Kawaikapai Ohana c/a Thomas T Shirai Jr P O Box 601 Waialua, III 96791 email: <u>Kawaikapai@howaii.rr.com</u>

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

House Committee on Tourism & Culture Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair

House Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns Representative Kyle Yamashita, Chair

RE: Testimony Supporting SB 2423 SD2 HDI (Relating to Land Acquisition)

Aloha Chair's Yamane, Yamashita & Committee Members,

The Kawaihapai Ohana supports SB 2423 SD2 HD1. An honorable part of our kuleana (mission statement) is recognizing Kupuna of Waialua Moku however, we've made an exception because an informant for the Bishop Museum regarding Koolauloa Moku has ohana ties to Waialua Moku and is a distant relative. We proudly submit this testimony supporting SB 2423 SD2 HD1 on behalf of the late Mrs Leialoha Kaleo (Leialoha Uha) a kumaaina of Koolauloa Moku and specifically the geographical area which includes the Ahupua'u of Opana, Hanakaoe and Kahuku where she and Mr John Palaualelo Kaleo her Husband resided. He was also and informant for the Bishop Museum and they are also featured in their publication entitled Archeology of Oahu-Bulletin 104 (McAllister 1933). Below are excerpts from that publication and is a perenial reason why we support this legislation:

Kukio Pond

Site 262. Kukio pond, a natural hasin filled with brackish water, located about 300 ft. from the sea, Kahuku Point.

The pond was formally much larger and contained many kinds of fish.

It is said to have been surrounded by a large Hawaiian settlement.

Mrs John Kaleo (Leïaloha Kaleo) is probably the only survivor and her former friends and relatives have been buried in shallow graves in the sand between the pond and the sea.

> McAllister Archeology of Oahu



This is the basis of why the Kawaihapai Ohana supports SB 2423 SD2 HD1. Furthermore, Mrs Leialoha Kaleo is a recognized lineal descendant and the only informant that shared information about Na Iwi Kupuna. The validity of this mana'o proved true when current and past EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) where done about this area.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting SB 2423 SD2 HD1 which is greatly needed to preservation and protection of this wahi pana. We don't want another Honokahua where hundreds of Iwi Kupuna were disturbed, removed and reintered because of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Maui.

Malama Iwi Kupuna

Thomas T Shirai Jr

Kawaikapai Ohana -- Po'o

LATE TESTIMONY

manahan1-Haylee

From:

Carol Philips [carolphilips1@gmail.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 16, 2008 10:53 PM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: SB 2423, SD2, HD1, March 17, 2008, 9:30 AM Room 325

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

March 16, 2008

Re: Strong Support SB2423

Aloha Honorable Chair Yamane and Committee Members,

My name is Carol Philips, I'm a lifelong resident of the North Shore of Oahu and a member of the North Shore Neighborhood Board. I know that many other's more eloquent that I have testified in support of this measure, so I will just say quite simply...purchasing the Turtle Bay Resort and lands is less expensive to the tax payers then paying for the vast inferstructor improvements to address the traffic impact required if built out as planned. Even if the people supported it (which they don't!) expanding the highway to 4 lanes is physically impossible due to geography. Furthermore, Kamehameha Hwy from Haleiwa to Kahaluu is a nearly 100 year old 2 land road that is nearly falling into the ocean in places. Given these realities I strongly urge you to vote yes on SB 2423 to support the aqusition of the property on the North Shore known as the Turtle Bay Resort and sourounding lands.

Warmest Aloha,

Carol Philips 66-008 C Kamehameha Hwy Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712

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If this is sent in error, kindly inform us and delete message. Mahalo!

manahan1-Haylee

From:

Julie Noble [createharmonia@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Monday, March 17, 2008 6:21 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Cc:

savekawelabay@yahoo.com

Subject:

LATE TESTIMONY SUPPORT SB2423 FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST THOSE LIVING IN HAWAII

Aloha.

I am a native Texan who has visited the North Shore twice in the last two years. Late last August, my kids and I were fortunate to meet several people who are involved in the Defend Oahu Coalition. Our hearts are completely behind the group's efforts, as what they are seeking to protect is exactly what we go to Oahu to appreciate -- when we leave the plane, we rent a car and high-tail it to the North Shore. We go straight there for many reasons: for the pristine beauty; for the working agricultural and aquacultural environment; for the family-oriented sense of community; for everything that is famous on the North Shore.

Our understanding of the current situation is cursory, however we are sure that the development of the land around Turtle Bay would change the flavor and character of the North Shore forever, and not in the way that tourists who love this area. as well as native Hawaiians and Hawaiian citizens, would wish.

My children, who are 9 and 12, agree that future generations will only applaud your efforts to successfully enact SB2423, which promises to protect and preserve the wonderful place that they so enjoyed on our visit and hope to enjoy again and again. They have a vested interest, in this sense, and feel as closely connected to this important piece of legislation as we adults do.

Please support SB2423.

With much aloha and trust in your efforts to do what is right for generations to come -- native Hawaiians, Hawaiian citizens, and lovers of Hawaii everywhere,

Julie Noble Kenda Taylor Quinlin Taylor 613 Fletcher Street Austin, Texas 78704 512/775-3866 createharmonia@yahoo.com

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manahan1-Haylee

From:

karamatsu1-Brandon

Sent:

Monday, March 17, 2008 8:15 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject: FW: Testimony for Tourism & Culture Committee on TURTLE BAY-SB2423

From: kc connors [mailto:kcstuff@hotmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2008 9:30 AM

To: WLHtestimony

Subject: Testimony for Tourism & Culture Committee on TURTLE BAY-SB2423

Dear Distinguished Members of House Committee on Tourism & Culture,

Thank you for supporting SB 2423 SD 2, Relating to Land Acquisition (Kuilima / Turtle Bay) it is vital for preserving the future of Hawaii and our Tourist Industry.

I would like to strongly add my support for the Ko'olau Loa-North Shore Alliance Vision Statement. Acquiring and/or having Turtle Bay donated as swiftly as possible to the State will benefit the our Tourism Industry, the State's Economy as a whole and preserve our quality of living:

OAHU ALREADY CALLED "OVERCROWDED" BY TOP TRAVEL EXPERTS!

Leading Travel Authorities such as National Geographic's Travelers Magazine has already called Oahu "in serious trouble" as a vacation destination", and travel expert, Arthur Frommers, etc have called Oahu "overcrowded." This overcrowding is damaging Oahu's and all of Hawaii's reputation as a World Class Tourist Destination.

TOURIST DON'T COME TO SIT IN TRAFFIC!

Oaktree Capital's current Mega-Development plans at Turtle Bay would have tremendous repercussions for the beautiful country environment on the entire Windward side of Oahu. As you know, the narrow, spectacularly beautiful Kamehameha Highway is the only road that runs up entire Windward side to the North Shore.

Already Kam Hwy is often clogged with traffic, especially on weekends, rush hour and good surfing days. Additional traffic from the development of Turtle Bay would cause complete traffic gridlock up and down the entire coast. A single accident completely paralysis the entire region for hours.

NEW COMPITION TO HAWAII GROWING RAPIDLY

New beautiful scenic beach resorts are being developed in Asia, Central America and Mexico rapidly. They are much less expensive than Hawaii. The new resorts are often in the same time zone as our Vistors are from. Many of these new resorts have a shorter travel time and lower airline cost.

CURRENT JOBS IN THE TOURIST INDUSTRY NEED TO BE PRESERVED

Hawaii can not afford to ruin its Key Scenic Spots and become overcrowded or it will be unable to maintain its current jobs in the Tourist Industry. The World Wide Tourism competition is so fierce.

PRESERVE CURRENT JOBS OUR GOLF TOURISM INDUSTRY:

Scenic Turtle Bay is vitally important for our Tourism/Golfing Industry and preserving the current jobs in this

industries.. Pro-Golf in Hawaii is also already in jeopardy. Saving Turtle Bay is not just a "nice thing" for local people, it is crucial for keeping Hawaii as a World Class Tourist & Golf destination. The scenic vista's of the Palmer and Fazio courses at Turtle Bay would be ruined if they were surrounded by developments and noisy tourists.

PRESERVE CURRENT JOBS in our FILM INDUSTRIES:

In addition, our Film & TV Industry uses the spectacular nature on the North Shore as a backdrop, would be severely damaged. Many TV and Movies are filmed at Turtle Bay, using the pristine beaches as their setting. If these beaches were developed, the Film Industry would move to Thailand, and Hawaii would loose those high-quality, interesting films jobs. Our Film and TV Industry give "free" advertising to Hawaii. And if they are no longer able to film at Turtle Bay or in Ko'olau Loa-North Shore because of the traffic, then the State's Tourism Industry would loose this important source of free advertising.

PROTECT HAWAII'S ENDANGERED SPEICIES:

The pristine beach at Turtle Bay is a Birthing-Area for our Endangered Monk Seals. Hawaii has more Endangered Species per square mile than any other place in the world. The Hawaiian Monk Seal is one of the world's most endangered species. There are an estimated 1200 Hawaiian Monk Seals, but their numbers are declining.

Our Monk Seal "N7" gave birth and nursed her pup in safety for 54 days at Turtle Bay. If the unique protected shallow inlet at Turtle Bay were overrun with thousands of tourists, our monk seals would have to choose another spot along Oahu's well-developed shore, and nurse their pups further out in a less protected, more dangerous area.

Endangered Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles are also frequently spotted at the bays. There has also been some speculation that there are Endangered Sea Turtle nests at Turtle Bay. Sea Turtles' nests in the sandy areas are very fragile. If there were thousand of tourists tromping on the beaches, the nests would not survive.

Many Tourist come to enjoy are scenic nature and Eco-tourism-this needs to be preserved.

PRESERVE the NATURAL BEAUTY OF HAWAII FOR OUR VISITORS & FUTURE GENERATIONS:

The beauty of Ko'olau Loa and the North Shore, our beaches and wildlife should be preserved for both local people and Visitors to come and enjoy for generations. The natural beauty of Hawaii is one of the main draw for visitors and a reason for them to return. There Thank you for moving this bill quickly forward so that Turtle Bay will be acquired, and the Best of Hawaii will be preserved for both our Visitor and for future generations.

'GOD IS WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO.'

Joshua 1:9 (esp at Turtle & Kawela Bays:-)

In His Spirit, KC Connors, Ka'a'awa, HI

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manahan1-Haylee

From:

Sharon Schneider [stys@hawaiiantel.net]

Sent:

Monday, March 17, 2008 9:02 AM

To:

TACtestimony

Subject:

RE SB 2423, SD2, HD1

LATE TESTIMONY

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

Sharon Schneider

Please support this bill. I am in favor of efforts to control growth in Oahu's rural areas.

LATE TESTIMON,

KUILIMA RESORT COMPANY

To: Committee on Tourism & Culture

Chair: Rep. Ryan I. Yamane Vice chair: Rep. Joey Manahan

Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns

Chair: Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita Vice chair: Glenn Wakai

From: Nicola J. Jones

Chief Executive Officer Kuilima Resort Company

Re: March 17, 2008 Hearing on SB 2423, SD2, HD1 Relating to Land Acquisition

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2423, SD2. My name is Nicola Jones and I am the CEO of Kuilima Resort Company (KRC), the owner of the Turtle Bay Resort.

KRC is currently involved in a mortgage foreclosure action filed by KRC's first mortgagec. In light of this pending litigation, KRC is somewhat restrained in the statements that it can publicly make about SB 2423, SD2 at this time. That being said, we ask that you keep the following in mind:

- KRC cannot support any proposed legislation which suggests that the State of Hawaii acquire the Turtle Bay Resort by exercising the power of eminent domain, as such action would clearly interfere with KRC's vested legal rights.
- 2. In order for KRC to engage in any meaningful discussion concerning the possible sale of the resort, there are a number of significant obligations which we must bear in mind, including:
 - a. The obligations which KRC has to its first tier and second tier lenders (currently in excess of \$400 million with significant interest accruing each month);
 - b. The obligations which KRC has to over 700 employees at the resort, the vast majority of whom reside in the North Shore from Hauula to Waialua; and
 - c. The obligations which KRC has (and which any future owner of the resort would have) to fulfill the significant community commitments under the resort's Unilateral Agreement and Declaration for Conditional Zoning. These commitments were carefully considered by the Honolulu City Council to directly address many of the same issues which people raise today: creating new employment opportunities, developing affordable housing, improving public beach access and facilities, developing significant public parks with free parking, and the like
- 3. While discussions concerning the State's acquisition of the resort continue, in light of the above commitments, it is imperative that KRC be allowed to continue to process permits and governmental approvals and to take any other steps that are necessary to preserve its entitlements.