

SB 2381

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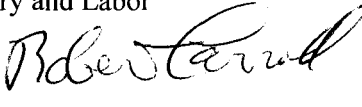


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February 21, 2012

TO: Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Robert Carroll
Council Member, East Maui 

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2012

SUBJECT: **OPPOSITION OF SB 2381, RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES MARITIME FACILITIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow DLNR to work on projects within lands or facilities under the jurisdiction of the division of boating and ocean recreation without the approval of county agencies.

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 oppose this measure for the following reasons:

1. Dredged spoils have the potential of severe environmental impacts. Sediments removed in large quantities may contain contaminated or toxic elements, which can have adverse effects on the disposal area. Furthermore, the process of dredging often dislodges chemicals residing in benthic substrates and injects them into the water column and on-land disposal sites.
2. The contaminated sediment may originate from upstream sources such as sewage discharge, leachate from adjacent contaminated sediments or from commercial industrial emissions and effluents. The purpose of local monitoring or regulating dredged spoils is to prevent exposure and to protect human health and the environment from adverse impacts.
3. If dredged spoils are not treated and handled properly the stock pile can result in offensive odors, an increase of vermin, flies and other health nuisances. It's necessary to realize this measure will impact our environments, communities and the preservation of scenic vistas. Accordingly, dredging spoil have substantial impacts on local economic, social and environmental conditions, therefore, local government should retain authority on decisions about these policies to the greatest extent possible.

For the foregoing reasons, I oppose this measure.

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