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# 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 Association 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 To begin work on the Kaanapali beach nourishment project,  
4 construction and planning designs; an environmental impact  
5 statement; and the acquisition of county, state, and federal  
6 permits is needed. The cost of the environmental impact  
7 statement associated with the planned beach nourishment project  
8 at Kaanapali beach is estimated at \$800,000. The Kaanapali  
9 Operations Association has committed to providing \$400,000 and  
10 seeks 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 the full  
14 cooperation and support of the Hawaii tourism authority and  
15 Kaanapali Operations Association, similar to the collaborative  
16 efforts demonstrated during the Waikiki beach maintenance  
17 project 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 special fund the sum of \$ or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the  
4 environmental impact statement associated with the planned beach  
5 nourishment project at Kaanapali beach on the island of Maui;  
6 provided that no funds appropriated under this Act shall be  
7 expended unless 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, 2050.



**Report Title:**

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

**Description:**

Appropriates matching funds for the environmental impact statement associated with the planned beach nourishment project at Kaanapali Beach on the island of Maui. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB497 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

