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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
and
HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS**

**Wednesday March 16, 2016
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 37/SENATE RESOLUTION 17
ENCOURAGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY AND STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION DIVISION TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO
ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HISTORICAL MARKERS AND TRAILS**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 17/Senate Resolution 17 encourages the Hawaii Tourism Authority and State Historic Preservation Division (Division) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to work with community organizations to assist in the establishment of historical markers and trails. **The Department appreciates the intent of these resolutions and offers the following comments.**

Heritage tourism is good business. On average, heritage tourists spend considerably more per day than the average traveler, stay more days, and have lower impacts on the places they visit. The Department believes that encouraging heritage tourism would be good for Hawai'i.

However, the Department is concerned that the resolutions encourages the Division to focus on activities for which it is not currently funded. The Division struggles to meet its current statutory mandates with the resources currently available to it. Adding additional responsibilities will make it harder for the Division to meet all of its mandates.

The Department believes that these resolutions represent a promising initiative promoting both historic preservation and Hawai'i's economy. However, this initiative would be better served in legislation or as a budget item that provides funding to support it.



THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

TOURISM & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Senator J Kalani English, Vice Chair

HIGHER EDUCATION & THE ARTS COMMITTEE
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair

3/16/2016
Rm. 225, 3:00 PM

SR 17 & SCR 37

Chair English, Chair Taniguchi and Members of both Committees, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels & Resorts in supports SR 17 & SCR 37.

It has been a long time since I've seen a new familiar yellow and red marker with the likeness of the King Kamehameha statue erected on any of the scenic spots around the State. Of those that are still standing, they are either worn or rusty. We need to reinstitute a program that will bring back those familiar markers.

Outrigger Hotels supports the intent of both resolutions, however we have concerns that if implemented, that the funds to reinstitute the markers not come out of the marketing funds for Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support to both resolutions.