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DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, April 4, 2017
9:45A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 88, SENATE DRAFT 1 /
SENATE RESOLUTION 34, SENATE DRAFT 1
URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND OTHERS, TO
COLLABORATE TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR INCREASING
WATER CIRCULATION IN POKAI BAY ON LEEWARD OAHU

Senate Concurrent Resolution 88, Senate Draft 1 / Senate Resolution 34, Senate Draft 1 urge the United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), and others, to collaborate to research and develop a plan for increasing water circulation in Pōkaʻī Bay on Leeward Oʻahu. **The Department acknowledges the intent of these measures and provides the following comments.**

The intent of this measure is to address concerns with alleged environmental and health risks in Pōkaʻī Bay (Bay) due to runoff from surrounding surfaces, illegal dumping and user-induced contaminants.

Before discussing ways in which to increase water circulation in the Bay, the Department appreciates other entities being added to the current versions of both measures to assist in assessing the water quality in the Bay. After a water quality assessment is completed and if improved water circulation is deemed necessary, the Department can work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to come up with cost estimates to pursue design options that can be provided to the legislature for funding consideration next year. Studies would also be needed to assess the structural integrity of the breakwater if redesigned, as well as movement of sand when high surf enters the Bay. Unfortunately, the Department does not have the capacity to pay for such research and design studies with our existing operational funds.

Lastly, the Department notes that it is working to address the issue of boats being moored in the Bay for longer than permitted, through administrative rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.



**WAIANAE COAST
COMPREHENSIVE
HEALTH CENTER**
www.wcchc.com

APRIL 3, 2017

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 88, SD1 / SR 34, SD1: Urging The United States Army Corps Of Engineers, Department Of Land And Natural Resources, And Others, To Collaborate To Research And Develop A Plan For Increasing Water Circulation And Improving Water Quality In Pokai Bay On Leeward Oahu.

SUBMITTED BY: RICHARD BETTINI, PRESIDENT AND CEO, WAIANAE COAST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER

The Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center has provided health services to the communities of the Waianae Coast since 1972. In 2016, the Health Center served 36,019 patients.

The Health Center achieves its mission by not only serving patients who seek services, but also by incorporating the goal of improving the overall health status of the community it serves.

Poka'i Bay is an important recreational site for the community. Increasing water circulation and improving water quality within Poka'i Bay is a goal the Health Center supports.

The Health Center is willing to lend its medical to support, as applicable, any collaboration with essential partners from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Thank you for considering the importance of this Concurrent Resolution to address the water quality conditions of Poka'i Bay.

Mahalo.

From: [DR JO C STROUD](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SCR88/SR34
Date: Monday, April 3, 2017 2:59:01 PM

Dear Chair Tokuda and Committee members:

I support SCR88/SR34 because it is urgent for the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Land and Natural Resources to collaborate to create a mechanism for generating water circulation in Pokai Bay on Leeward Oahu. High bacteria levels and pollution are making all of us who swim, surf and play in the ocean there sick. Please help now!

Mahalo,

Dr. Jo C. Stroud

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OceanEmotions: Being With the Ocean (Paperback)

by Jo Stroud (Author)

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