

LATE TESTIMONY



March 8, 2010

Hawaii House Committee on EBM & TCI

RE: Strong Support for SB2646 -- Hawaii Surfing Reserves

Dear Chairs McKelvey & Manahan and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stuart Coleman, and I am the Hawaii Coordinator of the Surfrider Foundation. With more than 4000 dues-paying members across the state, the Hawai'i Chapters of the Surfrider Foundation ("Surfrider") strongly support passage of SB2646, a bill designed to designate world-famous surf sites in Hawaii and recognize their environmental and cultural importance.

The Hawaii Chapters are supporting SB2646 because Surfrider's mission is to protect the health of our oceans and the quality of our beaches. This bill will also reinforce our campaign to Preserve Special Places, and Waikiki and the North Shore certainly qualify as sacred spots in the sport of surfing and in Hawaiian culture. After all, this is where Hawaii's kings and queens, ali'i and commoners once surfed and helped transform this remote cultural practice of he'e nalu into one of the world's most popular water sports.

Mahalo for your time and consideration and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Stuart H. Coleman
Hawaii Coordinator
Surfrider Foundation
808-942-3841

LATE TESTIMONY

To: Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business and Military Affairs &
Committee on Tourism, Culture and International Affairs

From: Save our Surf

Re: Senate Bill #2646, S.D. 1

Date: March 9, 2010
11 am at House Conference Room 312

Aloha,

On behalf of Save our Surf we'd like to suggest the following amendments.

Chapter 6E Hawaii surfing reserves

(a) Line 3

Delete "Ala Wai and the" and replace with the words "Kewalo to the"
Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium.

Reason for the change is to better describe surf breaks presently used in this area for recreation and surf competitions as they must be protected for future generations and titled Hawaii Surfing Reserves (South Shore, Oahu).

(c) Line 5

Delete the wording "including tow-in surfing; provided that" inserting a period after "lifesaving and lifeguarding." Please add, "Tow-in surfing not allowed in surfing sites used by surfers who physically paddle into waves."

Reason for this change is that it's a proven fact that mixing surfers with machines that accelerate up to speeds of 40 to 60 miles per hour operating in close proximity to a surf site is dangerous.

Aloha,

George Downing
President, Save our Surf