

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
FINANCE**

**Friday, February 21, 2014
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1885, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Bill 1885, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate general revenues to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), Division of State Parks, for planning for infrastructure for the passive recreation area of Sand Island State Recreation Area (SISRA). **The Department supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget request.**

House Bill 1885, House Draft 1 appears to be responding to an issue that came up when the Department, during the 2012 Legislative Session, requested \$11.5 million in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for a Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and design and construction for infrastructure related to a proposed marina complex in a portion of SISRA. This CIP proposal was intended to establish a Sand Island Ocean Recreation Park that would be administered by the Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR). This portion of SISRA also has a DOBOR-managed boat ramp, trailer parking, rinsing facilities, and comfort station. While the CIP request was not granted, the marina concept generated concern amongst several of the canoe clubs that are utilizing SISRA for canoe storage and training.

This measure focuses on planning for infrastructure such as roadway access, parking facilities, utilities, showers, and comfort stations to establish basic requirements to ensure that passive ocean recreation in the remaining undeveloped portion of SISRA remains available.

The Department supports House Bill 1885, House Draft 1 to allow for further discussion.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: morrislures@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1885 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

LATE

HB1885

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nick Morris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Committee on Finance

12:00PM

Friday, February 21, 2014

Conference Room 308



Testimony In Support of HB1885

The vision for the Sand Island Ocean Recreational Park is to preserve our precious open ocean and land resources, promote our state sport of canoe paddling Hawai`i, expand the current Mokauea Island educational program, plan international canoe competitions and share Sand Island with Hawai`i residents and visitors.

The Sand Island Ocean Recreational Park envisioned and drafted a canoe complex master plan to promote and share canoe paddling in Hawai`i. This may be the opportunity to fulfill the completion, in part, of this plan.

The Sand Island Ocean Recreational Park was to be designated as an area to support and promote canoe paddling in Hawai`i. The legislature also recognized canoe paddling as a state sport and its contribution to Hawai`i. Almost all households and businesses have a canoe paddler associated with them. Canoe paddling is a symbol of Hawai`i and so many individuals and organizations are becoming more interested in this activity. With its growing popularity, Hawai`i should support the sport of canoe paddling.

The Sand Island Ocean Recreational Park should expand the already established Honolulu Community College Marine Educational Training Center (METC) at Sand Island. In addition, develop a cultural learning center/museum sharing the rich history of Hawai`i's seafaring ancestors, fishing villages, fishponds and canoe paddling in Hawai`i, attracting Hawai`i residents and visitors. The museum could also incorporate surfing and share other ocean recreational activities.

The people of Mokauea Island, one of the only two traditional fishing villages left in the entire state of Hawaii (the other one is Miloli'i on the Big Island of Hawaii), have researched and collected the rich history of Ke`ehi. They host hundreds of students each month to engage in the island's cultural and natural resources. The people living on Mokauea have all the resources to promote and implement an expanded educational program for our students. They will be an important component of the educational program for Sand Island.

As thousands of people gather on weekends for the regatta and many paddlers practice on weekdays, Hawai`i's interest in canoe paddling is growing rapidly. The support and success of an international event at Sand Island is very real. The World Sprint Event is scheduled for 2016 and Hawai`i can bid to host this world class event. The revenues to Hawai`i and exposure to the world will be tremendous

Our efforts are to plan, design and construct Sand Island Ocean Recreational Park so Hawai`i can preserve and share the park's open ocean resources, activities and educational programs with our residents and visitors. Mahalo!

Donn Ariyoshi