

JAN 18 2013

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BEACH NOURISHMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is world
2 renowned for its beaches, which are the backbone of Hawaii's
3 multibillion dollar tourist economy. In particular, visitors to
4 Kaanapali beach on the island of Maui contribute over
5 \$2,000,000,000 to the State and Maui county economies. While
6 Hawaii's beaches provide many recreational opportunities for
7 residents and visitors, they also act as a natural buffer to
8 prevent or lower property damage from storm waves. When beaches
9 erode, shoreline properties become increasingly vulnerable to
10 numerous coastal hazards.

11 Unfortunately, an assessment of coastal change in Hawaii
12 over the past century has found seventy per cent of beaches on
13 the islands of Kauai, Oahu, and Maui are eroding. The highest
14 rates and greatest extent of beach erosion can be found on Maui,
15 where eighty-five per cent of the island's beaches are eroding.
16 Located in west Maui, Kaanapali beach has experienced chronic
17 severe erosion that has degraded parts of the beach and damaged
18 shoreline infrastructure and amenities. Severe wave events in



1 1998, 2003, and 2007 caused extensive beach loss and damaged the
2 beach walkway.

3 The legislature further finds that restoration of Kaanapali
4 beach is necessary to preserve a vital environmental,
5 recreational, and cultural resource for residents and visitors
6 on the island of Maui. Furthermore, the economic value of
7 Kaanapali beach to Maui's visitor industry is significant.
8 Failure to restore Kaanapali beach could result in a large
9 economic loss to Maui county and the State as a whole, in the
10 form of lost visitor expenditures, tax revenue, and jobs.
11 Therefore, it is essential to proactively explore options to
12 protect and preserve Kaanapali beach.

13 The legislature additionally finds that since 2006, the
14 Kaanapali Operations Associations has been working to mitigate
15 beach loss problems at Kaanapali beach with a potential beach
16 nourishment project. Beach nourishment is an alternative to
17 potentially harmful hard shoreline protection structures, such
18 as revetments and seawalls. Beach nourishment involves placing
19 quantities of sand on a beach to maintain, restore, or widen the
20 beach and can slow erosion and restore lost beaches with flood
21 mitigation and recreational value. Restoring Kaanapali beach
22 through beach nourishment would involve dredging seventy-five



1 thousand cubic yards of sand from previously identified deposits
2 offshore, then delivering and placing this sand on the beach.

3 The Kaanapali beach nourishment project will require
4 design; preparation of an environmental impact statement;
5 acquisition of county, state, and federal permits; and
6 construction. The cost of the environmental impact statement
7 associated with the planned beach nourishment project at
8 Kaanapali beach is estimated at \$800,000. Kaanapali Operations
9 Associations has committed to providing \$400,000 and seeks
10 matching state funding for fiscal year 2013-2014.

11 It is the legislature's intent that the planned beach
12 nourishment project for Kaanapali beach be undertaken by the
13 department of land and natural resources with full cooperation
14 and support of the Hawaii tourism authority and Kaanapali
15 Operations Association, similar to the collaborative efforts
16 demonstrated during the Waikiki beach maintenance project
17 completed in 2012.

18 The purpose of this Act is to provide matching funds for
19 the environmental impact statement associated with the planned
20 beach nourishment project at Kaanapali beach on the island of
21 Maui.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the beach
 2 restoration fund the sum of \$400,000 or so much thereof as may
 3 be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the environmental
 4 impact statement associated with the planned beach nourishment
 5 project at Kaanapali beach on the island of Maui; provided that
 6 no funds appropriated under this Act shall be expended unless
 7 matched dollar-for-dollar with private funds.


8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 9 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

11

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S.B. NO. 447

Report Title:

Beach Nourishment; Beach Restoration Special Fund; Kaanapali Beach; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the environmental impact statement associated with the planned beach nourishment project at Kaanapali beach on the island of Maui; provided that no funds shall be expended unless matched dollar-for-dollar with private funds.

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