LINDA L. SMITH SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII GOVERNOR'S POLICY OFFICE

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 (808) 586-5330

Testimony of Linda L. Smith Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor

Before the

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND CULTURE

on Monday, March 17, 2008 9:30 A.M.

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION

Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Governor Lingle on SB 2423, SD2, HD1 in support of this measure that provides tools for the acquisition of lands at the area known as Turtle Bay on Oahu's North Shore. We appreciate this committee scheduling this hearing to provide a legislative vehicle for this significant undertaking.

Before discussing the specifics of SB 2423, SD2, HD1, I would like to provide some history behind the Governor's State of the State Address when she introduced the idea that the State, in collaboration with private, public, and non-profit partners, should purchase the 850-acre Turtle Bay property. For several years the Lingle-Aiona Administration has been monitoring activities on the North Shore. Governor Lingle has long been troubled by the proposed development of a major resort complex in this area and the impact this would have both on the public infrastructure and the quality of life for Oahu residents and visitors.

She was encouraged last year by two significant purchases of land supported by the North Shore community. A coalition of community, public, and non-profit organizations came together to preserve the Waimea Valley and to purchase Pupukea-Paumalu. During her State of the State Address the Governor recognized several of the community leaders who were instrumental in these efforts.

When it was announced that the Turtle Bay creditors filed a foreclosure lawsuit against the Turtle Bay owners, Governor Lingle recognized this was the opportune time for

Testimony of Linda L. Smith on SB 2423, SD2 Page 2

the State to publicly express its interest in preserving and protecting nearly five miles of pristine coastline and some of the last remaining open space along the North Shore.

The Legislature also has long recognized the significance of this area and in 2006 proposed House and Senate Resolutions calling for the rigorous reexamination of the expansion of the Turtle Bay Resort. While neither of the 2006 resolutions passed, in 2007 the Legislature enacted HCR 194 that requested the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor and the House Committee on Labor to convene a joint hearing on the impacts of the Turtle Bay Resort expansion on the vibrant North Shore of Oahu. However, this joint hearing never took place.

In 2008 we have the opportunity to join together, Legislative and Executive branches, private and non-profit, community-based and national, federal and local, to save this unique and special place.

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 is modeled along the lines of the successful Kukui Gardens legislation that allowed the preservation of affordable housing in downtown Honolulu. First, it provides unspecified sums for the Governor, or her designee, to negotiate with the current landowner, Oaktree Capital Management, and to enter into cooperative agreements with other entities to help acquire the property. Second, it further authorizes the issuance of an unspecified amount of general obligation bonds for the possible purchase of the property and provides that these bonds shall not lapse until June 30, 2010. Third, it authorizes the use of eminent domain powers should an agreement not be reached.

While it may not be necessary to use these legislative tools to acquire this property, this bill provides an avenue should non-legislative solutions not succeed.

We appreciate the fact that HD1 includes language that allows the State to acquire both the improved and unimproved lands. We also appreciate that the language in HD1 includes provisions allowing the State to use private investments and donations, federal funds, special funds, public lands and other assets to carry out the negotiations and proceed with the acquisition. Governor Lingle has been encouraged by the outpouring of support she has received from a wide variety of organizations and entities who want to help in this endeavor. Recently, Governor Lingle met with Secretary Dirk Kempthorne about federal assistance from the Department of the Interior. We have also been encouraged by support from charitable organizations, including the Trust for Public Lands.

Some have voiced concerns that Governor Lingle has not presented a specific plan to purchase the land or describe what will be done with the property. That is true because she recognizes it should not be her plan, but the community's plan. As a first step in shaping this vision, Governor Lingle held a "Talk Story" on March 4th with over 500 members of the community to hear their thoughts and ideas on this proposal.

The Governor formed an Advisory Working Group to help serve as a communications channel for this effort. The Group held its first meeting on March 12th and will be meeting

Testimony of Linda L. Smith on SB 2423, SD2 Page 3

regularly to guide this process. We are particularly pleased that Mr. Bill Paty has agreed to Chair the Turtle Bay Advisory Working Group.

We look forward to working with the Legislature, members of the public, federal agencies, national organizations, and even international organizations to pursue the truly worthy goal of preserving Turtle Bay.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
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OFFICE OF PLANNING

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Statement of ABBEY SETH MAYER

Interim Director, Office of Planning Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND CULTURE

Monday, March 17, 2008 9:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of SB 2423, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO LAND AQUISITION

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Manahan and Members of the House Committee on Tourism and Culture.

We support SB No. 2423, SD2, HD1, Relating to Land Acquisition. The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds and authorize the governor or the governor's designee to acquire the area commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort and the accompanying undeveloped property.

The Turtle Bay property includes about five miles of coastline, much of which is pristine and undeveloped and other large tracts that remain in their natural state. The property is also a critical piece in maintaining rural character of the North Shore.

Acquisition of the Turtle Bay property will protect this area and allow the community as a whole to shape its future.

This bill provides several avenues which can be utilized to pursue the acquisition of this important property including appropriations, general obligation bonds, the exchange of public lands, federal funds, private funds and other means of financing. It is critical to have this flexibility in order to maximize the potential for a successful outcome in the pursuit of this acquisition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

JAMES R. AIONA, JR. LT. GOVERNOR



KURT KAWAFUCHI DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

SANDRA L. YAHIRO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION P.O. BOX 259 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

PHONE NO: (808) 587-1510 FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

HOUSE COMMITTEES ON TOURISM & CULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS CONCERNS

TESTIMONY REGARDING SB 2501 SD 2 HD 1 RELATING TO RENTAL MOTOR VEHICLE SURCHARGE TAX

TESTIFIER: KURT KAWAFUCHI, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)

DATE:

MARCH 17, 2008

TIME:

9:30AM

ROOM:

325

This legislation amends the rental motor vehicle surcharge tax by expanding the increase in the tax for an additional year.

The Senate passed this measure on third reading.

The House Committee on Transportation amended this measure by extending the \$1 increased rental motor vehicle surcharge tax for an additional year.

The Department of Taxation (Department) supports this measure.

Currently, there is a rental motor vehicle surcharge of \$3 per day, which will drop to \$2 per day after August 31, 2008. Extending the increase for an additional year will be extremely useful in building reserves in the State Highway Fund. Maintaining a consistently sufficient revenue stream for the state highways is critical to maintaining Hawaii's infrastructure.

This legislation will result in no revenue impact to the general fund. However, the State Highway Fund will increase by \$13.3 million in FY 2009 (10 months) and \$2.7 million in FY 2010 (2 months). The \$3 a day rental vehicle surcharge tax now yields about \$48 million annually. This total includes the taxes on other tour vehicles (vans and buses), but the taxes on these other vehicles account for less than 1% of the total. Hence, an increase of \$1 a day (from \$2 after the reversion to \$3) would yield \$16 million annually.

As a result of the foregoing, the Department supports this legislation.



Legislative Testimony

SB 2423 SD 2 HD 1, RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION Tourism and Culture Committee, Economic Development and Business Concerns Committee

Monday, March 17, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Room: 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) <u>SUPPORTS the intent of</u> SB 2423 SD 2 HD 1, which seeks to protect the lands at the Turtle Bay Resort. The resort encompasses lands which have significant cultural values.

This bill as introduced was for the protection of the lands of the Galbraith Estate, another culturally significant area which OHA hopes the Legislature will help protect. OHA notes it is supporting other bills alive at the Legislature which address the critical situation of the Galbraith lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

THE TRUST for PUBLIC LAND



THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF **SB 2423, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 WITH COMMENTS**

House Committee on Tourism and Culture House Committee on Economic Development and Business Concerns Monday, March 17, 2008, 9:30 a.m., Room 325 TACtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov



Aloha Chairpersons Yamane and Yamashita and committee members:

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) supports the intent of SB 2423, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 Relating to Land Acquisition, which proposes to allocate funds towards the acquisition of undeveloped lands around the Turtle Bay Resort, but has the following waveflow concerns. TPL's mission is to support voluntary land conservation, and cannot support efforts to condemn the property against the landowner's wishes. Further, TPL has deep reservations about tapping funds such as the Legacy Lands Fund.

> TPL conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come . Nationwide, TPL has five program initiatives: (1) providing parks for people, (2) protecting working lands (farms, ranches, and forests), (3) conserving natural lands (wilderness, wildlife habitat), (4) safeguarding heritage lands (cultural and historical resources), and (5) pre serving land to ensure clean drinking water and the natural beauty of our coasts and waterways. In Hawai'i, TPL has worked with public and private partners to conserve over 36,000 acres of land in the State, including Pūpūkea-Paumalū and Waimea Valley on O'ahu, Wao Kele o Puna on Hawai'i Island, Mū'olea Point on Maui, and Lumaha'i Beach on Kaua'i.

First, TPL was as surprised as the Legislature by the Governor's State of the State address and the announcement of an initiative to acquire the Turtle Bay Resort. Nonetheless, we support the bold initiative, and believe that by working in partnership with the Legislature, federal agencies, our Congressional delegation, the community, the business community, and private donors, we can together, achieve our vision of preserving the unique rural character of North Shore, and at the same time, enhancing much needed jobs provided at the existing resort and golf courses.

Second, TPL also supports authorizing the Governor to acquire the developed portions of the resort to give her maximum flexibility.

Thirdly, TPL strongly supports the intent of this bill and understands that there may be appropriate special funds that could be tapped to assist the purchase, however, we have deep reservations about using funds such as the Legacy Lands Fund. TPL was actively involved in the passage of the Legacy Lands Act, which sets aside a small percentage of the conveyance tax for conservation acquisition projects (currently, roughly \$4.7 million per year). Grant applications are competitively reviewed by the Legacy Lands Commission, which consists of experts in agriculture, land conservation, Hawaiian culture, biology, and other disciplines. These representatives

also are geographically dispersed among all four counties. In the past two years, the number of worthy projects has far exceeded the available funds, and every project funded has leveraged matching federal, county or private funds, making the dollars in the fund go farther. These projects involve willing landowners/sellers, engaged communities calling for the acquisition of these lands, plans to manage the land, and substantial matching funding, and range across all the islands. Circumventing the process laid out by the legislature would place other worthy projects (and community goals and dreams) at risk and render the Legacy Lands Commission useless.

TPL supports SB 2423 S.D. 2, H.D. 1 with the comments/concerns, and is ready to assist the State and other conservation partners in collaborative efforts to acquire the lands surrounding the Turtle Bay Resort.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Lea Hong

Lea Honz

Hawaiian Islands Program Director

Ko'olauloa-North Shore Alliance

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair Rep. Joey Manahan, Vice Chair

Rep. Lyla B. Berg, Ph.D. Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Jerry L. Chang Rep. Faye P. Hanohano Rep. Robert N. Herkes

Rep. Glenn Wakai

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita

Rep. Corinne W.L. Ching

Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto

Monday, March 17, 2008 9:30 am, Room 325

Testimony in Support of SB 2423 SD2 HD1

On behalf of the Ko'olauloa-North Shore Alliance, I submit these comments in support of SB 2423 SD2 HD1.

The Ko'olauloa-North Shore Alliance is a network of 26 organizations who support the initiative to preserve the undeveloped lands mauka and makai of the Turtle Bay Resort. We applaud the Legislature for understanding the importance of moving this bill forward to provide options in this complicated, but attainable effort.

If the State fails to act now that the property is being foreclosed, it might be possible for another developer to come along and build 3500 more resort units 22 years from now, still based on the 1986 approval. The community does not want massive resort expansion and urbanization of the North Shore.

Two-lane Kamehameha Highway cannot support the current volume of traffic, let alone thousands of new cars the expanded resort would generate. Failing to act now may obligate the State to invest billions of dollars later for a new highway to an area that will no longer be rural.

Looking back years from now, people will realize that preserving these lands at Kawela Bay, Kuilima and Kahuku Point was a bargain. Please pass SB 2423 SD2 HD1.

Respectfully,

Gil Riviere

Chair, Koolauloa-North Shore Alliance

The Ko'olauloa - North Shore Alliance

A Vision for Turtle Bay: Forever Country

For the benefit of present and future generations throughout Hawai'i and the world, a diverse and committed group of individuals, associations, businesses, and leaders have joined together to strongly support the permanent protection of the undeveloped lands mauka and makai of the Turtle Bay Resort in the moku of Koʻolauloa on the North Shore of Oʻahu.

We welcome your support for keeping Kawela Bay, Turtle Bay, and Kahuku Point "Forever Country." With aloha, we support:

- ➤ A non-partisan initiative to preserve the rural character of Koʻolauloa and the North Shore by acquiring the Turtle Bay Resort through creative partnerships that will protect in perpetuity the undeveloped areas and coastline.
- Enhancing the existing hotel, golf courses, and related businesses at Turtle Bay and protecting quality jobs for local employees and residents.
- No further resort development on the site in recognition of its cultural and historic importance, environmental sensitivity, and the "carrying capacity" of the infrastructure in the area such as the already heavily used Kamehameha Highway.
- > Transforming the North Shore-Ko'olauloa economy to one more reliant on the intellectual capacity of our people and upon sustainable use of the 'āina.
- Preserving this unique part of "country" for the perpetual enjoyment of Hawai'i residents and visitors.

www.KNSAlliance.org

The Koʻolauloa – North Shore Alliance

Adopt-A-Beach Hawaii
Beach Access Hawaii
Defend Oahu Coalition
Friends of Kewalo Basin
Hawai'i State Bodysurfing Association
Hui Malama O Pupukea Waimea
Hui O He'e Nalu
'Ilio'ulaokalani Coalition
KAHEA
Keep the Country COUNTRY, Inc.
Keep Kahuku Country
Keep the North Shore Country
Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club
Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui

Mokuleia Community Association
North Shore Community Land Trust
Punalu'u Community Association
Save La'au
Save Our Surf
Save the Sea Turtles International
Save Waimea Valley Coalition
Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter
Surfrider Foundation, Oahu Chapter
Surset Beach Community Association
Trust for Public Land
Waiahole-Waikane Community
Association
Windward Ahupuaa Alliance

For More Information, Contact:

Mark Cunningham,
Defend Oahu Coalition 224-2626
www.defendoahucoalition.org
savekawelabay@vahoo.com

Margaret Primacio, Keep Kahuku Country 348-6513

Gil Riviere, 220-2280
Keep The North Shore Country
www.keepthenorthshorecountry.org
info@keepthe northshore country.org



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

March 17th, 2008, 9:30 A.M.

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2423 SD2 HD1

Chair Yamane and members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter, with 5500 dues paying members statewide, supports SB 2423 SD2 HD1, exploring dedicated funding approaches to protect the Turtle Bay area in perpetuity. We appreciate the multi-pronged approach to accomplishing this objective that SB 2423 SD2 HD1 offers.

As you may know, the Sierra Club is a co-plaintiff in a lawsuit seeking to require a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed resort expansion at Kawela Bay and Turtle Bay Resort. The litigation stems from the massive development planned for Turtle Bay Resort on the North Shore of Oʻahu by Kuilima. The project contemplates the expansion of the Turtle Bay Resort to some five times its existing size to approximately 3500 total hotel and condominium units. The Sierra Club joins Keep the North Shore Country in its concerns that the Kawela Bay Project—now being undertaken nearly 25 years after the original environmental review was completed—will have significant impacts and cumulative environmental effects which have not been properly evaluated or considered by the County or the developer.

The Turtle Bay area contains breathtaking coastline, sensitive wetland environments, and endangered species habitats. It is a playground for Hawai'i residents as well as visitors. It is also a good area for fishing on the North Shore—but accessibility through the existing "private property" has been raised as a concern. Protecting the Turtle Bay area in perpetuity would serve current and future generations well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From:

scoleman34@aol.com

Sent:

Saturday, March 15, 2008 12:58 PM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

Testimony in Favor of SB2423 HD1

From: Stuart Coleman, Vice-Chair, Surfrider Foundation
To: Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Tourism and Culture Comm.

Re: SB2423, Notice of Hearing: Monday, March 17, 2008, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room 325

Date: 3/15/08

Dear Rep. Yamane,

I am writing on behalf of myself and the Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter to let you know that we fully support SB2423 and the acquisition of the lands owned by Kuilima Resort Co. and Oaktree Capital. For two years, we have been working hard to prevent their expansion of the resort and to protect the Kawela Bay area. I hope you and your committee will support this bill, and we appreciate your efforts to preserve the North Shore. If you or anyone on the committee would like to come talk to our Surfrider members at one of our upcoming meetings about the bill and the best way to help promote it, we would welcome your attendance.

Aloha, Stuart Coleman 808-942-3841 Emailed to: <u>TACtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov</u>
Mar. 15, 2008 **Denise Antolini** 59-463 Alapi'o Road Pūpūkea, O'ahu 96712
(808) 638-5594

House Tourism and Culture Committee Hearing Mar. 17, 2008 9:30 a.m., Conf. Room 325

S2423 SD2 HD1 Turtle Bay Conservation Acquisition

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Manahan, and Members:

I write in **SUPPORT of SB2423 SD2 HD1**. Timely passage of this bill by TAC, especially after unanimous support in WLH, would represent a <u>significant contribution by your Committee and the House</u> to the bold leadership already shown by the Senate and the Governor in supporting the non-partisan community initiative to protect the lands around Turtle Bay.

I am a resident of Pūpūkea and the Director of the Environmental Law Program at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai`i at Mānoa. I am also a member of the Governor's Turtle Bay Advisory Working Group. I am a founding Board member of the North Shore Community Land Trust, which was actively involved in catalyzing the public-private partnerships that recently protected the 1,100-acre Pūpūkea-Paumalū property. And, I served as a co-coordinator of the Save Waimea Valley Coalition, which supported the public acquisition of Waimea Valley.

The Waimea and Pūpūkea-Paumalū "deals" were not easy, but they did became a reality. The collective wisdom, effort, and creative financial contributions of many public and private partners, including the Legislature, in conjunction with a tireless community effort, protected these special places in perpetuity. This new approach to land conservation in Hawai'i is a powerful new ally that can leverage and protect limited state resources. Applying this "creative land conservation" approach to the Turtle Bay opportunity – now, while the property is in foreclosure – will be a permanent win-win for Hawai'i residents and visitors alike. We can enhance the existing development in a sustainable way, protect quality local jobs, and preserve this pristine coastline and open spaces for recreation, cultural preservation, and wildlife.

With the amendments already made, the bill now gives the Governor a full range of tools necessary to conduct serious and timely negotiations with the owner and creditors of the property. However, due to the sensitive nature of the State-led negotiations, still in an early stage, the amount of funding for this bill should continue to be <u>blank</u> until further indication from the Governor.

The negotiations and legal actions that lead to the ultimate protection of this property may be complex, but I am confident that they will succeed. I am pleased that the House can be part of this important effort to keep the country "country forever."

Thank you.

Denise Antolini

From:

Alapiodorr@aol.com

Sent:

Saturday, March 15, 2008 10:42 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: Land Acquisition (Kuilima/Turtle Bay)

House of Representatives The Twenty-Fourth Legislature Regular Session of 2008

Chair of Tourism and Culture Ryan I. Yamane

Dear Representatives,

As long time residents of the North Shore we feel that it is of the utmost importance to preserve, maintain and protect the undeveloped lands mauka and makai of the Turtle Bay Resort. Thus we strongly support SB 2423 SD 2, Relating to Land Acquisition (Kuilima/Turtle Bay).

Should the uniqueness and natural beauty of Turtle Bay be further compromised then the future of tourism itself on the North Shore is at stake.

The amount of development over the last 20 years has pushed the infrastructure to its carrying capacity limits. More development will surely push this already overtaxed infrastructure beyond its limit.

We, an agricultural business entrepreneur and an RN who have both worked and lived in this community for over 25 years, care deeply about the health and well being of both the people and the environment of the North Shore.

Thank you for your time, Jeffrey R. Dorr & Nanette E. Dorr

It's Tax Time! Get tips, forms and advice on AOL Money & Finance.

From:

Cat [cat_youkai@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Saturday, March 15, 2008 9:52 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, my support of : SB2423, SD2, HD1

Aloha Representative Ryan I. Yamane;

On behalf of the Koolauloa / North Shore Alliance, I am asking for your kokua in accepting my support of : SB2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08) Relating To Land Acquisition. This is a House Of Representatives hearing of the Twenty-Forth Legislature, Regular Session of 2008.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A: TAC Agenda

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08)

Status: RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION.

Directs the governor, or the governor's designee, to acquire lands owned by Kuilima Resort Company, Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahuku, Oahu. (SB2423 HD1) WLH, TAC, FIN

This will add another tool to the important toolbox of approaches the State can use to put together a creative purchase package for the Kuilima Resort and Oaktree Capital lands. This bill also helps our friends in other communities statewide who are similarly fighting for important rural and open space.

This bill is of tremendous importance! It is imperative to protect and keep the remaining open countryside on our North Shore! This is not only for all who reside in Hawaii, but for all of the visitors who come to see the beauty of this area and the open spaces that make it so! O'ahu is famous for the beauty of the North Shore, world wide. This is also O'ahu's residents last remaining "vacation" spot, without having to go to the outer islands. To further develop the Kuilima Resort area, would truly destroy the natural beauty of the North Shore! The fate of this piece of paradise is in your hands. Keeping the beauty of the open spaces and not adding any additional traffic to the already overloaded Kamahamaha Hwy., are my plea to you, the good people in the House of Representatives. I ask for your kokua and appeal to your good judgment to help save our last natural area!

Mahalo.

Be a better friend, newshound, and know-it-all with Yahoo! Mobile. Try it now. http://mobile.yahoo.com/;_ylt=Ahu06i62sR8HDtDypao8Wcj9tAcJ

From: patriciablair@msn.com

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 9:01 AM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: Testimony

To WLH, TAC, AND FIN committees, I support SB2423-SD2,HD1 which directs the governor or the governor's designee to acquire lands owned by Kulilima Resort Company, Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahauku, Oahu. I feel that this is the best interest of the people of Hawaii for sustainability. Thank you very much. Pat BLair, Kailua, Hi, 261-8499

From:

Jeffrey Mironov [jmironov@nyc.rr.com]

Sent:

Saturday, March 15, 2008 8:39 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

Kuilima/Turtle Bay Testimony

To the Chair of Tourism and Culture, Ryan I. Yamane

Dear Chairman Yamane,

I much appreciate the House for it's support and most certainly see and am aware of the Houses critical understanding and support of Bill SB 2423 SD 2, relating to the Land Acquisition of Kuilima/Turtle Bay which was heard on Monday, 3/10/08. I am in support of the KNS Alliance Vision Statement and very much appreciate how the bill supports the public interest statewide in preserving open space and rural communities.

I have been a North Shore resident since 1982 and am intimately aware of the importance of wild and undeveloped areas on Oahu given the degree and intensity of over development that has dramatically changed the natural landscape on much of the island.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Mironov

From: Louie DelleFave [delletec@austin.rr.com]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 8:40 AM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, my support of: SB2423, SD2, HD1

Aloha Representative Ryan I. Yamane;

On behalf of the Koolauloa / North Shore Alliance, I am asking for your kokua in accepting **my support** of: SB2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08) Relating To Land Acquisition. This is a House Of Representatives hearing of the Twenty-Forth Legislature, Regular Session of 2008.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A: TAC Agenda

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08)

Status: RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION.

Directs the governor, or the governor's designee, to acquire lands owned by Kuilima Resort Company, Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahuku, Oahu. (SB2423 HD1)
WLH, TAC, FIN

This will add another tool to the important toolbox of approaches the State can use to put together a creative purchase package for the Kuilima Resort and Oaktree Capital lands. This bill also helps our friends in other communities statewide who are similarly fighting for important rural and open space.

This bill is of tremendous importance! It is imperative to protect and keep the remaining open countryside on our North Shore! This is not only for all who reside in Hawaii, but for all of the visitors who come to see the beauty of this area and the open spaces that make it so! This is also O'ahu's residents last remaining "vacation" spot, without having to go to the outer islands. To further develop the Kuilima Resort area, would truly destroy the natural beauty of the North Shore! O'ahu is famous for the beauty of the North Shore, world wide. The fate of this piece of paradise is in your hands. Keeping the beauty of the open spaces and not adding any additional traffic to the already overloaded Kamahamaha Hwy., are my plea to you, the good people in the House of Representatives. I ask for your kokua and

appeal to your good judgment to help save our last natural area!

Mahalo, Cynthia DelleFave delletec@mac.rr.com

From: Ann [kaneboy@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: S

Saturday, March 15, 2008 8:10 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: Testimony SB 2423, SD2, HD1

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

AGENDA

TAC Agenda

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08) Status RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION.

We support the governor's desire to acquire lands owned by Kuilima Resort Company, Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahuku, Oahu. (SB2423 HD1) WLH, TAC, FIN

Peter & Ann Drechsler 59-322 Alapio Road Haleiwa Town, HI 96712-9605 638-9027 kaneboy@hawaii.rr.com

From: JPurcilly@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 7:15 AM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: Acquisition of the Kuilima Resort Company, Oaktree Property

Dear Water and Land Committee,

We strongly encourage the purchase by the State of Hawaii of the Kuilima Resort Company lands.

As former property owners at 59-165 Ke Nui Road and long time admirers of the North Shore Sunset Beach area for vacations, we know from experience that further massive development of the area in question would result in massive gridlock and ecological damage to the now pristine beaches.

We look forward to again purchasing a home on the North Shore and fervently hope that the State of Hawaii will purchase and preserve this beautiful North Shore area.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph and Gay Purcilly 2843 Chateau Way Laguna Beach, CA 92651

It's Tax Time! Get tips, forms and advice on AOL Money & Finance.

From: Mary Beth [mbqh@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 5:11 AM

To: TACtestimony
Subject: Senate Bill 2423

As a mother of a Pupukea resident and a frequent visitor, I send my unconditional support for this bill particularly as it applies to Turtle Bay. I realize I am not a voting resident and this may not weigh as much coming from me, but the rest of the country and indeed the world is watching Senate Bill 2423.

As a resident of the overdeveloped, unprotected East Coast on the mainland, I implore you to pass this very important bill to protect these beautiful and sacred lands.

Mahalo.

Mary Beth Hueter

From:

gotonsbs@hawaiiantel.net

Sent:

Friday, March 14, 2008 9:45 PM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

Testimony to Ryan I. Yamane, Chair of the Tourism and Culture- Re Bill: SB2423

Dear Chairman Yamane

I am currently a resident of the N. Shore but I have lived all over Oahu in the last 25 years.

The purchase of this land, in my opinion is of up most importance.

It is akin to the decision in New York City over a 100 years ago to purchase the land for Central Park.

It may seem expensive now, but 50 years from now it will be hailed as a bargain and those who brought it about will be thought of as heroes.

When I talk to tourists the main reason they come to the N. Shore is the lack of development and the feeling that they are experiencing the

real Hawaii. They are free to experience unadorned nature without being funneled into some corporate idea of nature.

We know all of the reasons why N. Shore residents in particular do not want to see this development; the traffic, the lack of infrastructure, the environment but I believe it is beyond that, and I, as a private citiezen, will be contributing to the purchase as I did for the Pamalu Project.

Sincerely

Robert B. Smith 59-220 Alapio Rd Haleiwa, Hi 96712 638-0789

From:

Sandra Cashman [cashmans001@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent:

Friday, March 14, 2008 9:15 PM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

SB2423

To Ryan Yamane Chair of Tourism and Culture

Aloha,

I support the bill for state purchase of the Turtle Bay property and the KNSAlliance Vision Statement in their realization of the

public interest in preserving open space and rural communities.

Please pass this bill and keep it alive. So often I'm disenchanted by the partisan bickering in our state that stalls many good ideas. This example of bipartisanship renews my faith in our legislators and their focus on the common good of the community. I know that funding is a problem, but I'd like to see every effort made to explore creative options to make the purchase a reality.

Sandra Cashman 59-575 Akanoho Place Haleiwa, HI 96712 (808) 638-7683 cashmans001@hawaii.rr.com

From:

Milica Barjaktarovic [milica_b@earthlink.net]

Sent:

Friday, March 14, 2008 8:53 PM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

Next Hearing Set for SB2423-Land Acquisition

Re: Testimony for SB2423

TO: Chair of Tourism and Culture, Ryan I. Yamane

From: Milica Barjaktarovic, 69-101 Waialua Beach rd, Waialua HI 96791

I am a resident of the North Shore and definitely FOR PRESERVING THE NATURAL STATE OF THE NORTH SHORE. It is a gem that needs to be saved, it is the last "country" on the island where locals and tourists can go and enjoy the surf, the beaches, and be safe and enjoy some restaurants and shopping.

If North Shore is developed, then we have nothing left. Period. Then the entire South Shore will not have a weekend getaway, and tourists will go to Thailand or Indonesia to enjoy the surf and pristine beaches. The entire island economy would suffer.

So, obviously, we need to preserve the land. Buying the land is one way.

I am concerned with Gov. Lingle idea that "there should be one more hotel built there to strenghten the existing one." It does not make sense to me. There should be NO more hotels there. One is already plenty.

Also, hotels are low-paying, dead end jobs that just bring money to someone who lives far away and does not care for our community at all.

What is Hawaii aspiring to be - a land of maids and janitors????

I am sorry, but that is slavery, in a more subtle form.

Hotels are like plague - they come in and exploit the people. They might be nice at first to get in but then they are not nice at all. I worked at Turtle Bay. They tried to solve the bancrupcy problem by cutting the entire department salary by 20%, promised us medical insurance and didn't give it to us. I left. Some other people are still stuck there. They work for pitiful money and are treated badly. The whole thing is NOT something that Hawaii can be proud of.

Hawaii should invest more into technology and education, so that we can have high-paying, clean jobs that bring us money and leave us in control of how we spend it.

We should own our land, in every way, not some developers who just come in, make a mess, rape the land, and leave the mess for us to deal with. WHEN DEVELOPERS COME IN, LOCAL COMMUNITY IS LEFT WITH THE BAD CONSEQUENCES. Developing Turtle Bay would destroy the natural ecosystem, create traffic and keep on destroying our land, and just pose a strain on the resources. It would be allowing someone else to control our land, and that someone else has NO interest whatsoever in our people and the community. They just care to put one more dollar into their pocket, regardless of the cost and consequences.

>SB2423, supporting the acquisition of the Kuilima Resort Company,

>Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known

>as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahuku, Oahu, has been

>referred to the next House Committee that needs to hear it $\hfill\square$ Tourism >and Culture.

>

>The hearing will be on Monday, March 17 at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Kolja Rotzoll 66-126 Awai Lane Haleiwa, HI 96712

Testimony to
Chair of Tourism and Culture Committee, Ryan I. Yamane
SB 2423 SD2, HD1 - Regarding Land Acquisition (Kuilima / Turtle Bay)
March 17 at 9:30 a.m.

March 14th 2008

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my gratitude towards the House for its support of the bill SB 2423 SD2. I strongly support the bill because it is important to maintain the rural character of the North Shore; and in this way, the public interest is supported statewide in preserving open space and rural communities. As a resident of Haleiwa, I am concerned with the proposed developments by outside investors and I believe that the purchase of undeveloped Turtle Bay Parcels by the State is a good idea to preserve a healthy north shore/island community for residents and visitors alike. Besides, the existing infrastructure does not allow expansions considering that the Kamehameha Highway is already used beyond its capacity.

Mahalo and with warm regards, Dr. Kolja Rotzoll

From: Kent Fonoimoana [kent@trisland.com]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 5:46 PM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: SB2423 HD 1 (HSCR1089-08) Turtle Bay Acquisition

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Joey Manahan, Vice Chair

Rep. Lyla B. Berg, Ph.D.

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Glenn Wakai

Rep. Jerry L. Chang

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano

Rep. Corinne W.L. Ching

Rep. Robert N. Herkes

Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

AGENDA

TAC Agenda

SB 2423, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1089-08)

Status

RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION.

Directs the governor, or the governor's designee, to acquire lands owned by Kuilima Resort Company, Oaktree Capital, LLC, and their successors in interest, commonly known as Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort located in Kahuku, Oahu. (SB2423 HD1) WLH, TAC, FIN

Mr. Chairman and distinguished committee members,

My name is Kent K. Fonoimoana a lifelong resident of Oahu's North Shore. I support the KNSAlliance, Defend Oahu Coalition, and other groups who desire to preserve endandered shoreline and other places of beauty.

I would like to voice my support for SB2423 HD1 that will be heard in your committee. I support all efforts to preserve and protect what is left of our open spaces, especially the area in which I live.

When you consider this proposed intiative, remember what brings visitors here is not more buildings, but what nature has created.

Thank you for allowing me to be a small part of the process.

Malama 'Aina

Kent Fonoimoana PO Box 122 Laie, Hawaii 96762 808-294-9991

From: vaillancourt [taylorvaillancourt@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 7:00 PM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: Testimony

Go for the purchase! I'm a 30 year employee for the state of MN and this plan is by far one of the most innovative I have ever heard. The bueaty of it all is it takes care of many issues and makes many folks happy. Don't be like MN and play politics with it, Love this area and plan to be back plenty even to live if I'm that lucky some day. Thanks Taylor Vaillancourt

From: Kim Johnson [kim@kokuahawaiifoundation.org]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 7:16 PM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: Senate Bill 2432 - letter of support

To: Chair of Tourism and Culture, Ryan I. Yamane

Dear Representatives,

I am sending this letter in support of Senate Bill 2423 regarding the land acquisition of Kuilima / Turtle Bay on the North Shore of Oahu.

Thank you for supporting the residents of Hawai'i in our hopes to utilize the land in a way that will benefit everyone. I believe that the KNSAlliance's vision statement is well thought out and responsible. The existing hotel provides important jobs for the community but further development would strain the infrastructure of this rural area.

Residents and visitors from all over the world come to the northern point of O'ahu to enjoy the natural beauty of the mountains and the ocean. We now have a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect this inspirational area for future generations.

I encourage you to support this bill.

Aloha, Kim Johnson

Executive Director Kokua Hawaii Foundation PO Box 866, Haleiwa, HI 96712 (808) 638-5145 office

kim@kokuahawaiifoundation.org www.kokuahawaiifoundation.org

From: Kim Johnson [kim@jackjohnsonmusic.com]

Sent: Saturday, March 15, 2008 7:16 PM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: SB2423 - Land Acquisition

To: Chair of Tourism and Culture, Ryan I. Yamane

Dear Representatives,

I am sending this letter in support of Senate Bill 2423 regarding the land acquisition of Kuilima / Turtle Bay on the North Shore of Oahu.

Thank you for supporting the residents of Hawai'i in our hopes to utilize the land in a way that will benefit everyone. I believe that the KNSAlliance's vision statement is well thought out and responsible. The existing hotel provides important jobs for the community but further development would strain the infrastructure of this rural area.

Residents and visitors from all over the world come to the northern point of O'ahu to see the magnificent green mountains on the land and the blue mountains in the ocean. We now have a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect this inspirational area for future generations.

I encourage you to support this bill.

Aloha, Jack Johnson

NS Resident and Musician

From:

chip hartman [seachip@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Saturday, March 15, 2008 9:30 PM

To: Subject: TACtestimony testimony SB2423

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair Rep. Joey Manahan, Vice Chair

Rep. Lyla B. Berg, Ph.D.

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Glenn Wakai

Rep. Jerry L. Chang

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano

Rep. Corinne W.L. Ching

Rep. Robert N. Herkes

Rep. Barbara C. Marumoto

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2008

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Ryan I. Tamane and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB2423. As a resident of the Sunset Beach area I have watched with interest the proposed purchase of the Turtle Bay properties. I feel that this purchase is in the best interest of the people of Hawaii and am therefore in favor of our state government making every effort to secure these lands.

Mahalo.

Chip Hartman - resident 59-208 B Kamehameha Hwy. Haleiwa, Hi 96712

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your home page. http://www.yahoo.com/r/hs

From:

Dbram71@aol.com

Sent:

Sunday, March 16, 2008 7:59 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: Support for SB 2423

Please forward to the Chair of the Tourism and Culture Committee. Mahalo.

Aloha, Committee Chair Ryan Yamane, and Members of the Tourism and Culture Committee:

I write in support of Senate Bill 2423, SD 2, Regarding Land Acquisition (Kuilima / Turtle Bay). You and the other members of the House have the opportunity to join in an historic effort to preserve a portion of the North Shore of Oahu for the future of our state and those who follow us. You can be an integral part of the process, and your actions in support of the Bill will send a powerful signal to all that Hawaii cares about its future and will judiciously balance the demands of tourism with the needs of the residents who live and work to make our state better.

This land acquisition plan can work, and there is growing momentum throughout the state to seek creative and realistic ways to accomplish the task. The Koolauloa / North Shore Alliance is but one example of those individuals, groups of individuals, and groups of groups who see great potential in the acquisition plan and are prepared to work to achieving the potential. Without the support of our state government, the efforts to find support will be greatly hindered if not permanently limited.

Now is the time for you to act. I ask you to support the Bill, pass it forward, and work to have the House pass the Bill.

Mahalo,

David Bramlett Haleiwa Hawaii Resident

It's Tax Time! Get tips, forms and advice on AOL Money & Finance.

From:

Toni Sickler [sicklert003@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 16, 2008 9:01 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: S2423 SD2 Turtle Bay Conservation Acquisition

Tourism and Culture Committee Hearing Mar. 17, 2008 9:30 a.m., Conf. Room 325

S2423 SD2 HD1Turtle Bay Conservation Acquisition

Dear Chair Ryan L. Yamane and Members:

I strongly support SB2423 SD2. The community's efforts to preserve and protect both developed and undeveloped lands should be supported by our government. At this time, there are already thousands of acres with the proper zoning for future development that are just sitting idle. We need to act now to support the governor's initiative to purchase and preserve the undeveloped land surrounding Turtle Bay.

Thank you, members for allowing my voice to be heard. I know the thousand of visitors that come to our Island support this bill. They do not want to see overdevelopment come to the North Shore; one of the last visage of "country" on the Island.

Toni Sickler

59-415 Makana Rd.

Haleiwa, HI 96712

808-638-8497

From:

Joy Silver [joyofpilates@mac.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2008 11:57 AM

To:

WLHtestimony

Subject: support for SB 2423 SD 2

Dear Chair of Tourism and Culture, Ryan I. Yamane,

I am writing to support SB 2423 SD 2. I would first like to thank the House for its support, as it is a critical partner in this effort of land acquisition. I support how the bill supports the public interest statewide in preserving open space and rural communities. I strongly support of KNSAlliance's Vision Statement and feel that it must be carried out for current and future generations worldwide.

I urge that you support this bill by passing it, keeping it alive and moving it quickly to the Finance committee. This will work in parallel to the Governor's initiative and her working group. Working together we can keep this a special place for all to enjoy.

Mahalo, Joy Silver

Haleiwa

From: Windward Ahupua'a Alliance [info@waa-hawaii.org]

Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2008 2:59 PM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: SB2423 SD2 HD1- RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION

Submitted by:

Shannon Wood, Interim President

Windward Ahupua`a Alliance/The Climate Project/RECYCLING FOR CHANGE/BUST-A-DUMPER Campaign

P.O. Box 6366

Kane'ohe, HI 96744

Voicemail: 808/247-6366; Cellular: 808/223-4481 or 808/224-4496

Website: http://www.waa-hawaii.org; E-Mail: info@waa-hawaii.org;

Website: http://www.recycling4change.com; E-Mail: info@recycling4change.com
Website: http://www.bust-a-dumper.com; E-Mail: info@bust-a-dumper.com

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & CULTURE

Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair Rep. Joey Manahan, Vice Chair

9:30 am Monday, March 17, 2008 Conference Room 325

SB2423 SD2 HD1 - RELATING TO LAND ACQUISITION STRONGLY SUPPORT

Aloha, My name is Shannon Wood, submitting testimony on behalf of the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a <u>501c3</u> Hawai`i non-profit corporation, which was established in July, 2002, to create the <u>Ko`olau Greenbelt & Heritage</u> <u>Trails System</u> in order to restore, protect & provide public access to the *mauka* (mountain) lands on the Windward side of O`ahu along the base of *Na Ko`olau* up to **Kawela Bay** encompassing the two *moku* of *Ko`olau Loa* and *Ko`olaupoko*. as well as to support locally-owned sustainable economic activities in the more developed areas.

SB2423 SD2 HD1 dovetails beautifully both with WAA's expanded mission as well as its original vision to preserve, protect, and expand public access from the mountains to the outer reefs..

In particular, WAA supports the additional amendment put in place in HD 1 to expand the sources of funds that may be used for the purchase of the property to include special funds; private funds, financing, or donations; federal funds; exchange of public lands; or any other means of financing since there are so many other pressing needs in our state needing support as well as other critical land purchases coming up shortly.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on behalf of behalf of SB2423 SD2 HD1.