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GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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LAND  
STATE PARKS

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  
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, February 7, 2017  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 14  
RELATING TO KEKAHA KAI STATE PARK

House Bill 14 proposes to appropriate funds for the employment of lifeguards and for life-saving equipment at Kua Bay within Kekaha Kai State Park on the island of Hawaii under the jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). **The Department supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact our priorities requested in the Executive Budget.**

Lifeguards serve an essential function in a state surrounded by the ocean. Due to the increasing popularity at Kua Bay, it has come to the attention of the Department that there is a growing need for lifeguard services based on the increase in water safety incidents. The State does not have its own lifeguards, and contracts with the counties for those services at selected State Parks beaches. Currently, each county provides lifeguards at one State Park beach.

Two of the lifeguard contracts come out of the existing general fund allocation to State Parks and the other two contracts are paid for out of special fund income. Therefore, it is essential that any new lifeguard contract receive a new and general fund appropriation.

ISLAND	LOCATION	Current Annual Amount	MOF
Oahu	Keawa'ula Beach @ Kaena Point State Park	\$584,216	Special
Hawaii	Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area	\$465,785	Special
Maui	Makena Beach State Recreation Area	\$606,469	General
Kauai	Ke'e Beach @ Haena State Park	\$200,065	General

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2017 9:36 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** blawaiianlvr@icloud.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB14 on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HB14**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for OMH on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

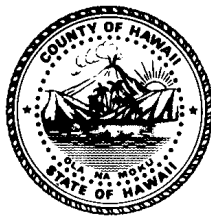
<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments:

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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**Karen Eoff**  
Council Vice Chair  
Council District 8 - North Kona



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## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 3, 2017

House Committee on Ocean Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs  
Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair  
Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair

Re: Testimony Supporting HB14; A BILL RELATING TO KEKAHA KAI STATE  
PARK - Appropriates funds for the employment of lifeguards and for life-saving  
equipment at Kua Bay.  
Hearing Date and Time: February 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 312

Dear Committee:

On behalf of myself and constituents of Council District 8, North Kona, support for the  
above referenced Bill is expressed, with brief testimony provided as follows:

The Hawai'i County Council voted unanimously in favor of Resolution No. 49-17 to urge  
the Hawai'i State Legislature to appropriate funds to employ lifeguards and to purchase a  
lifeguard tower and rescue equipment for Kua Bay at Kekaha Kai State Park.

Skilled lifeguards, appropriate rescue equipment and a lifeguard tower for adequate field  
of sight are essential to save lives and prevent injuries at the heavily-visited Kua Bay, and West  
Hawai'i residents have voiced strong concerns regarding the alarming number of reported and  
unreported incidents which have occurred at Kua Bay.

I strongly recommend the passing of this bill.

Sincerely,

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KAREN EOFF, Council Vice Chair  
Council District 8, North Kona

KE.wpb

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, February 3, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
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**HB14**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for OMH on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<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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**LATE**

February 6, 2017

**Testimony in Support of HB14**

Members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

The Kohala Coast Resort Association (KCRA) is in full support of HB14, providing for lifeguards and lifesaving equipment at Kekaha Kai State Park and Kua Bay. As our visitation continues to grow on Hawaii Island, we are seeing an increase in use of this beautiful bay, and believe that it should have lifeguards to help both residents and visitors enjoy the ocean safely.

KCRA is a collection of master-planned resorts and hotels situated north of the airport which represents more than 3,500 hotel accommodations and an equal number of resort residential units. This is approximately 35 percent of the accommodations available on the Island of Hawai`i. KCRA member properties annually pay more than \$20 million in TAT and \$20 million in GET.

We encourage your support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Donoho  
Administrative Director

Patrick Fitzgerald, Hualalai Resort  
Kelley Cosgrove, Fairmont Orchid, Hawai`i  
David Givens, Hilton Waikoloa Village  
Steve Yannarell, Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa

Scott Head, Waikoloa Land Company  
Robert Whitfield, Four Seasons Resort Hualalai  
Rodney Ito, Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows  
Craig Anderson, Mauna Kea Beach Hotel and Hapuna  
Prince Hotel

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 11:48 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** fsayre@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB14 on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM

**HB14**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for OMH on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. Frank H. Sayre, D.D.S.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is literally a matter of life and death. Without this the State is liable for wrongful death suits.

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**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 4:58 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** kamakane73@gmail.com  
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**HB14**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for OMH on Feb 7, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

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

Comments:

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