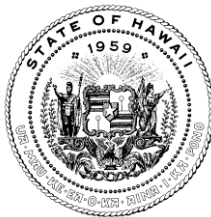


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**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**  
**WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2019**  
**9:30 A.M.**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of**  
**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 140/HOUSE RESOLUTION 129**  
**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY AND COST STUDY RELATING TO THE**  
**CONSTRUCTION OF A BOAT RAMP IN THE PUNA DISTRICT.**

House Concurrent Resolution 140/House Resolution 129 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a feasibility and cost study for the construction of a boat launching ramp in the Puna District on Hawai'i Island. **The Department offers the following comments.**

The Department is in the final stages of procuring a contractor to conduct a feasibility and cost study of dredging and re-opening the Pohoiki Boat Launch Ramp. This feasibility and cost study also includes evaluating the possibility of constructing a new boat launch ramp in Kalapana instead.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these measures.

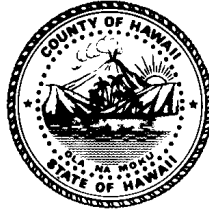
**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Harry Kim**  
Mayor



**Wil Okabe**  
Managing Director

**Barbara J. Kossow**  
Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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March 25, 2019

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water, Land and Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Committee Members:

**RE: HCR 140/HR 129 Relating to the Construction of a Boat Ramp in the Puna District**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide supportive comments on HCR 140 and HR 129. These measures would ask the Department of Land and Natural Resources to do a feasibility and cost study as a necessary first step toward the development of a new boat ramp as a replacement for the Pohoiki Boat Ramp in lower Puna.

Prior to the extensive sand deposits laid down during the recent Kilauea eruption, the Pohoiki Boat Ramp played a critical public role in affording ocean access for commercial and recreational fishing and sightseeing boats. Today, access is completely blocked and the feasibility of dredging the sand to restore the boat ramp appears to be diminishing, as currents and waves are depositing an additional 10 yards of sand per week with projections that by the end of the year there may be no surf conditions at the site.

Commercial fishers are now forced to utilize a boat ramp in Hilo, which is approximately 33 miles, and an hour-long drive, from Pohoiki, thus increasing the time and cost for each trip and adding to the economic losses experienced. These hardworking residents are eager to have the State restore access to waters along the Puna district's prolific and valued fishing grounds.

Your support of HCR 140/ HR 129 would be sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR