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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 Committee on  
Ways and Means**

**Thursday March 24, 2016  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**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.

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**SCR37**

Submitted on: 3/22/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 24, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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