

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**

**Friday, February 7, 2020
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2176
RELATING TO SAND ISLAND**

House Bill 2176 proposes to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct shoreline remediation at the Sand Island state recreation area. **The Department strongly supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request and proposes amendments.**

The Sand Island State Recreation Area (Sand Island SRA) is a 140-acre shoreline park in urban Honolulu. While it appears to be underused, partially due to the fiscal restraint associated with replacing the dysfunctional irrigation system and the cost of water to sustain landscaping and turf, there are several long term recreational activities that are conducted. In addition to simple day use, camping and shoreline fishing, there are several canoe clubs that practice here, a state of the art bicycle BMX course, the island's only remote-control car course, and both softball and baseball fields. Additionally, for several years, an area has been set aside via a Board of Land Natural Resources permit for the Honolulu Sea Water Air Conditioning project.

The Department notes that in addition to those uses, Sand Island SRA is subject to a fluctuating but pernicious homeless population, occurrences of socially unacceptable behavior and hosts one of the largest feral cat populations within a State Park unit.

There is an increasing amount of historic and manmade military and other metal debris emerging along the shoreline that is creating public safety implications, exacerbated by sea level rise and king tides.

This measure, in addition to responding and mitigating these shoreline debris issues, would also enable the department to engage in exploring innovative methods for both shoreline stabilization and resiliency to address sea level rise. Recognition of the implications of sea level rise must be factored into other park

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

improvements such as refurbishing pavilions and other public use facilities. The outcome is to improve the park experience for residents and visitors and allow for increased opportunities for interpretive and adaptive re-use management of historic features.

The Department appreciates and strongly supports the measure with these amendments.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SAND ISLAND.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds the Sand Island state
2 recreation area [has] needs enhanced management and while it is
3 utilized [been underutilized] by the public, additional
4 investment in shoreline and fast land improvements would make
5 the park unit more desirable to optimize public enjoyment.
6 Additionally, concrete and metal debris have been found along
7 the area's shoreline; the debris is a health and safety hazard
8 to the visitors who frequent the area, and until the debris is
9 addressed, it may pose[s] a threat of injury to visitors of the
10 shoreline area. Addressing the debris and other issues in
11 ~~-facing the shoreline~~ at the Sand Island state recreation area
12 will revitalize and ~~keep the area clean, which will~~ attract more
13 residents and visitors to the area. Sea level rise associated
14 with climate change will likely expose more of the historic
15 debris over time. Additional funding and planning directed to
16 Sand Island state recreation area will also allow for
17 consideration of the application of new and emerging techniques

1 and adaptive coastal technology and management for resiliency to
2 sea level rise.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require and appropriate funds
4 for the department of land and natural resources to conduct
5 shoreline remediation at the Sand Island state recreation area.

6 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources
7 shall conduct shoreline remediation and park improvements in at
8 the Sand Island state recreation area. In carrying out the
9 shoreline remediation and park improvements, the department
10 shall remove concrete, metal debris, and hazardous items ~~any~~
11 ~~garbage~~ found along the shoreline and in the park of the Sand
12 Island state recreation area.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
16 department of land and natural resources to conduct shoreline
17 remediation ~~at~~ and park improvements in the Sand Island state
18 recreation area pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
20 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

22

INTRODUCED BY: _____

Report Title:

DLNR; Shoreline Remediation; Sand Island State Recreation Area; Appropriation

Description:

Requires DLNR to conduct shoreline remediation at the Sand Island state recreation area. Appropriates funds.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

February 7, 2020

The Honorable Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair
Water, Land, & Hawaii Affairs Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 420
Honolulu, HI 96813

LATE

Dear Chair Yamane and members of the Committee:


I am in strong support of **House Bill 2176 Relating to Sand Island** which will be heard by the Water, Land, & Hawaii Affairs Committee on February 7, 2020.

“Concrete and metal debris have been found along the area’s shoreline; the debris is a health and safety hazard to the visitors who frequent the area, and until the debris is addressed, it poses a threat of injury to visitors of the area.”

The removal of this dangerous and unsightly garbage in this recreation area would ensure the safety of the area and would put to good use this state property. Moreover, it will attract more visitors to the park.

I respectfully ask that your committee pass **House Bill 2176 Relating to Sand Island**.

Sincerely,



Lorenzo Galvan

February 7, 2020

The Honorable Rep. Yamane, Chair
of the WLH Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 420
Honolulu, HI 96813

LATE

Dear Chair Yamane and members of the Committee:

I am in strong support of **House Bill 2176 Relating to Sand Island** which will be heard by the WLH Committee on February 7, 2020.

There is much concrete and metal debris around the Sand Island shoreline. The steel rods pose a health and safety hazard to visitors who may be impaled or injured from these items left by the military.

Removing the hazards and garbage from this recreation area will ensure the safety of the park and will attract more visitors to the park.

I respectfully ask that your committee pass **House Bill 2176 Relating to Sand Island**.

Sincerely,



Steven Pak
Concerned Citizen