

**testimony**

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**From:** Margaret [drawpastels@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2008 10:36 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** IN SUPPORT OF: SB2529

**LATE TESTIMONY**

We whole heartedly support SB2529, current referral is WTL, scheduled for a public hearing on 2-15-2008 at 2:45 pm in conference room 414.

Thank you for accepting this email as our testimony in support of clarification that the conservation of park resources and values is the predominant concern of the state park system.

Sincerely,

Stephen and Margaret Cull  
P O Box 743  
Waimea, HI 96796-0743

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** manule'a [jtluvmw@lava.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2008 8:14 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2529, Related to State Parks-COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair

aloha senators,

please accept this testimony in support of SB 2529 relating to our state parks. it is imperative to pass sb 2529.

our ability to adequately fund future maintenance needs will be enhanced by the passing of this bill. park fees collected should go directly to the park of origin. individual park budgets formulas can be developed on a percentage or ratio of fees collected at that park of origin. user fees in excess of operating costs should go to other state park facilities for operating expenses. this will facilitate financial stability for our state park system.

revenue from user fees collected at our state parks should be kept at the local level (user fees collected should return to the park of origin). this will allow park and resource managers to develop sustainable budget processes for future funding needs. state park resources should be supported by local fees collected. passing sb 2529 will help our state parks to manage our present and future natural and human resource needs.

mahalo to the sponsors of sb2529 and for your support. voting in favor of this bill will give our state park system another tool to better maintain our natural resource assets for the benefit of future users.

sincerely,

james g trujillo  
po box 33  
kapaa, HI

2/15/2008

# LATE TESTIMONY

## testimony

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**From:** Julia Devrell [tyandjul@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2008 7:50 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** ~~SB 2835, SB 3189~~, SB 2529

Committee on Water and Land  
Hearing 2-15-08  
2:45 pm

SB 2835: Please support SB 2835 requiring state and county agencies to ensure that a public right-of-way is available prior to the approval of any development project, subdivision, or zoning change.

~~SB 2529~~: Please ~~support~~ conservation of park resources and values as the predominant concern of the state park system.

SB 3189: Please support SB 3189 requiring owners of privately owned shoreline access paths to keep access open to the public, at minimum, from 7am to 6pm. Preferably we would like it to be 6am to 7pm.

Thank you, Julia Devrell

**LATE TESTIMONY****testimony**

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**From:** Barbara Elmore [brelmore8@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2008 11:15 AM

**To:** testimony

**Subject:** COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND hearing date Friday, Feb.15 at 2:45 p.m. on SB 2529 relating to State Parks

To: COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Re: SB 2529 relating to State Parks

HEARING DATE: Friday, February 15, 2008

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

I am a resident of Kaua`i and would like to submit the following testimony. I wrote this very hurriedly, as I learned about the hearing only this morning.

1. Current leaseholders should not even be eligible for the next round of leases. Their leases expired and they were given extensions, so they have had their turn. The number of cabins is limited, so after about 23 years, it is time to give others an opportunity.
2. Current leaseholders should have no part in the next round of leases. Why are they even allowed to hold "negotiations" with DLNR? A person renting a house has no right to interfere with the owner's contract with the next tenant. A private owner would have evicted tenants, so these leaseholders should be grateful to the state for allowing them to stay well beyond their leases.
3. Don't forget about 1985, when petulant leaseholders torched their cabins rather than relinquish them as required. Some of the current leaseholders have threatened to do the same thing. Now they threaten to DESTROY their cabins or GIVE AWAY their cabins if they lose their leases, instead of expressing THANKS for the PRIVILEGE of enjoying their cabins for 25 YEARS!
4. Their claims to be worried about "wealthy" people acquiring the new leases are laughable. Leaseholders talk about opening up the auction to "rich people," yet MOST OF THEM ARE RICH PEOPLE THEMSELVES! (except maybe for the Hawaiians they hooked up with to form a hui to bid for the cabins!)
5. As for "compensation" expected by leaseholders---they have received their compensation all these years of using this beautiful site! The improvements made to the cabins were made for the sole enjoyment of the leaseholders, knowing their leases would expire, and they have had 23 years to enjoy them. If they have spent a lot of money on their cabins, they have been more than compensated already by having the privilege of enjoying an exclusive private cabin for 365 days per year for 23 YEARS! They should now relinquish them willingly.
6. "Save Koke`e" is a euphemism for "Save the Current Leaseholders."
7. Bottom line: These properties are public lands, not privately owned monopolies for the benefit of the privileged few who have controlled them since 1985.

2/15/2008

8. And yes, the key word is “fair” – and current leaseholders have had more than their fair share. It is time to be fair to everyone else.
9. Leaseholders act as if they have a special love for Koke`e that is above and beyond what non-leaseholders feel for Koke`e! This is an insult to other people who love Koke`e.
10. We should be careful not to allow the current leaseholders to lure us into their self-serving arguments. Be careful when they talk about “what THE PEOPLE want” when that actually refers to what THEY want!

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Barbara Elmore  
P.O. Box 3142  
Lihue, HI 96766  
(808) 245-9687  
[brelmore8@yahoo.com](mailto:brelmore8@yahoo.com)

# LATE TESTIMONY

February 15, 2008

To: Committee on Water and Land  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice-Chair

From: Nancy J. Budd  
Law Offices of Nancy J. Budd

Re: Support of S.B. 2529

This testimony is submitted in **support of S.B. 2529** which clarifies that the conservation of park resources and values is the predominant concern of the state park system.

Unfortunately, the language of the current statute is not currently interpreted by the DLNR as clearly mandating conservation of the natural and fragile resources of the state parks over competing efforts to commercialize, over-develop and otherwise provide for concessions, sales points, visitor centers, enlarged parking lots, and other additions that DLNR has determined support the "enjoyment" of our parks by the public. We face increasing pressures to use the parks to generate income for broad DLNR purposes as well as pressure from efforts to bring ever-growing numbers of tourists to our shores, both of which are changing the mission of DLNR to one of revenue-generation via our state parks.

Our State parks were set aside, in trust for the people of Hawai'i, to protect the fragile gifts they possess into the distant future. Our DLNR has been given the responsibility of that trust. We understand that our state parks exist in a complex context of geography, biology, economics and politics; that what was originally set aside for protection forever, can be destroyed. It is happening before our eyes.

If we move toward satisfying every tourist's short-term appetite and DLNR's need for a bank account it can control, we will necessarily give up the soul of these precious places over the long-term. We seem to be on the brink of allowing the ever-increasing tourist demands and lack of funds for DLNR operations to exceed our political resolve to protect our cherished state park lands. And the irony is that these changes threaten the very characteristics that draw the tourists as well as locals to our state parks.

All of our parks, but especially our cherished Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kaua'i, are fragile and contain unique native ecosystems, trails and historic-cultural qualities that are in danger of being compromised by commercialization and overuse. We need to assure that these conservation values are always the predominant concern of our state park system.