



LATE

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
Senator Laura H Thielen, Chair

2/11/2015  
Rm. 225, 2:45 PM

SB 617  
Relating to Beach Protection

Chair Kahele, Chair Thielen and Members of both Committees, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels Hawaii, in support of SB 617.

SB 617 provides for the implementation of beach restoration and sand nourishment planning, as part of a viable management strategy for Hawaii's special resource.

In the past every eight to ten years, as beaches, such as Waikiki Beach need restoration and sand needs to be replenished, the planning was always done in an ad hoc manner. Everyone gets together, talk, plan and the beach get fixed. Afterwards, everyone goes his or her separate way, until the next time the same crisis arises.

What SB 617 will facilitate is what we are currently in the process of doing in Waikiki. We are working with the City to set up a long-term effort to provide for long term and consistent planning to better facilitate the continuing preservation of Waikiki Beach.

We are planning to do a Waikiki Beach Special District (WBSID) and the funds provided for in SB 617 will augment private funds provided thru the WBSID to a do what needs to be done to keep Waikiki Beach a worldwide destination.

We urge your passage of this bill and mahalo for allowing me to testify.