

lowen1-Kyli

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 6:00 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: defendoahucoalition@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR164 on Apr 18, 2013 14:00PM
Attachments: DOC Official Testimony for SCR 164.pdf

SCR164

Submitted on: 4/17/2013

Testimony for WAL on Apr 18, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Timothy Vandever	Defend Oahu Coalition	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Lowen and Representatives of the House Committee on Water and Land- On behalf of the board of directors of the Defend Oahu Coalition, I submit testimony in strong support of SCR 164 (SSCR 1417), requesting the Governor establish a working group to develop a conservation action plan to explore and identify conservation alternatives for the undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay Hotel and resort property and surrounding lands with conservation or historic value. As you may know, the future of Turtle Bay Resort is in question again and the threat of this unfortunate legacy development in our rural communities still looms large. Current plans reflected in the developer's Supreme Court- ordered Draft Supplemental Impact Statement (DSEIS) would result in a 300% increase in the development footprint on property and wreak havoc on traffic, native and endangered species, and infrastructure in Ko'olau Loa and the North Shore. The State of Hawaii taxpayer would end up picking up the tab for such short-sighted planning and reckless lack of vision. A tremendous level of public support for conservation has been evident since legislation was passed in 2008 allowing the Governor to exercise condemnation to preserve the last wild stretch of coastline on the northernmost tip of our island. Oahu residents and guests overwhelmingly support conservation of the continuous, undeveloped shoreline between the existing hotel and Kahuku, which will preserve important wildlife habitat and retain this fantastic natural resource for future generations of residents and visitors. Conservation of Kawela Bay and other portions of the property will preserve valuable environmental and recreational resources. Your vote in support of SCR 164 enables the State of Hawaii to play a proactive and vital role in solving this dilemma that has been unfolding for over 25 years. These resolutions will help to begin the effort to protect communities in Ko'olau Loa and the North Shore from the dangerous effects of untimely and unsustainable development. We are grateful for your support of these resolutions during this critical time in Oahu's history. Sincerely, Tim Vandever Defend Oahu Coalition

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Aloha Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Lowen and Representatives of the House Committee on Water and Land-

On behalf of the board of directors of the Defend Oahu Coalition, I submit testimony in strong support of SCR 164 (SSCR 1417), requesting the Governor establish a working group to develop a conservation action plan to explore and identify conservation alternatives for the undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay Hotel and resort property and surrounding lands with conservation or historic value.

As you may know, the future of Turtle Bay Resort is in question again and the threat of this unfortunate legacy development in our rural communities still looms large. Current plans reflected in the developer's Supreme Court-ordered Draft Supplemental Impact Statement (DSEIS) would result in a 300% increase in the development footprint on property and wreak havoc on traffic, native and endangered species, and infrastructure in Ko'olau Loa and the North Shore. The State of Hawaii taxpayer would end up picking up the tab for such short-sighted planning and reckless lack of vision.

A tremendous level of public support for conservation has been evident since legislation was passed in 2008 allowing the Governor to exercise condemnation to preserve the last wild stretch of coastline on the northernmost tip of our island. Oahu residents and guests overwhelmingly support conservation of the continuous, undeveloped shoreline between the existing hotel and Kahuku, which will preserve important wildlife habitat and retain this fantastic natural resource for future generations of residents and visitors. Conservation of Kawela Bay and other portions of the property will preserve valuable environmental and recreational resources.

Your vote in support of SCR 164 enables the State of Hawaii to play a proactive and vital role in solving this dilemma that has been unfolding for over 25 years. These resolutions will help to begin the effort to protect communities in Ko'olau Loa and the North Shore from the dangerous effects of untimely and unsustainable development.

We are grateful for your support of these resolutions during this critical time in Oahu's history.

Sincerely,

Tim Vandever

Defend Oahu Coalition

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, April 18, 2013
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 164
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO
DEVELOP A CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN TO EXPLORE AND IDENTIFY
CONSERVATION ALTERNATIVES FOR THE UNDEVELOPED PORTIONS OF THE
TURTLE BAY HOTEL AND RESORT PROPERTY AND SURROUNDING LANDS
WITH CONSERVATION OR HISTORIC VALUE.**

Senate Concurrent Resolution requests the Governor to establish a working group to develop a conservation action plan to explore and identify conservation alternatives for the undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay Hotel and Resort property and surrounding lands with conservation or historic value. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this resolution.**

The Department supports the protection of the area as it is one of the last undeveloped areas on O'ahu, recognized for its rock formations, wild coastal beaches, threatened green sea turtles and endangered Hawaiian monk seals habitats, whale spotting, traditional fishing areas, small local agricultural lots, and Hawaiian ancestral burial grounds. Act 140, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, authorized the Governor to negotiate on behalf of the State with private interested parties to purchase the resort property located in Kahuku, Oahu. Having the Governor establish a working group to develop a conservation action plan would greatly aid in these negotiations.

The Department also supports \$100,000 provided in the Senate version of the budget bill (House Bill 200) relating to appraisals and other studies for Turtle Bay. These funds are necessary to develop the conservation action plan for Turtle Bay. It is the Department's understanding that legislators whose districts may include the Turtle Bay Resort may be requesting \$5 million in general obligation bonds to explore the viability of purchasing a conservation easement that would help to preserve this area from future development. The Administration has been in preliminary discussions with these legislators and some members of the community. Should the Legislature fund this request, the Administration would be supportive.

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