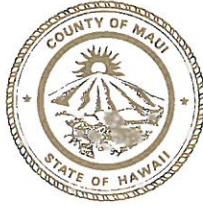


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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Ke'ena O Ka Meia

COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

**LATE**

**TESTIMONY OF ALAN ARAKAWA, MAYOR  
COUNTY OF MAUI**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Monday, February 25, 2013, 3:30 p.m., Conf. Rm. 308

**HOUSE BILL 378  
RELATING TO BEACH NOURISHMENT**

The Honorable Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Honorable Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Finance

**SUBJECT: TESTIMONY OF MAUI COUNTY MAYOR ALAN ARAKAWA IN STRONG  
SUPPORT OF HB 378 RELATING TO BEACH NOURISHMENT**

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our testimony **IN STRONG SUPPORT OF  
HB378** relating to Beach Nourishment.

The purpose of this bill is to preserve and protect Hawaii's beaches by appropriating matching funds for the environmental impact statement associated with the planned beach nourishment project at Ka'anapali Beach on the Island of Maui. The appropriation of funds is contingent upon the public being matched dollar-for-dollar with private funds.

As Mayor of the County of Maui, I can strongly support this measure for the following reasons:

- It is estimated that 70% of the beaches on the islands of Maui, Oahu, and Kauai are eroding. My administration is especially concerned as a state analysis has determined that the highest rates and greatest extent of beach erosion in the state is found on Maui where a shocking 85% of Maui's beaches are eroding.
- Visitors from around the globe travel to Hawaii, and Maui in particular, in large part for our world renowned sandy beaches. In essence, our beaches are the backbone and signature of Hawaii's multi-billion dollar tourism industry, with visitors to Ka'anapali Beach alone contributing over \$2 billion to the State's and Maui County's economies.

- Our beaches also act as a natural buffer to prevent or minimize property damage from storm waves. On-going erosion has, and will continue to, damage shoreline infrastructure, facilities, and amenities.
- Our beaches play a significant role in our island way of life, serving as an important environmental and cultural resource for our residents and families. Our residents, families, and children swim, snorkel, relax, and recreate at Ka`anapali Beach.
- Beach nourishment is a preferred alternative to other potentially harmful hard shoreline protection measures, such as revetments and seawalls.
- Failure to take the necessary steps towards restoring and preserving Ka`anapali Beach would have a devastating impact on the beach's economic value, to Maui's visitor industry, and to our residents.

Accordingly, my administration respectfully asks that this committee take the proactive steps necessary to restore and preserve Ka`anapali Beach, and thereby prevent the economic loss to Maui County and the State as a whole in the form of lost jobs, tax revenue, and visitor expenditures. Restoring Ka`anapali Beach will also preserve a place where our residents, children, and future generations can learn to swim, snorkel, relax, and recreate.

For these reasons, we strongly support HB 378.

**LATE**

Testimony to The Hawaii State House of Representatives  
The Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
Conference Room 308, 3:30 p.m. February 25, 2013  
In Support of HB 378, HD1

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice Chairs Nishimoto, Johanson and members of the Finance Committee:

My name is Wayne N. Hedani and I am providing testimony in support of HB 378, HD1, as President and General Manager of Kaanapali Operations Association, Inc. or KOA for short. KOA is an association of 5,196 of 6,362 units of the hotels, condominiums, commercial and recreational properties comprising the Kaanapali Beach Resort on Maui.

Our testimony has been entered into the record in committee and we stand in support of same at this time.

The project will require design, preparation of an EIS, acquisition of State, Federal and County permits and construction. Design, environmental and permit costs are estimated at \$800K over a two year time frame. KOA commits to provide \$400K and seeks matching State funding in 2013-14. Construction costs are estimated to be \$6.8M. KOA commits to fund one half of the construction cost or \$3.4M and seeks matching State funding in 2015-2016.

Kaanapali Beach was just named the number one beach in America by Trip Advisor yesterday. With your help we would like to keep it that way. We are fully capable of managing this project and believe funds for beach replenishment will be available to address personnel concerns of the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments before your committee. I will be available to answer any questions you may have on this project.

Mahalo and Aloha,  
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