

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Thursday, March 05, 2009
2:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 593, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO SHORELINE SETBACKS**

House Bill 593 House Draft 1 directs the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules for determining the shoreline setback and mauka extent of the conservation district for Kailua Beach and establishes an interim coastal construction setback line. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill to provide sorely needed protection for defined types of beaches and shorelines, including Kailua Beach.

The Department recognizes the need to address shoreline setback determinations in a comprehensive, resource and place based approach. The Department understands that the potential impacts of future coastal erosion and sea-level rise necessitate planning beyond current environmental parameters. As such, the Department affirms the importance of proactively working toward a stewardship plan that benefits affected landowners, the resource, the State, and the City and County of Honolulu.

Currently, the Department is working with the University of Hawaii and private consultants on a project to create a long-term, comprehensive management plan for Kailua Beach. The Management Plan will be vetted through both the local community and the City and County Department of Planning and Permitting, to ensure its efficacy as a resource and location based planning document.

This bill will be an effective aid in halting the potentially hazardous seaward creep of shoreline developments until the project is complete.

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
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
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LAND
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