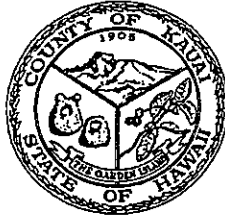


**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Bill "Kaipo" Asing, Chair  
Mel Rapozo, Vice Chair  
Tim Bynum  
Jay Furfaro  
Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho  
Ronald Kouchi  
JoAnn A. Yukimura



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Peter A. Nakamura, County Clerk  
Ernesto G. Pasion, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone (808) 241-6371  
Fax (808) 241-6349  
Email: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Room 206  
Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766-1371

**TESTIMONY OF THE COUNCIL CHAIR BILL "KAIPO" ASING  
COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
February 4, 2008  
1:15 p.m.**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2176,  
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND MAKING AN  
APPROPRIATION FOR BALL FIELD AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY LIGHT SYSTEM  
RETRO-FIT, HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND THE WAILUA WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES FOR THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S.B. No. 2176 which is a request for State matching funds to be appropriated for projects on Kaua'i that have been identified as top priorities by both the Mayor's Administration and the members of the County Council and which have been approved as part of the Kaua'i County Legislative Package.

This measure would provide matching share the cost of improvements to three projects.

The county currently provides the Department of Education use of park facilities for their youth sports activities however, there is growing concern which requires compliance with regulations governed by the Endangered Species Act for the continued use of outdoor recreational facilities on Kaua'i and the need to retrofit lighting at the ball fields. A partnership between the State and the County is necessary in order to minimize the harm to two species of endangered and threatened seabirds that are attracted to ball field lighting since many of the sports activities are held during the evening hours. The five fields that have been listed in the bill includes two of Kaua'i's only stadiums and three parks that are either adjacent to elementary schools or are utilized by youth sports for after-school activities.

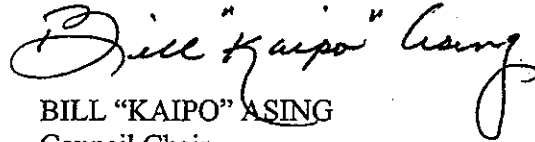
This measure also includes a funding request for a portion of a Habitat Conservation Plan that would help the County in meeting the state environmental protection law, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The Federal and State have mandated that the counties participate in a habitat conservation plan in an effort to perpetuate the endangered Shearwater birds (in which the vast majority of 70% of the world's population live on Kaua'i) and other protected birds. The County has taken an aggressive approach to rescheduling activities however, there is continuous pressure from the Department of Education representatives to hold games at night.

Lastly, the County is requesting State assistance in funding upgrades to the Wailua Wastewater Treatment Plant which is an aging plant that's actual capacity has been reduced to 1/5<sup>th</sup> of its capability and which services the largest populated areas of Kaua'i. Since the County's usual source of funding for wastewater projects, the Department of Health's State Revolving Fund Loan Program has committed

most of their funds for the next few years to the City and County of Honolulu, any assistance possible from the State will significantly help the County in its efforts to provide essential wastewater services to our communities and benefit the environment.

For the abovementioned reasons, we thank the Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill 'Kaipo' Asing". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

BILL "KAIPO" ASING  
Council Chair

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