

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



LATE TESTIMONY

RUSS K. SAITO
Comptroller

Barbara A. Annis
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119**

TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
TOURISM AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
January 29, 2008

S.B. 2221

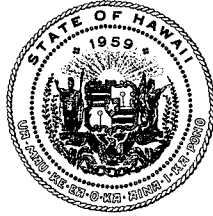
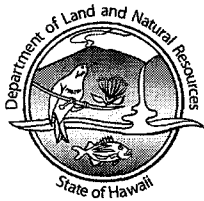
RELATING TO PUBLIC RESTROOMS

Chair Nishihara and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 2221.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the bill's purpose of ensuring that all public restrooms are consistently well maintained and sanitary. DAGS maintains its facilities, including public restrooms, as well as our resources, practices and management allow. DAGS continually strives to achieve customer satisfaction with our facilities within funding levels appropriated by the legislature. We note that our supplemental budget has been submitted and that we would not support any appropriations that would adversely affect any other programs or projects in the administrative supplemental, budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

On Senate Bill 2221 – Relating to Public Restrooms

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
TOURISM AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

January 29, 2008

Senate Bill 2221, Section 3 will appropriate general funds for public restrooms in state parks to be consistently well maintained. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this measure, as it is consistent with the goals and objectives of our program, but we note that funding is not included in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.

To more consistently provide well maintained public restrooms in State Parks the Department would need the funding directed for additional park caretaker and maintenance personnel.

**TESTIMONY OF THE
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON TOURISM AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

January 24, 2008
1:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2221, RELATING TO PUBLIC RESTROOMS

**TO THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:**

My name is Bernard Carvalho, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, testifying on behalf of the County of Kaua'i (County).

The County supports Senate Bill No. 2221.

The Bill appropriates funds to the State and the counties to ensure that all public restroom facilities are consistently well maintained and sanitary. Restrooms in public parks and recreation areas are heavily used during community activities such as youth and adult athletic leagues, town festivals, and family and class reunions. In addition, restrooms are part of Hawai'i's "curb appeal" to visitors—if restrooms at beaches and other recreational areas are not clean and well-maintained, visitors will have a negative impression of the State.

The number of visitors to Kaua'i has increased over ten percent from 2005 to 2006. In 2006, we received over 1.2 million visitors. The high visitor count, was a benefit to our economy, but it resulted in heavier use of public facilities, including restrooms.

The County is small and has limited resources. Currently, the County's budget for maintaining all of its recreational facilities, including stadiums, athletic fields, convention center, beach parks, and restrooms is only about \$2 million. The additional funds appropriated by Senate Bill No. 2221, even with the matching fund obligation, will greatly assist us in ensuring a high level of maintenance and sanitation for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

We thank the Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.