that boating would always be available to all residents of Hawaii. I do, however, support a uniform mooring fee, statewide, regardless of the location of the harbor or its facilities as it's the harbors with the lowest fees that run the farthest into the red each year. If the fee is fair at one harbor, then it's fair at all harbors, especially in light of the process that spills the overage at the larger harbors over to operate the smaller harbors. The only case where the fees don't at all match the cost to provide and operate the facility are the launching ramps. Most boats using the ramps consume more in water to rinse off than they pay in annual fees to use the ramp facilities, let alone make any contribution to the maintenance and operation of the ramps used. This is already obvious without spending the time and money to do another audit. I support the principle here, but I think all the information may well already be available to us, it's just what we do with this information that we already have that needs to be addressed.

Respectfully,

Reg White
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