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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
FINANCE

Tuesday, March 1, 2016  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2721, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO LIPOA POINT

House Bill 272, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to implement a management plan for Lipoa Point on Maui. **The Department offers the following comments.**

Pursuant to Act 241, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, the Department acquired the property identified as Tax Map Key No. (2) 4-1-001:010, from Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc. (MLPC). The parcel came under the public trust for the Department to manage without any commensurate funding to do so, nor has the Department had any discussions with Hawaiian Island Land Trust (HILT) on the various elements of this management plan.

*Therefore Department has concerns in the requirement to implement a management plan developed by the Hawaiian Island Land Trust for the Lipoa Point area prior to a master plan and Environmental Impact Statement being developed as this is now state property.*

A master plan is critical in managing an area that is vast in size with competing public interests and requires the coordination and input of several respective departmental divisions with mandates related to land management, enforcement, historic marine and land based natural resource protection, and recreation management; the Department does not have a division authorized at this point in time with the collective funding, staffing, authority, skills or responsibilities to insure the highest and best use of this new public land that takes all of these resource elements into consideration.

A master plan will provide the Department with interim and long-term management options through the development of goals, objectives, policies and future costs. The planning process and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process is a pre-requisite under Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for any improvement to this new parcel of state land for either recreational or sustainable agricultural use – or likely mixtures of both. Funding for the master Plan and EIS should be taken into consideration of \$400,000 for a master plan and \$200,000 for an EIS.

*In addition, this new acquisition of public land presents significant challenges for the Department in both the interim and long term management of a vast, porous and complex new land area in regards to insuring: 1) public safety, 2) security, 3) sanitation, 4) resource protection and 5) appropriate recreational and land management.*

The Department's cost to date for minimal management includes ancillary staff time and expenditure of funds for management signage (\$1,066.00 for 50 advisory/prohibited activity signs) and to contract for hazard tree trimming (\$29,000.00). This new acquisition of public land also presents the Department's Maui Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement with significant challenges given current staffing levels to protect both public safety and the resources on site.

*A summary of the funding and cost elements critically needed by the Department is itemized as follows:*

- \$300,000 annually to contract for various property maintenance services;
- \$323,052 annually for three (3) Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer III;
- \$400,000 for a master plan;
- \$200,000 for an EIS.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Aha Moku Advisory Committee  
State of Hawaii  
Post Office Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of  
Felimon Sadang, AMAC Moku Representative  
Moku O Kaanapali, Maui

Before the House Committee on  
Finance

Tuesday, March 1, 2016  
3:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

**In Consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2721 HD 1  
RELATING TO LIPOA POINT**

House Bill 2721 proposes to require DLNR to implement a management plan for Lipoa Point on Maui. **Aha Moku O Ka'anapali supports the intent of this measure and respectfully offers the following comment.**

It is essential that discussion on the management of Lipoa Point be restored as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.



February 29, 2016

Aloha e House Finance Committee,

On behalf of the Save Honolua Coalition, Mahalo nui for reading our testimony in support of HB2721. As you are aware the State of Hawaii officially acquired this parcel in the Honolua area in 2014 due to great community support.

Our organization's mission is to: Maintain open space, public access and revitalize the health of the Honolua Ahupua'a through community based management utilizing Native Hawaiian practices and values. In putting this mission in to action we have acquired funds to maintain port-a-potties (and permits) at Honolua since 2009, we have held quarterly clean-ups of this area – on 2/20/16 in coordination with the Aha Moku o Kaanapali, and other entities, we filled a 20' rollout dumpster with opala and took more than 20 truckloads to recycle scrap metal, e-waste, batteries and tires – and involved the community in addressing solutions to issues as they arise.

We are now looking to the future; to long term management and stewardship of this wahi pana. We cannot continue to rely on grants to sustain our efforts in perpetuity and so we need a plan that is acceptable to our community, to our kupuna, and to the State on how we move forward. Hawaiian Islands Land Trust who has experience and has advised us from the start of our organization back in 2006 has stepped in with a donor from the area to fund the creation of a community based management plan – but they want some assurance that this plan will be honored and so they created a memorandum of understanding to work with the State and that is where our efforts have stalled. There has been very little effort by the State to move forward with efforts at Honolua and I understand they are overwhelmed but all the more reason to take advantage of this offer.

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**Save Honolua Coalition**  
**P.O. Box 11904**  
**Lahaina, HI 96761**

**Email:** [kokua@savehonolua.org](mailto:kokua@savehonolua.org) ~ **Website:** [www.savehonolua.org](http://www.savehonolua.org)

Please consider the alternative to passing this bill is to do nothing, which is not a solution to this problem. Essentially, we are not asking to implement a non-existent management plan, we are asking the State to work with the community and NGO's to create a community based management plan. Initially after the State's purchase of the land the State had come to our community and said they wanted to put out signage and erect barriers and that they would follow up with the community, none of that has been done. The Honolua area is one of the most heavily visited tourist destinations in the State with no management plan, we need to move forward on stewardship plans, we need to consider viable sources of revenue, we need to work together for the benefit of Honolua. Please support our community's efforts to step up and take care of our area.

Malama Pono

Tamara Paltin, President Save Honolua Coalition

Save Honolua Coalition is a non-profit organization incorporated May 11, 2007, State of Hawaii.  
Federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status granted, effective May 11, 2007.  
Please consult with your tax advisor for deduction instructions.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 8:06 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** tampaltin@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Aloha, Mahalo for reading my testimony I am testifying in support of the State working with the community to create and then help implement a management plan for Honolua, the Aha Moku o Kaanapali, the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust and the Save Honolua Coalition are working to help the State but have not been able to move forward in our efforts and that is why we turn to you as our legislators to help move this process forward towards a win- win outcome where the land is cared for by the people of the area at great savings to the state and people will be able to enjoy a well taken care of area. Mahalo Malama Pono Tamara

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:04 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jdancer@kula.us  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Doing nothing is not an option - please urge the State to require DLNR to work with the community to create a community based management plan with respect to Native Hawaiian practices and values.

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February 29, 2016

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Dear Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Please accept this letter as testimony in support of HB 2721, a bill relating to Lipoa Point. The Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (HILT) is a state-wide conservation organization with a mission to “protect the lands that sustain us for current and future generations.” Since 2011 HILT has worked closely with both the Save Honolua Coalition and the Aha Moku o Ka`anapali to ensure that this *wahi pana* of Honolua Bay and Lipoa Point would be protected in perpetuity, and stewarded in a way that protects sensitive ecosystems, cares for the numerous cultural, historical and archaeological sites, and promotes respectful public access. All three organizations have consistently pointed out the need for a comprehensive, community-driven management plan.

In order to facilitate this process, HILT, the Aha Moku o Ka`anapali and the Save Honolua Coalition have worked with two generous donors who have offered to pay \$100,000 towards the creation of a management plan. In 2015 HILT circulated a request for proposals, and has received, reviewed and selected a planning firm who is prepared to draft such a plan. In effect, these funds are a donated gift to the State of Hawai`i, who will be the beneficiary of the management plan, as the State is the landowner.

In a Memorandum of Understanding submitted to the DLNR in late 2015, HILT requested a condition that the state would give serious consideration to implementing this management plan when it is completed. We are aware that this is not a binding condition, but, in the interest of avoiding the frivolous use of the funds, we requested some type of guarantee that the management plan would be utilized.

It should be noted that we are not trying to make unreasonable demands on the DLNR. Rather, we are hoping to work with the DLNR and with the communities of the Moku o Ka`anapali to expeditiously facilitate this critically important process. As landowners, HILT is aware of the need for community participation in the development of a management plan, and we are both trying to alleviate an additional burden on the DLNR, while also demonstrating our commitment to this community.

Sincerely,

Scott Fisher, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Director



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:44 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** tovacallender@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Please support the bill calling for the allocation of funds to support management of Lipoa Point. I would also like to state support for the approach recommended in the Save Honolua Coalition testimony, which calls for a community planning process to define the management plan. This organization has been instrumental in preserving this space for public use and continues to use the support of the community to keep the area clean and fund porta potties. This area is a part of the West Maui priority watersheds, as defined by the US Coral Reef Task Force, State of Hawaii DLNR-DAR and the Resilient Land and Waters Initiative. This is an important area from a natural resource, cultural and human use perspective, so support from the State for managing this area properly is both appreciated and necessary. Respectfully yours, Tova Callender

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:18 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** sharonmarsoun@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: Please do whatever it takes to protect and maintain Honolua Bay. It's a beautiful site, and needs to be protected and cherished. Please resolve to never develop this area, but please keep it natural and open. It's one of the main reasons we travel to Maui, to enjoy its beauty, its marine life, and its forest. Yours truly, Sharon & Ed Marsoun, Keizer, OR.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:09 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** susankessler4@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM\*

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments:

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**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 12:51 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** fitzformaui@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

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

Comments: We need DLNR to come up with a management plan for Lipoa Point. This is important for the management of one of our few marine protected areas. Mahalo, Fitz

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**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 1:45 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** capitol@mauicomputing.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric K. Olson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the testimony of the Save Honolua Coalition, the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust and the Aha Moku o Kaanapali on this measure.

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**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 3:43 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2721 on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM

**HB2721**

Submitted on: 2/29/2016  
Testimony for FIN on Mar 1, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With apology, I am about 40 minutes past the 24 hour limit, but please consider my voice in strong support. You prudently acquired the land and Lipoa Point- now we need DLNR to go forward. Mahalo, Mike Moran Kihei, Maui

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