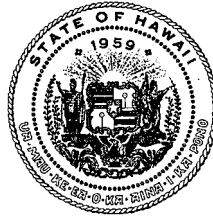
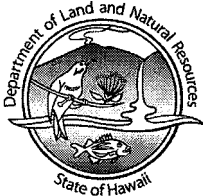


**TESTIMONY**

**SB 2529**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

**On Senate Bill 2529 – Relating To State Parks**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER AND LAND**

**February 15, 2008**

Senate Bill 2529 amends Section 184-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make the conservation of park resources and values the fundamental purpose of the state park system. Where there is a conflict between the use and conservation of these resources, conservation shall take precedence. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this bill, the Department does not feel it is necessary as the Department already has a policy in place that meets the objectives.

The State Park System encompasses some of Hawaii's most significant scenic, cultural and natural places statewide. State parks are established because of these resources and have been developed so people can visit these special places, experience Hawaii's unique natural and cultural heritage, and learn more about Hawaii. The preservation and conservation of these resources are a priority in park planning and development.

The Board of Land and Natural Resources has a longstanding, formal policy which guides the Department in all decisions, which is that the natural and cultural resources will be given priority over public and commercial use of these resources. If the resources are too sensitive and protection and preservation requires restricted public access, these areas are placed under other programs, such as the Natural Areas Reserve System.

**testimony**

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**From:** Polli Oliver [pollioliver@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2008 9:49 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** SB2529

To: Committee on Water and Land  
Chairman Clayton Hee

Dear Chairman Hee:

I am writing in support of the enactment of SB2529 at the hearing of your committee on Friday, Feb.15 at 2:45. I strongly agree with the concerns of retaining the natural scenic, historic and wildlife values of the state parks for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, as is stated in this BILL. I also strongly agree that the fundamental purpose of the state park system is to conserve park resources and values, and that conservation of those resources and values shall be the predominant concern, as stated in SB2529.

I greatly appreciate your sincere attention in this matter.

With aloha,  
Polli C. Oliver

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## testimony

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**From:** Wendy Raebeck [wendywailua@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2008 1:41 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** SB 2529

RE: hearing about state parks by the Committee on Water and Land

2-15-2008

SB 2529

Honorable Elected Legislators,

I would like to add my vigorous support to everyone who is striving to protect the glorious natural resource of Koke'e. I am in favor of the least possible amount of changes and the most possible amount of protection to keep it as it is. I am opposed to any additional lodging being constructed, and I am opposed to any new pavement at all except that which is done as repair work. There is way too little accessible land to lose ANY of it on facilities we do not need.

I understand that the State would like to make money from this park, but it will hurt the park, it will hurt Kaua'i, and indirectly all that hurts the state itself. Let the people of Kaua'i handle Koke'e.

We like things simple and sweet, and that's why everyone loves Kaua'i.

Thank you for taking into account the views of those who live here.  
The people and the aina are one -- and with that in mind, we live aloha.

Wendy Raebeck



The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
923 Nu'uuanu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

Tel (808) 537-4508  
Fax (808) 545-2019

[nature.org/hawaii](http://nature.org/hawaii)

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting S.B. 2529 Relating to State Parks  
Senate Committee on Water & Land  
Friday, February 15, 2008, 2:45PM, Room 414

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawaii's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports SB 2529 Relating to State Parks.

This measure takes the important step of codifying as state policy the primary importance of managing our natural resources for long-term conservation. It is the primary responsibility of the department of land and natural resources to protect our limited natural resources. In the case of State parks, carrying out this responsibility must be balanced with the responsibility of ensuring the public's reasonable use and enjoyment of these resources if such use can be carried out without undue harm to the resources.

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**TESTIMONY**

**SB 2529**

**(END)**