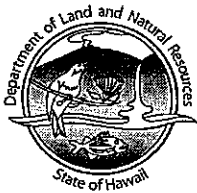


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES

Monday, February 13, 2012
9:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2871
RELATING TO THE WEST MAUI OCEAN RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA

House Bill 2781 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to establish a west Maui ocean recreation management area advisory committee to advise the Department on issues relating to the state waters within the west Maui ocean recreation management area, particularly with respect to the waters adjacent to Kaanapali on the Island of Maui. The Department does not support this measure.

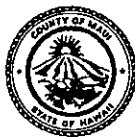
The Hawaii Administrative Rules that pertain to the west Maui ocean recreation management area currently provide for a recreation advisory committee of not less than three members to review and make recommendations. Each member of the committee shall have not less than three years experience in their area of specialty.

The Department has attempted to form these committees in the past but due to lack of participation on the part of the community and committee members the committees were dissolved. The Department is willing to work with the community to reestablish the west Maui ocean recreation committee and will begin that process in the near future.

Council Chair
Danny A. Mateo

Vice-Chair
Joseph Pontanilla

Council Members
Gladys C. Baisa
Robert Carroll
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
G. Riki Hokama
Michael P. Victorino
Mike White



Director of Council Services
Ken Fukuoka

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.maui-county.gov/council

February 10, 2012

TO: Honorable Jerry L. Chang, Chair
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources

And

Honorable Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Robert Carroll
Council Member, East Maui

Handwritten signature of Robert Carroll in black ink.

DATE: Monday, February 13, 2012

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB 2871, RELATING TO THE WEST MAUI OCEAN RECREATION
MANAGEMENT AREA**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support this important measure. The purpose of this measure requires DLNR to establish a West Maui ocean recreation management area advisory committee to advise DLNR on issues relating to the state waters within the West Maui ocean recreation management area, particularly with respect to the waters adjacent to Ka'anapali.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Hanakao'o Beach Park, known as "Canoe Beach", within the Ka'anapali area has been a crucial recreational beach park for West Maui residents and visitors for many years. Three canoe clubs have established themselves as the "keeper" of the 'aina and wai at Canoe Beach, hence the name. Canoe Club operations are a vital part of the function along the so called "West Maui Ocean Recreation Management Area" (WMORMA). Canoe clubs take it upon themselves to malama pono the 'aina and the wai, therefore any effort to preserve the safety of this valued activity must be encouraged.
2. For many years "swim buoys" were moored in the oceans along "Canoe Beach" and the WMORMA. These "swim buoys" helped to protect ocean recreational activities, such as kayaking, canoe paddling, snorkeling and family enjoyment of this area. The removal of these "swim buoys" have resulted in unnecessary accidents that have been fatal. The death of Kalani Kai "Billy" Gonzales, a truly respected waterman, could potentially have been avoided had these "swim buoys" remained in tack.
3. It is necessary that public safety along "Canoe Beach" and the WMORMA be reviewed and preserved to avoid further avoidable accidents. The creation of the WMORMA advisory committee is a step in the right direction, however DLNR should be encouraged to take immediate actions to enhance public safety in our ocean and prevent future accidents.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

Council Chair
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Vice-Chair
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February 10, 2012

MEMO TO: Honorable Jerry L. Chang, Chair
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources

F R O M: Elle Cochran
Council Member

Handwritten signature of Elle Cochran in cursive.

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2871, RELATING TO THE WEST MAUI
OCEAN RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require DLNR to establish a West Maui ocean recreation management area advisory committee to advise DLNR on issues relating to the state waters within the West Maui ocean recreation management area, particularly with respect to the waters adjacent to Ka'anapali.

As the West Maui district representative, I offer my support for this bill as an individual member of the Maui County Council. I concur with the testimony submitted by Maui County Councilmember, Robert Carroll.

I would respectfully add that I encourage establishing an ocean recreation management area advisory committee as it would be a step in the right direction towards placing much needed oversight into recent, serious public safety concerns in the area.

The public outcry and strong need for management assistance in West Maui ocean waters have been at the forefront of my daily affairs, with constant phone calls and emails being sent to my office appealing for quick action to remedy a hazardous situation before another life is lost.

For these reasons I strongly support the intent of this bill and respectfully urge the committee to pass HB 2871.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.