

LATE

From: [John Shockley](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Cc: [SHOCKLEY Rita](#); [IWAMI Ron \(Friends of Kewalos\)](#); [WONG Linda \(parking\)](#); [MORIWAKI \(Kaka"ako United\) Sharon](#); [COLEMAN Stuart \(Surfrider Foundation\)](#); [BERGSTROM Raphael \(Surfrider\)](#); [DIZON Madonna \(RHS\)](#); [Sen. Mike Gabbard](#); [REBMAN Althea \(KPPS\)](#); [SHIMABUKURO Maile \(St. Sen.\)](#)
Subject: LIVE NOTE: In favor of Senate Resolution to have The Army Corps of Engineers assist the State at Pokai Bay
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 11:34:29 PM

Aloha!

We support SCR 88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122 to protect the water quality at Pokai Bay using help from the Army Corps of Engineers. The breakwater was installed when Pokai Bay was the only outlet for fishing vessels on West O'ahu. Since the construction of the Waianae Boat Harbor has made the Pokai Bay obsolete for boat launch, the breakwater can either be modified with flow through tunnels or simply removed so that good water quality can be restored to the stagnant bay where so many unsuspecting swimmers and surfers are affected.

Isn't it more prudent for the State to be proactive to this problem rather than spend the same or more money on lawsuits in the future?

Mahalo for your time.

**John & Rita Shockley Coordinators: www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com
672-6535**

From: [Spencer Harris](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: SCR88 Testimony
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:26:48 PM

LATE

Aloha,

As a surfer and resident in the Wai'anae area, I am deeply concerned with the water quality in Poka'i Bay Beach Park. While I personally have not experience any illness being in the Poka'i Bay area, I am constantly worried, for my health and others.

I have witnessed on heavy rainy days how water has flowed from other areas in Waianae and dispersed throughout the Poka'i Bay area. The famous rest camp, where many surfers (mostly novice level) enjoy surfing become victim of this run off as they jump into often murky water. Even when the water clears up, that does not guarantee safety from bacteria. I have very little doubt that these water also find their way into the blocked off area of Poka'i Beach.

I have, for my own safety, refused to visit Poka'i Bay due to the fact that it may be contaminated. I am urging support for SCR88 not only for my own peace of mind, but also for the health of my fellow residents and students I work with, who enjoy frequenting Poka'i Bay.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Spencer Harris
Makaha Elementary School Educator
Wai'anae Resident
808-859-9053 (c)

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:15 PM
To: WTL Testimony
Cc: dkg1031@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR88 on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM*

LATE

SCR88

Submitted on: 3/23/2017

Testimony for WTL/AEN on Mar 24, 2017 14:46PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Koonohiokala Norenberg	Individual	Support	No

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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From: [Desiree Hikuroa](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Cc: ["maileshimabukuro@yahoo.com"](mailto:maileshimabukuro@yahoo.com)
Subject: SCR 88 / SR 34 and HCR 194 / HR 122
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 7:42:45 AM

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Gabbard,

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

From: [bunky bakutis](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: Pokai Bay circulation
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 9:32:53 PM

LATE

We are having a severe health issue regarding pollution at Poka'i Bay eastern section. Run off has accumulated at the old boat harbor for over 60 years, leaving a fertile bed of contaminated silt. This started when a large retaining break water wall was erected cutting off the natural flow of water out and around Kanilio Point. As a result of this wall, erected to create a boat harbor, run off from Wai'anae Valley via Kaupuni stream has accumulated and permanently deposited harmful bacteria. Currently, it seems that whenever the bottom is disturbed by man or storm, infections abound in people that are enjoying the beautiful placid protected water of Poka'i Bay. As an example, I cite my daughter's 7th grade excursion to Poka'i Bay 5 yrs ago. She was playing in the water, diving to the bottom with her friends, and came home an hour later... with a massive ear infection that required antibiotics. And more recently, many of my friends who frequent Poka'i Bay, for their own physical therapy--walking in the water, paddling, canoeing--have been sent to the ER and hospitalized with severe staph infections. Lately, it appears there has been an increase in the number of infections. Therefore, I URGE YOU to approve the resolution to restore Poka'i Bay to its natural tidal ebb and flow, whereby, particulate matter is flushed out to sea and not trapped by some manmade break wall. An easy solution would be to remove parts of that wall down to the ocean floor, in order to allow nature's resolution to a manmade problem.

V/r,
Robert "Bunky" Bakutis
Lisa Yamasaki

From: tonya.watson
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:01:25 AM



Hello

I worked as a student water sample technician for the California Dept of Water Resources in Red Bluff CA for six years and received a flesh eating bacteria infection in a new belly button piercing while water sampling in Big Chico Creek here in California--a creek that ran through a housing area..I was wearing waders and fully clothed but simply got damp from creek water...it was enough to cause a bad infection with permanent scarring ...I also did Pacific water sampling as a Senior Survey Tech for NOAA...so I have had plenty experience with sampling water from all over the Pacific

I used to have to count the entero-bacter e-coli samples for the CA Dept of Water Resources

I got Staph again while sitting on a limestone pier on Nuku Hiva in French Polynesia..the pier was known for raw fish deliveries and fish cleaning ...i cut myself on a shell in the limestone while sitting on the pier

I was also bitten in the face by a junk yard dog while working at the dog pound

In each of these instances I had an open wound, contact with a known dirty surface, and a subsequent boil at the point of the broken skin ...so I'm well acquainted with staph, broken skin, and boils

However, while living on the West Side of Oahu regularly for three years, and being told by another local surfer to watch out for Staph because he had had a bad bout of it, I still encountered it myself.

I had a continuous recurring outbreak of boils for two years...I had no

open wounds, and no known specific contact with a specific dirty surface but still kept breaking out in boils whenever I was there (I've been all over the Pacific as a sailor and never had that happen before or since)

I had used Yokes for years previously without any problem...it wasn't until I had close personal contact with a surfer who used Pokai Bay regularly that I had a problem ...he always showered after surfing with regular soap and water and did not have an infection himself but my boils did not go away until I started bathing in dilute bleach regularly and was no longer in contact. He did not get the regular boils, but after he got a considerable cut on his leg and continued surfing at Pokai Bay, he got MRSA in a calf ulcer.

This is particularly an issue for the West Side because Hawai`i is a tourist destination, many West Siders are on limited income and have limited access to medical treatment and education and should not have to be bathing in bleach daily to enjoy their public state beaches

This is particularly a concern for the very young, the very old, the accident prone, and those with compromised immunity

Here are links that indicate raw sewage in areas where water sports take place lead to higher incidences of Staph and more lethal MRSA infections

I respectfully request that appropriate water testing be done before and after construction

<http://www.sas.org.uk/news/campaigns/surfers-at-risk-from-antibiotic-resistant-bacteria/>

http://www.beachapedia.org/Staph_Infections

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/07/130719085255.htm>

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:19:52 AM

Here is another link from England indicating the medical college at Exiter taking rectal swabs of surfers because of the multi-location issue of anti-biotic resistant infections caused by polluted seawater

<http://www.ecehh.org/news/beach-bums/>

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:40:45 AM

Also, if water testing is to be done, please make sure it is done during all appropriate time frames for baseline readings to compare to run off time frames where rains or other flooding or dumping or wave action or stagnation may be occurring

One thought is to encourage non profits to work with colleges or govt water agencies etc to do regular water testing and provide that real time data in a smart phone ap such as Englands "Surfers Against Sewage" who provide the ap called "Safer Seas Service" for all their beaches

<https://www.sas.org.uk/safer-seas-service/>

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:55:39 AM

Also, the water testing needs to take into consideration not only when it is tested but where it is tested

The findings are that surfers are more at risk because they swallow more water per swimming session ...so the doctor doing the study in England was using 170ml as an average amount of water being swallowed...this would mean that lower concentrations of bacteria would still have an affect due to the ingestion of the water

And of course some individuals would be more prone to infection than others

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/microbepost.org/2016/01/20/surfer-bums-and-antibiotic-resistant-bacteria/amp/>

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 5:12:47 AM

The doctor in England was more concerned about the amount of water surfers and swimmers swallow, as low counts of bacteria are still problematicshe gaged the average amount of swallowed water at 6oz/170ml--less than a can of soda

<http://www.ecehh.org/research-projects/coastal-bacterial-pathogens/>

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 5:31:56 AM

Also, look at the incidence of Pink Eye...I've never had Pink Eye until I spent time on the West Side

From: [tonya watson](#)
To: [WTL Testimony](#)
Subject: WTLtestimony
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 5:36:16 AM

Here is the CV and contact information for the Phd who is working on looking at the effects of resistant E. coli in coastal waters on surfers and swimmers

<http://www.ecehh.org/people/anne-leonard/>