

SCR 72

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Monday, March 28, 2016
3:00 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 72
EXPRESSING ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A UNIQUE AND AGGRESSIVE
APPROACH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
USE DURABLE AND TEMPORARY GEO-SYNTHETIC MATERIALS AS
NECESSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE KAA NAPALI BEACH WALK FROM
SHORELINE HAZARDS UNTIL THE BEACH NOURISHMENT PROGRAM AT
KAA NAPALI BEACH CAN BE COMPLETED

Senate Concurrent Resolution 72 expresses endorsement and support for a unique and aggressive approach by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to use durable and temporary geo-synthetic materials as necessary for the protection of the Kaanapali Beach Walk from shoreline hazards until the beach nourishment program at Kaanapali Beach can be completed. **The Department supports the intent of the resolution and respectfully offers the following comments.**

The Department notes that erosion control structures built with geo-synthetic materials (e.g., heavy-duty sandbags, tarps, and “geo-tubes”) are a form of shoreline hardening that should be employed cautiously. These structures can have similar impacts on beaches as concrete seawalls and rock revetments by accelerating beach loss and limiting access to the shoreline in front of the structure.

The Department is working with the Kaanapali Operators Association (KOA) to restore the natural beach environment at Kaanapali. This includes the ongoing development of a beach restoration project through a public-private cost-share agreement with KOA. We have been working with resort property owners along Kaanapali Beach for several decades to address beach erosion which threatens the integrity of the pedestrian walkway feature. We believe that the best

option for the protection of the walkway is to restore the beach. We are hopeful that we will be successful in obtaining the necessary permits to proceed with the beach restoration project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HAWAIIAN
HOTELS & RESORTS

March 22, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chairman
Water Land & Agriculture Committee
State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Regarding: SCR72,SR43&HR19

EXPRESSING ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A UNIQUE AND AGGRESSIVE APPROACH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO USE DURABLE AND TEMPORARY GEO-SYNTHETIC MATERIALS AS NECESSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE KAA NAPALI BEACH WALK FROM SHORELINE HAZARDS UNTIL THE BEACH NOURISHMENT PROGRAM AT KAA NAPALI BEACH CAN BE COMPLETED.

Dear Senator Mike Gabbard:

My name is Tom Bell, I am writing you on behalf of Royal Lahaina Resort as a resident of Maui who supports the preservation and protecting the Kaanapali Beach Walk.

Protecting Kaanapali Resort's Beach Walk is critical for several important reasons. First, the Beachwalk is a vital thoroughfare for pedestrian access to the beaches, resorts and retail located within the resort area. Having lived in the resort myself for 11 years, I have noted that the Beachwalk is heavily trafficked by locals and tourists alike. Second, I have also noted that during storm events when the ocean surges up to the beachwalk, extreme damage can occur, leaving unsafe and unsightly conditions. I have witnessed these storm events and the resulting damage to the Beachwalk. Damage includes exposed live electrical conduit for lighting fixtures and broken concrete and wood railings falling into the sea. Our ability to protect the Beachwalk will drastically improve the safety and aesthetics of this major Resort Destination.

In conclusion, I strongly support a Resolution for the protection of the Kaanapali Beach Walk from shoreline hazards and vote in favor of adopting these Resolutions.

Sincerely,

Tom Bell
President, Hawaiian Hotels & Resorts

ROYAL LAHAINA
RESORT

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ROYAL KONA
RESORT

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March 23, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chairman
Water Land and Agriculture Committee
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Regarding: SCR72, SR43 & HR19

EXPRESSING ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A UNIQUE AND AGGRESSIVE APPROACH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO USE DURABLE AND TEMPORARY GEOSYNTHETIC MATERIALS AS NECESSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE KAAPALI BEACHWALK FROM SHORELINE HAZARDS UNTIL THE BEACH NOURISHMENT PROGRAM AT KAAPALI BEACH CAN BE COMPLETED.

Dear Senator Gabbard and members of the Committee on Water Land and Agriculture:

My name is Wayne N. Hedani and I am writing to you as President and General Manager of Kaanapali Operations Association, Inc. (KOA) in support of this resolution. KOA is a membership organization which represents over 5000 units of hotels, condominiums, commercial properties, recreational facilities and residences in the Kaanapali Beach Resort.

The Kaanapali Beach Resort is one of the first and remains one of the foremost masterplanned destination resorts in the world. Planning of the resort includes many features now replicated by other destination resorts. One of these features pertinent to the above is the Kaanapali Beachwalk:

- **Masterplanned walkways throughout the resort.** Each property in Kaanapali is required to provide walkways both Mauka and Makai of their properties to tie into the walkway masterplan. This system of walkways now stretches from the Hyatt Regency Maui to the south to the Honua Kai Resort to the North tying in over 6000 units of hotels and condominiums and extends over 3 miles in length along the beach providing safe lateral access along the beach for residents and guests alike. It is estimated that over 18,000 people per day utilize this walkway. When I open the door to my office in the morning, I look Makai and count the number of seconds it takes for someone to appear on the walkway. Usually it takes from one to five seconds for the first person to appear. I judge the resorts occupancy based on how many seconds elapse before the first resort guest

appears. If I take an average of 3 seconds per person as an average this comes to 1200 people per hour or 18,000 people per day for 15 hours (6am to 9pm). Many people also walk before 6am and after 9pm and more than once per day. This walkway system now ties into the County of Maui's walkway which leads towards Lahaina Town. At 18,000 people per day, this comes to 6,570,000 people trips per year using our walkways. It is a graphic success story of a masterplanned walkable community not centered on the automobile.

The Count of Maui and State of Hawaii encourages livable and walkable communities with concepts such as "complete streets". The Kaanapali Beach Resort is an example of this successful concept. Beach Walkways which are enjoyable and safe are now an integral part of visitor and resident satisfaction.

Due to recent and recurring high wave events due to climate change and sea level rise, properties and the beachwalk have been threatened by beach erosion. This erosion can be serious at times and create escarpments which can be dangerous to visitors and residents using the walkway. While the Kaanapali Beach Resort has committed to the renourishment and restoration of Kaanapali Beach through a 50/50 participation with the State on beach restoration efforts which are several years away due to permitting, temporary measures to protect our beachwalks are needed until the nourishment is implemented. The Kaanapali Beach Resort has committed \$3.8M in funding to the DLNR as our share of the Kaanapali Beach restoration project to be implemented hopefully by 2017 or 2018.

In the interim, we encourage your support of measures as described in the above resolution to ask the DLNR to approve innovative solutions in the interim.

Sincerely,

Wayne N. Hedani
President and General Manager
Kaanapali Operations Association Inc.

C L A S S I C R E S O R T S

Testimony for SCR72, SR43 HR19

March 25, 2016

Dear WLA Committee Members:

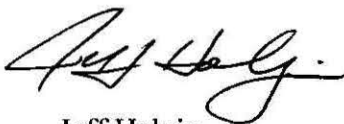
I am writing in strong support for SCR72, SR43 HR19. My company, Classic Resorts Limited, manages Kaanapali Alii, an oceanfront condominium hotel on Kaanapali beach. Over the years the property has been subject to severe erosion events which has damaged property and has threatened the condominiums themselves.

The Kaanapali beach walk is an important resort amenity providing beach access to thousands of residents and visitors. It is also critical to resort circulation and ambience. Without protecting this critical resort element, erosion and heightened wave action might threaten habitable structures thus triggering the need for unwanted sea walls.

Kaanapali Operations Association has embarked upon a public/private beach renourishment project with the State, which has just began the planning/permit process, and is expected to take at least 24 months. Protection of the Kaanapali beach walkway in the interim is critical to maintaining Kaanapali as one of Maui's primary economic engines.

The Kaanapali beach access walkway is important for so many reasons. It needs to be protected and I request your vote in favor of this resolution.

Sincerely,
Classic Resorts Limited



Jeff Halpin
President



March 23, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chairman
Water Land & Agriculture Committee
State Capitol, Room 201
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Regarding: SCR72, SR43 & HR19
EXPRESSING ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A UNIQUE AND AGGRESSIVE APPROACH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO USE DURABLE AND TEMPORARY GEO-SYNTHETIC MATERIALS AS NECESSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE KAAPALI BEACH WALK FROM SHORELINE HAZARDS UNTIL THE BEACH NOURISHMENT PROGRAM AT KAAPALI BEACH CAN BE COMPLETED.

Dear Senator:

My name is Tets Yamazaki; I am writing you as a hotel operator in Kaanapali resort and as a resident of Maui who supports the preservation and protecting the Kaanapali Beach Walk.

Our Kaanapali beach walk is enjoyed by many people, visitors, employees and locals on every day basis. It makes our beaches accessible as a public benefits.

If beach walk is not protected, it will create unsafe conditions and pedestrian traffic on the main Parkway.

I don't think it is a good idea that the beach walk falling into the ocean; that will create undesirable condition to nature.

In conclusion, I strongly support a Resolution for the protection of the Kaanapali Beach Walk from shoreline hazards and kindly request your support. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Tets Yamazaki
General Manager
Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa

Sheraton®

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: Tony.bruno@westin.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR72 on Mar 28, 2016 15:00PM
Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 5:19:16 PM

SCR72

Submitted on: 3/23/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 28, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tony Bruno	Westin Maui Resort	Support	No

Comments: Aloha & Thank you for the opportunity to EXPRESS ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR A UNIQUE AND AGGRESSIVE APPROACH BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO USE DURABLE AND TEMPORARY GEO-SYNTHETIC MATERIALS AS NECESSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE KAA NAPALI BEACH WALK FROM SHORELINE HAZARDS UNTIL THE BEACH NOURISHMENT PROGRAM AT KAA NAPALI BEACH CAN BE COMPLETED. Our Beaches are a critical part of the tourism industry. We need your support to ensure that erosion does not decimate this vital resource our Residents & Guests enjoy So much. Tourism is a vital to providing jobs & tax revenues to our state. The Kaanapali Beach needs your support on this initiative until the nourishment program can be put into place. Mahalo, Tony Bruno GM Westin Maui Resort & Spa

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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