

**LATE**

Desiré DeSoto

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Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

9:45AM Room 312

**In SUPPORT of SCR88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122 Relating to Generating Circulation  
in Poka'i Bay**

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Committee members:

I strongly SUPPORT SCR88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122 relating to the DLNR, DOH, UH, the City and WCCHC working together to generate and execute a plan for circulation with in Poka'i, Bay.

Poka'i Bay has become a poisoned due to the economic and environmental stressors that have continued to assault the Wai'anae community since colonization. Poka'i Bay has traditionally acted as a hub for the people of Wai'anae. Besides being the home of Ku'ilioloa Navigational Heiau, Poka'i Bay is host to an array of family and community gatherings as well as land and ocean leisure sports activities. However, ramifications of stagnant water are compounding with illegal dumping upstream and creating an unsafe environment for Poka'i Bay users. My father has been treated for staph four times within the last two years. Meanwhile, sixteen of his friends have also been treated and a few hospitalized for staph infections linked to Poka'i Bay. Records from Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and Kaiser's Nanaikelo Clinic should corroborate the high number of staph infections related to contact with Poka'i Bay.

SCR88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122 must be SUPPORTED because it is time to do the right thing and take care of an island treasure that is growing harmful bacteria and negatively impacting the short- and long- term health and wellness of Wai'anae community members who use Poka'i Bay regularly.

**Sincerely,**

**Desiré DeSoto**



**From:** [Desiree Hikuroa](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SCR 88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 4, 2017 8:38:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Please disregard last email and see below. Mahalo.  
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Aloha Chair Tokuda and Committee members:

My Name is Desiree Hikuroa and I am testifying in support of SCR 88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122 because I have personally been affected by the poor water quality of Pokai Bay. As a child, I would play in the shore while my mother would canoe paddle. I would end up with unusual rashes on my chest that were unexplainable. One day we showed up at the beach, and there were piles of dead file fish and other trigger fish all along the shore. These phenomenal events have led me to not want to take my own child to Pokai Bay.

As a fisherwoman, I am aware that fishermen/woman will discard unwanted parts of their catch into the ocean right in front of the harbor. That, coupled with the constant flow of marine traffic and canal runoff leads, and unexplainable wounds lead me to believe that there are unusually high amounts of bacteria that pose a risk to our community. Please consider testing various parts of the bay for bacteria and other contaminants that may pose a risk.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Desiree

Thank you,  
Desiree D. Hikuroa  
Development Director, MA COM

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