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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE MALA WHARF TASK FORCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) The chairperson of the board of land and  
2 natural resources shall convene a Mala wharf task force to  
3 examine the feasibility of redeveloping the collapsed pier at  
4 Mala wharf on the island of Maui.

5           (b) The chairperson of the board of land and natural  
6 resources shall serve as the chairperson of the task force and  
7 shall invite representatives from the following stakeholders to  
8 participate as members:

- 9           (1) The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation;
- 10           (2) Two members of the Lahaina community;
- 11           (3) One member of the scientific community with expertise  
12           in marine wildlife;
- 13           (4) One boating enthusiast;
- 14           (5) One member of the Hawaiian cultural community;
- 15           (6) One member of the visitor industry; and
- 16           (7) Any other person that the chairperson of the task  
17           force deems advisable.



1 (c) The task force shall hold not less than three public  
2 meetings on the island of Maui to allow members of the affected  
3 community to provide input regarding the potential redevelopment  
4 of the collapsed pier at Mala wharf.

5 (d) The members of the task force shall serve without  
6 compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel and other  
7 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

8 SECTION 2. The Mala wharf task force shall submit a  
9 written report of findings and recommendations, including any  
10 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty  
11 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
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INTRODUCED BY:

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*



# H.B. NO. 1423

**Report Title:**

BLNR; Task Force; Mala Wharf; Pier

**Description:**

Requires the chairperson of BLNR to convene a Mala wharf task force to examine the feasibility of redeveloping the collapsed pier at Mala wharf on the island of Maui.

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



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

ESTHER KIA'AINA  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
TRANSPORTATION**

**Wednesday, February 06, 2013  
9:30 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1423  
RELATING TO THE MALA WHARF TASK FORCE**

House Bill 1423 proposes to require the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Mala wharf task force to examine the feasibility of redeveloping the collapsed pier at Mala wharf on the Island of Maui. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) does not support this measure.**

The Department notes that a feasibility analysis was conducted in 2006 and the findings are as follows:

“To make the Mala Wharf operational for the interisland ferry service will require the following improvements: (1) Demolish the existing wharf; (2) Construct a new concrete walkway and pier; (3) Construct a ferry terminal building and waiting area for ferry operations and passenger services; (4) Construct offsite parking area and repave existing parking area; (5) Construct sewer pump out on new concrete pier; (6) Construct new individual wastewater system; and (7) Extend utility services to the end of the new wharf. The estimated cost for the Mala Wharf improvements is \$12.6 million.”

While this assessment was done for the ferry service, it gives a good estimation of the costs associated with replacing the wharf. Also, the area in the immediate vicinity of the wharf has heavy coral concentrations and based on recent coral mitigation requirements imposed by the Federal Government the Department feels that it would not be feasible to mitigate such a large amount of coral colonies.

Council Chair  
Gladys C. Baisa

Vice-Chair  
Robert Carroll

Council Members  
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Donald G. Couch, Jr.  
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Mike White



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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February 5, 2013

TO: Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Transportation

FROM: Elle Cochran  
Council Member

Handwritten signature of Elle Cochran in cursive.

DATE: 2/5/13

SUBJECT: **IN SUPPORT OF HB 1423, RELATING TO THE MALA WHARF TASK FORCE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in *support* for this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require the chairperson of BLNR to convene a Mala wharf task force to examine the feasibility of redeveloping the collapsed pier at Mala wharf on the Island of Maui.

I strongly support this measure for the following reasons:

The pier at Mala wharf is a significant landmark which helps to tell the history of Maui. In its current capacity, Mala wharf serves as an important facility for both visitor and locals alike. Many tourists frequent the area to take advantage of the spectacular snorkeling and diving which the collapse of the pier has helped to augment. The wharf serves as a critical access point for both fishermen and recreation boaters traveling between the islands Maui, Lanai and Molokai.

However, the decrepit state of the pier creates a hazardous situation for all users of this facility. Also, as we allow the pier to continue to deteriorate we are slowly losing another part of our history. The pier represents a window into Maui's past and it is a shame to allow our history to fall into the ocean. This facility has importance to many stakeholders in the community and warrants the attention of the BLNR.

For the foregoing reasons, I strongly support the intent of this measure and implore you to do the same. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Testimony to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, February 06, 2013

TIME: 9:30am

PLACE: Conference Room 309

### **Speaking in Support**

RE: HB 1423

Chair Representative Yamane, Vice Chair Representative Ichiyama and Members of the Finance Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC) Hawaii's State-wide organization. We represent the 300 Small Commercial Passenger Vessels operating out of State Harbor facilities. We speak in **Support of HB 1423**

Mala Wharf is now badly deteriorated yet it served the shipping needs of West Maui for many years. We believe it is a prudent plan to have this task force study the possibility of what could be done with this valuable State asset. The cost for this study would be minimal for the valuable information that the State would receive.

I humbly ask you to support HB 1423 and pass this worthy bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-870-9115.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President  
Ocean Tourism Coalition  
808-870-9115  
[captcoon@gmail.com](mailto:captcoon@gmail.com)