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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  
FINANCE

Wednesday, February 28, 2018  
12:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2419, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

House Bill 2419, House Draft 1 proposes to: (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to create a strategic plan for maintenance dredging of important port and harbor locations and report the plan to the Legislature; and (2) Appropriate funds for maintenance dredging of harbor and port locations, as identified by the Department. **The Department offers the following comments on this measure.**

The Department acknowledges that the process to implement dredging in state small boat harbors and ramps can be very lengthy. The Department believes that with dedicated funding, the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation can create an in-house strategic plan that would include (1) identification of all state small boat harbors and ramps that require routine maintenance dredging; (2) determination of the frequency of dredging for each location; (3) establishment of a cost estimate for dredging that would include design, permitting, and construction; and (4) identification of the permitting requirements, as set forth by the United States Army Corp of Engineers, the State Department of Health, and all Hawai'i Counties.

Creating the strategic plan required by this measure would be the first step in the permitting process. In order for the plan to have any useful effect, the Department would need guaranteed funding to start the planning for all of these projects. Currently, funding becomes available only when a need exists, and due to the time it takes for the permitting to be processed, the resulting shoaling and accumulation of sand ends up interfering with vessel navigation as well as the launching and retrieving of vessels at state boat ramps.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Rep. Romy M. Cachola	Rep. Nicole E. Lowen
Rep. Lynn DeCoite	Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura
Rep. Beth Fukumoto	Rep. Chris Todd
Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates	Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita
Rep. Daniel Holt	Rep. Andria P.L. Tupola
Rep. Jarrett Keohokalole	Rep. Gene Ward
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi	

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

TIME: 12:00 P.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 308

**TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITION IN SUPPORT HB2419HD1**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the FIN Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC),  
**speaking in Strong Support of HB 2419 HD1 Relating to Port Infrastructure**

The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. All of them operate from State Boating Facilities managed by DLNR/DOBOR.

Several of our Small Boat Harbors and Boat Launch Ramps are subject to periodic buildup of sand at the harbor entrance. When this happens it becomes very dangerous to enter or leave the harbor and will ultimately make the harbor inaccessible until it is dredged. There is a serious need to plan for this ahead of

time instead of waiting until it is an emergency to dredge. HB 2419HD1 is correct in its evaluation of the problem and we support the language in the bill.

Please pass HB 2419HD1 so that the critical maintenance of our harbors can be planned for in a systematic manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. Coon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

James E. Coon, President OTC

[captcoon@gmail.com](mailto:captcoon@gmail.com)

808-870-9115

**HB-2419-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:52:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2018 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Zachary LaPrade	Quicksilver Charters	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB-2419-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/26/2018 8:52:52 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2018 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Kasper	Calypso Charters	Support	No

Comments:

Several of our Small Boat Harbors and Boat Launch Ramps are subject to periodic buildup of sand at the harbor entrance. When this happens it becomes very dangerous to enter or leave the harbor and will ultimately make the harbor inaccessible until it is dredged. There is a serious need to plan for this ahead of time instead of waiting until it is an emergency to dredge. HB 2419HD1 is correct in its evaluation of the problem and we support the language in the bill.

Please pass HB 2419HD1 so that the critical maintenance of our harbors can be planned for in a systematic manner.

**HB-2419-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 11:53:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2018 12:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: