

# SB2677

**Measure Title:** MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE COUNTY OF HAWAII AS THE STATE'S SHARE OF JOINT FUNDING WITH THE COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO WAIMEA DISTRICT/REGIONAL PARK.

**Report Title:** County of Hawaii; Waimea District Park/Regional Park Funding; Grant-in-Aid; Appropriation (\$)

**Description:** Makes a grant to Hawaii county as the State's share of joint funding with Hawaii county for improvements to the Waimea district/regional park on the island of Hawaii.

**Companion:**

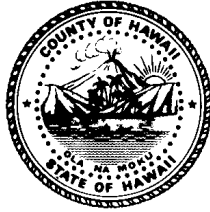
**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** WTL, WAM

**Introducer(s):** SOLOMON

<u>Sort by Date</u>		<b>Status Text</b>
1/17/2014	S	Introduced.
1/21/2014	S	Passed First Reading.
1/21/2014	S	Referred to PSM/WTL, WAM.
1/27/2014	S	Re-Referred to WTL, WAM.
1/30/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 02-05-14 2:00PM in conference room 225.

**William P. Kenoi**  
*Mayor*



**Walter K.M. Lau**  
*Managing Director*

**Randall M. Kurohara**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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February 5, 2014

The Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair  
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Senate Bill 2677, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE COUNTY OF HAWAII`I AS THE STATE'S SHARE OF JOINT FUNDING WITH THE COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO WAIMEA DISTRICT/REGIONAL PARK

Aloha, Chair Solomon and Committee Members:

The County of Hawai'i strongly supports the need for the Waimea District/Regional Park. New park facilities in Waimea are urgently needed and will benefit the entire North Hawai'i community. Our residents have long been asking for new and better parks to keep our children and youth active and engaged in healthy, positive activities, and to provide more recreational opportunities for our seniors and families.

Waimea's primary existing county park is fully developed, but was built on a limited space that required that various sports fields be constructed in locations that overlap with one another. That means only one game of one sport can be played at any given time. The park hosts baseball, softball, football and soccer events for teams of all age groups from keiki up through kupuna, and community demand far outweighs available playing time slots. The baseball field is lit for nighttime use, but community requests for additional playing time still exceed the available slots.

Mahalo for your support for this important project to create new recreational opportunities for the North Hawai'i community and improve the quality of life for our residents and families.

Aloha,

**William P. Kenoi**  
MAYOR

February 4, 2014

Senator Solomon and committee members thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of SB2677.

My name is Mel Macy and I am a member of the Waimea District Park Builders and our mission is and has been for the past several years is to get a district/regional park built in the community of Waimea on the Big Island. I thank you Senator Solomon for introducing this bill that would allow that to continue.

#### Recreational Facility needs in Waimea Hawaii, Big Island of Hawaii

- Waimea currently has a small 5 acre park in the middle of town. It has one softball field and two small practice fields.
- I have played, coached and umpired at the park for over 30 years and witnessed firsthand how inadequate the facility is for a community this size. Basically one softball field is shared by all sports teams. Other smaller areas around town have been leveled and used for practice facilities out of necessity.
- Women's softball, men's softball, senior softball, little league from tee ball to seniors, football, soccer, and rugby all share the same field. Changing the field by moving the bases, taking out or putting back a pitcher's mound, adding or removing striping in the outfield is a common event.
- Often times when the ball field is being used by the strong hitting leagues the practice fields could not be used for safety reasons.
- The great Waimea weather allows many of these sports to be played year around but the lack of facilities severely restricts that.
- Vehicular parking in and around this small park is very limited. Patrons end up parking in the residential area and walking across busy streets to get to the park. Unsafe for young and old alike.

#### History of the Waimea District/Regional Park

- Eight years ago at the request of the Waimea Community Association on the Big Island of Hawaii I was asked to get involved in helping to build a District/Regional recreational facility in Waimea.
- We formed a group of local residents and concerned citizens with one goal in mind, to get a District Park, with the capabilities of expanding to a regional park, in Waimea.
- The County Council agreed with us and approved funding of \$1M to start the planning and design of the Park.
- The County of Hawaii issued a contract and requested bids for the Waimea District/Regional Park Master Planning Project. Funds were allocated for this and PBR Hawaii was awarded the contract. The contract stipulated that the Waimea District Park Builders (WDPB) would work with the community, the County Of Hawaii and PBR throughout the life of the contract.
- PBR lead the County and WDPB through the site selection process. The County in consultation with WDPB determined the site location.
- Parker Ranch, a local landowner, donated the first 24+ acres and has agreed to allow us an additional 26 acres to be purchased at a later date for expansion to a regional park.
- PBR and WDPB held several community meetings and organized a two day charette to gather community input on the desires and lay out of the district park.
- PBR has completed the Master Plan Contract and the EA has been completed.
- The 24 acre parcel has been recorded with the Bureau of Conveyances and the land transfer from Parker Ranch to the County of Hawaii is currently underway.

- Matching State funds of \$2.5 million were appropriated in the 2013 legislative session for the design and construction of a portion of phase 1a of the Waimea District/Regional Park. Governor Abercrombie approved the State funding in November 2013.
- The Hawaii County council voted in favor of accepting the State appropriation. Mayor Kenoi approved the appropriation and included the \$2.5 million in a bond package for 2014. The bond package was approved by the County Council and the \$5 million joint funding is currently in place.
- Hawaii County Dept. of Parks and Recreation selected an Engineering firm to start work on the design and engineering of phase 1a. The contract for the design and engineering of phase 1a was issued to the firm in January of 2014.

#### District Park Usage and Benefits

- This park will benefit all ages. We would be able to move all baseball, soccer, rugby and football to the new park leaving the existing park for softball and casual park recreation.
- At full build out we will have two youth baseball fields, two regulation baseball fields, two regulation soccer/rugby fields, a regulation football field, community gathering area, community pavilion, gymnasium, swimming pool, family gathering area and related infrastructure.
- A district/regional park will give our youth the facility they need where they can spend their time participating in sports, getting daily exercise and honing their athletic skills. The result would be a healthier life style and a lower juvenile delinquency rate. Childhood obesity is on the rise and we all need to do our part to combat that.
- Health and wellness of keiki to kupuna. We as a state and nation face a huge obesity/diabetes/heart disease crisis, this facility is about supporting wellness and reducing medical costs.
- Activities for our youth support drug prevention, teach life skills, and build character.
- A large number of our children are "latch key" kids, home alone in the afternoon, with the right facility we can promote activities that can best utilize these high risk hours.
- We would be able to hold island and state wide athletic events and tournaments that we have no way of accommodating now.
- We would welcome the use by local schools both public and private and community non profits.
- The park site is situated in close proximity to the town center. Access would be by bicycle and pedestrian traffic as well as vehicular traffic.

In summary: The Community, the WDPB, and the County of Hawaii have come a long way in getting this project to the point it is at now. We cannot go further without larger scale funding. Our community is continuing to grow and the recreational facilities have not kept up with the growth. We out grew our existing park 20+ years ago. If we stay on our construction plan we should be exhausting the 2013 appropriated funds in 2015. We are asking the Senate and the House of Representative to continue their support of this project to meet the ever expanding recreational needs of our community. This district/regional park will meet that need and make our community a much more desirable, healthier, and safer place to live and raise our families.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alex	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This would be a huge benefit to the community. The current facilities are inadequate. Please consider this proposition.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashley Christine Frogley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brenda Clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We are constantly looking for places to play outside that aren't crowded and aren't close to busy traffic. We need an outdoor area that can foster a healthy and safe life style for our keiki.

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I am writing to submit testimony in support of SB2677 which will provide facilities that are DESPERATELY NEEDED in the Waimea community.

1. The existing facility is woefully undersized to serve a community that is continues to grow. Every possible area that could be used for sports practice and games, and other activities, is completely full on a consistent basis.
2. There is completely INADEQUATE PARKING for the existing park facilities, forcing patrons to park on the side of a VERY busy road.
3. It is frustrating to see improvements taking place in other neighboring communities that are not growing, and our keiki don't have the adequate facilities to foster the kind of healthy lifestyle that Hawaii is famous for.
4. Even among adults, the need for this park facility is tremendous. MANY with unhealthy practices and habits would find inspiration and the opportunity to change their lifestyles with appropriately-designed and built park facilities.

Your consideration of this testimony is greatly appreciated. PLEASE vote to pass this bill.

Respectfully-

Casey Francis

66-1667 Waiaka Place

Kamuela, HI 96743



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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Buckalew	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There is a lack of adequate park facilities for the community, and the existing small park is overcrowded and located on a main street that has little to no parking and is hazardous to our keiki due to traffic.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christine Shepard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cleon Bailey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Hawaii State Legislators, I would like to thank you for your public service work, your extended time and effort during this new leg session, and your consideration in supporting this bill. Very truly yours, Cleon Bailey

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colin Miura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of funding for a park in Waimea. We are long overdue and our current park has not been maintained or renovated for many years. Although the current park location is great and is very well used, parking is insufficient and hazardous, the facilities are old and in need of replacement and the playground is breaking down and dangerous for our keiki. Mahalo for supporting this measure.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana Petteys	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Tarnas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Solomon and Committee members. Please support SB 2677, which will provide \$4 million in State funding to be matched by Hawaii County funds, to build the Waimea District/Regional Park. Our community has outgrown our very limited recreational areas. This regional park will improve the quality of life for the community in this part of the island. The community is doing everything it can to help this effort be a success. Thanks for your support. Aloha, David Tarnas, P.O. Box 6882, Kamuela, HI 96743

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Derek Paulson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I was raised in Waimea and it has always been a fight to get field time. It was embarrassing playing a baseball team from another district since the fields were so small that we had to stop the game multiple times due to balls coming into our field from another game. We would rather play in other town then play on our field. Please help our community have a park we are proud of.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elaine Warner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea town has grown enormously but park facilities have not; we have only one small park in town, overcrowded and surrounded by traffic. We need a safe and healthy place for our keiki to play and grow.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gary L. Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George Robertson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Howard	Individual	Support	No

Comments: It is important to note that there is a severe lack of adequate park facilities for our ever expanding community. The only park we have in town was created back before WW2 and is in the center of town and now woefully small with overcrowded playing conditions. In addition our only park now has the additional hazard of patron parking on a main street in the middle of town with Matson and logging trucks barreling past. We need a facility that can foster a more healthy and safer life style for our keiki. The community of Waimea has come together to overwhelmingly support the desperate need for larger and more safely located recreational facilities. Mahalo

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jan Wizinowich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 12:29:21 PM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jean Bassen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 3, 2014

RE: Support of SB2677

To Whom It May Concern:

As a mother of two children living in Waimea we are asking that you support the bill to fund the construction of new parks. Waimea Park is very crowded in the fall when football and soccer teams practice side by side. This creates an unsafe condition for both children and coaches. Waimea is a growing community and needs a larger park with adequate and safe parking. The current on street parking is dangerous to children trying to walk to the park, as they end up walking behind of cars that are backing out of parking spaces to Lindsey Road.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Young  
PO Box 2694  
65-1308 Pu'u Pili Place  
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743  
808-885-8723

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [jo\\_barboza@westhawaiiconcrete.com](mailto:jo_barboza@westhawaiiconcrete.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2677 on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:12:45 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jo Barboza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Date:** Monday, February 03, 2014 9:17:34 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jon Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea needs a proper sports facility for its residence

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jude McAnesby	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea is a rapidly growing community that must address and support the needs of children, families, and others to have good recreational facilities available for all to use

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:26:39 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julia Amerling	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The park facilities in Waimea have become inadequate due to the expanding community. It is overcrowded playing conditions when playing at our small park. I witnessed this first hand when 2 of my sons played soccer last season. The parking to attend these games are a hazard. All we ask is for a facility that is safer for our children. Mahalo.

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**Date:** Friday, January 31, 2014 4:04:50 PM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Keller	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea needs and deserves a regional park, it is the ideal location, and with all the growth that is happening in this area especially with new Hawaiian homes beings built I believe it is a must!

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**Attachments:** [photo.PNG](#)

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kanoelani Alcordo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help us get a clean and safe park for our keiki. We are in dire need of a public park that our keiki can use. We also need more room for our growing communities here. Our Kona Old Airport park is dirty, broken swings, unkept, and unsafe. Mahalo for your consideration.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Bail	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea needs the park as a diversion to keep our Keiki safe and on paths towards productivity.

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 8:09:10 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathryn Rawle	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly urge support of this bill, to enhance the life and well-being of Waimea residents--especially keiki. This bill would create a park in a much safer (away from traffic) place, with the space and facilitates to serve all segments of our community. Mahalo!

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimberly Macy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I was raised in waimea and we have never needed a park more, when I played softball we couldn't practice certain days for the week because we had too many teams and only 3 small fields. Please help our future children not have to deal with this. I support this bill 100%

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Delgado	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I was born and raised in Waimea. Waimea has grown a lot since I was young, but the park facilities have not. I am now a mother of three young children, and strongly support this bill for our keiki and our families. There is a severe lack of adequate park facilities for our ever expanding community. The playing conditions at our existing small park are dangerous, at best. The wooden playground park requires so much maintenance, that it is impossible to keep up. We need a facility that can foster a more healthy and safer life style for our keiki. These are just a few reasons why we need additional recreational facilities. Please do this for our families and our keiki. Thank you very much.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Leitel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I remember when the skate park was built, it was the best thing to happen to our little town, lots more to do and provided a healthy outlet for everyone.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
laurie hayko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

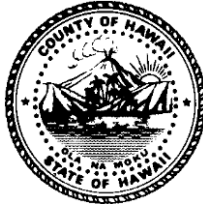
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lila Liebmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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*Margaret Wille*  
Council Member  
District 9 - North and South Kohala



Phone No. Hilo: (808) 961-8027  
Phone No. Waimea: (808) 887-2043  
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E-Mail: mwille@co.hawaii.hi.us

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*County of Hawai'i*

*Hawai'i County Building*  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

*Holomua Center*  
64-1067 Mamalahoa Highway, Suite C-5  
Waimea, Hawai'i 96743

*West Hawai'i Civic Center Bldg. A*  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i, 96740

Senate Committee on Water & Land  
Wednesday February 5th, 2014; 2:00pm Rm 225

### **SUPPORT FOR SB2677**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE COUNTY OF HAWAII AS THE STATE'S  
SHARE OF JOINT FUNDING WITH THE COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT  
IMPROVEMENTS TO WAIMEA DISTRICT/REGIONAL PARK.**

*Aloha Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Kahele and Members of the Committee,*

My name is Maragret Wille, councilmember for the Kamuela/Waimea community.

#### DESCRIPTION:

SB2677 makes an appropriation for a grant-in-aid to Hawaii county as the State's contribution to jointly fund improvements to the Waimea district/regional park.

#### COMMENTS:

As the sports and recreation community has grown along with the population here in Kamuela/Waimea, facilities and services have not kept pace with demand and need. On any given day, there are groups ranging in age from keiki to Kupuna needing a place to play softball, baseball, football, rugby, Frisbee, soccer -- with only one small five acre park in the middle of town to play.

With projected population growth, funding for this regional park is a needed investment for the *next* generation: to be active and engaged in healthy, positive, pro-social sports activities while providing recreational opportunities for seniors and families for decades to come.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

/s/

Margaret Wille  
Council Member District 9  
North & South Kohala

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MaryHelen Higgins	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The community of Waimea and the surrounding populations of North Kona, South Kohala, North Kohala, Honokaa and beyond will all benefit from the completion of the subject park. It seems like a win-win for both the State of Hawaii and County of Hawaii to share in the funding of the project which is desperately needed and long overdue. This is a community which has an outstanding record of volunteering in and supporting community projects, a huge participation in outdoor activities, and pride in their community. This community deserves to have a full fledged park. They will use it to its fullest and they will care for it.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Samura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am testifying in support of bill SB2677. With the increased sports programs in Waimea, we do not have enough facilities to accommodate for the growing needs of our community. Some sports programs cannot run spring programs because there is not enough facilities to use, as such as in the fall season. Currently, we have 8 tee ball & coach pitch teams, three little league teams, three kupuna baseball teams, a (20) person track & field team, two girls softball teams, one adult soccer & two adult frisbee teams sharing Waimea Park space this season, day and night. We also have indoor soccer players using our tennis & basketball courts to practice and rugby teams using the hospital field. In addition, we have (12) coed basketball teams using Thelma Parker & New Hope gyms because the County does not have gym facilities in Waimea. We also have an upcoming Pony baseball & flag football season coming up very soon! Other organizations utilize public school fields because there is nothing else available for use. If that does not make you feel suffocated, I don't know what will! That is how I feel everyday when I come to work, trying to accommodate for the increased athletic and recreation needs of our community. PLEASE, PLEASE.....support this bill! Mahalo!

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melora Purell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The people of Waimea love sports and outdoor activities, but we need more space. We have sports teams practicing on church lawns because there isn't enough field space. Please support this funding to help the community of Waimea build a park. Mahalo!

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Ferron-Guppy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In Waimea, we lack adequate park facilities for our ever expanding community. The overcrowded playing conditions at our existing small park, the hazard of patron parking on a main street in the middle of town, and the need for a facility that can foster a more healthy and safer life style for our keiki. These are just a few reasons why we need additional recreational facilities. Thank you

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Carr Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for your consideration of this funding to continue the building of our Waimea District Park. It is highly needed facility for our growing community which has limited fields for our keiki sports. This is a very good investment in our future. Please support this bill. Thank you. Nancy Carr Smith

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Page Macy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Waimea community and the surrounding areas are in dire need of more park and active areas for our keiki and kupuna alike!

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patricia Kassis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea needs this. Unsafe practice conditions exist, and some AYSO teams are told they need to find a neighbor's yard to use for practice or else they don't have a team. No one's insured for that. Even game field has dangerous parking and dirt-pan fields due to over use.

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:55:04 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Penny Vredenburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I totally support this bill SB2677. I reside in Waimea Hawai'i Island. Our community is in need of this!! Please support this bill. Sincere Thank you! Penny L. Vredenburg

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**Date:** Monday, February 03, 2014 7:34:18 PM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter A. Thoene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## Testimony in Support of SB 2677

I am a resident of Luala'i subdivision which is within walking distance of the new, yet unbuilt, Waimea District Park. Here in North Hawai'i we have a shortage of parks and we desperately need funding to ensure that this park is built as soon as possible. Personally, my husband and I look forward to having park facilities close by and there are many school-age children here in Luala'i who will also benefit from the park. Please approve this funding measure for our new park.

Sincerely,

Phyllis A. Tarail  
Waimea, Hawai'i Island

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
R Wright	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Waimea has been growing at a very fast, unprecedented rate in the past few years. We desperately need this park to give our children and grandchildren (as well as adults) something constructive and healthy to do instead of getting into trouble with the law and drugs. Through physical activity, this new park can also help reverse the current obesity epidemic. Please help. Please vote FOR this measure to create a new park.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rhonda Bell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am Rhonda Bell a mom of 2 boys who enjoy outdoor sports. My husband is also a coach for Pop Warner Football. We have lived in the Waimea community all of our life. Our community has grown so much and our children deserve more field space for safety reasons. Currently we have Waimea Park that is overused. Football, soccer, adult frisbee and Kupuna baseball all share the same field space at the same time of year. It can get very dangerous when teams practice at the same times. Our restroom facilities are also not up to par, doors don't always lock, this is a safety issue for little girls, the septic system is not up to standard and often cannot handle a full field of players and spectators needing to use the restroom which causes frequent overflows. The overuse of the field often results in the field becoming bare and left with no grass, this then causes injuries and frequent falls and sprains. Our Waimea community deserves a bigger and additional facilities to keep our children active and off the streets causing havoc. Please consider this district park for the sake of our children. Thank you!

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 7:01:59 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Riley Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This project is sorely needed in Waimea. Please approve. Riley Smith

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Tuesday, February 4, 2014

**Testimony in Support of SB 2677: Making an appropriation to the County of Hawaii as the State's share of joint funding with the county to construct improvements to Waimea District/Regional Park**

Committee Chair Solomon, Vice Chair Brickwood Galuteria and Members of the Committee,

As one with a career in providing support to children, youth and families I am very much in support of this bill. Though my work with a variety of governmental and private non-profit human service agencies I have come to recognize that healthy communities require adequate recreational facilities to support the health and well-being of their children, youth and adults, and to provide opportunities for community integration.

Despite considerable attempts over the years by both government and non-governmental agencies Waimea has had a lack of adequate park facilities for our ever expanding community. Existing facilities are overcrowded and parking along both Lindsay and Kawaihae roads are dangerous for our keiki.

The fields and facilities supported by this bill are long overdue and it is my hope that the committee will pass it.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bonar

Robert A. Bonar  
65-1245 Opelo Rd.  
Kamuela, Hawii 96743

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sondra Macy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We need more recreational parks for the many keiki of the Waimea community.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Macy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Funding for this park is a must! Waimea has so many activities and events that run concurrently that the addition of this park is the only way to keep everything moving. Not only will the Waimea community benefit, but all the communities that make up the Hamakua Coast.

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 04, 2014 9:35:38 AM

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
wendy craven	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We support SB2677 for the following reasons: Currently Waimea has a lack of adequate park facilities for the use and enjoyment of our ever expanding community; the existing small park has overcrowded playing and parking conditions for users of the park are hazardous at best; and we need an expanded facility to promote a safer and healthier environment for our children and their families.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David B Gomes	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We are senior citizens and while we personally may not use the planned park as often as we would like, we have children and growing grandchildren who live in Waimea and Waikoloa who will greatly appreciate the additional facilities.

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathleen Brooks	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Waimea is in desperate need of a park. Currently there is a lack of facilities and space for our children to engage in athletic and recreational activities. Please consider our request for the funds necessary to carry out this project. The park will benefit people of all ages. Mahalo for your kind attention and consideration.  
Kathleen Brooks

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MARQUITA BIVEN DENISON	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As a homeowner in Waimea for the past 18 years, I have witnessed firsthand the growth of WAIMEA COMMUNITY PARK. During this time, WCP has easily quadrupled in use by football, baseball, senior golf putting, frisbee and soccer teams to name a few. The welcome construction of the skate park at the Kohala end (near Lindsey Rd) has created additional challenges to an already overtaxed parking situation. As a result, we as a community need capital and structural improvements, which are provided for in SB 2677. Please consider this testimony IN SUPPORT of the passage of SB 2677. Mahalo a nui loa, Marquita Biven Denison

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**SB2677**

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda West	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB 2677

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