

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 Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Friday, February 1, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 472
RELATING TO PUNA**

Senate Bill 472 proposes to make an appropriation for a feasibility and cost study relating to the construction of a new boat ramp and pier in Puna. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 1:02:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rene Siracusa	Testifying for Malama O Puna	Support	No

Comments:

The old boat ramp at Pohoiki on Hawaii Island used to support the second largest fishery in the state. The unassuming structure was a major economic driver for both the Puna District and Hawaii Island as a whole. The sooner an alternative can be built, the sooner our fishermen and their families can get their lives back in order.

It is, however possible, that the current area, changed by the May 3rd eruption, is more suited to public use as a keiki pond, as there are few enough locations in Puna (both Council 4 and 5) for such recreational activities.

A boat ramp is not a construction that requires a lot of engineering... even a series of logs perpendicular to the slope have been used successfully in the past. What is needed is to identify a suitable location. One of the places we should consider is the Honolulu Landing site, which historically did have such a ramp. There may be other locations as well. We won't know what our best choices are until a study is funded and completed. Let's get going - Puna needs to recover in so many ways, and this particular need is multi-faceted (economy and recreation). Please support this bill. Mahalo and malama pono.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Friday, February 1, 2019
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 472
Relating to Puna

LATE

Senate Bill 472 makes an appropriation for a feasibility and cost study relating to the construction of a new boat ramp and pier in Puna. **The Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) supports this measure.**

Under the Aha Moku Process, a traditional land and ocean management system restored from the translation of oral chants of the 9th century, the Puna Moku (District) on Moku O Keawe (the Island of Hawaii) has for centuries retained the traditional practices of *lawaiia*, ocean and marine fishing methods that are unique to Puna. These practices have been kept alive from ancient times to current times by the empirical knowledge of the marine resources of Puna that have been handed down generation to generation by expert Native Hawaiian fishermen of Puna. In this last century, the *lawaiia* of the ahupua'a of Puna have used the Puna boat ramp and pier to launch their boats and canoes to fish and gather for subsistence.

In 2018, destructive lava flows destroyed Puna's only boat ramp and pier causing great hardships for the traditional fishing community of the 27 ahupua'a of Puna. These ahupua'a are: *Apua, Kealakomo, Panau, Laeapuki, Kamoamoa, Poupou, Kii, Kalapana, Kaimu, Keokea, Kehena, Opihikao, Kauaea, Kaukulau, Keahialaka, Pohoiki, Puala'a, Kapoho, Kula, Puua, Kahuwai, Nanawale, Waikahekahe, Keonepoke, Mahuu, Waikahekehe, Keonepoke, Mahuu, and Keaau.*

Since the restoration of the Aha Moku Process by the Legislature in 2012, via Act 288, §171.4-5, the AMAC has successfully strived to bring the voices of the communities and 'ohana of ahupua'a districts forward to work with Hawai'i government in addressing and sustaining the natural and cultural resources of our Pae'Aina. We are attached to DLNR, and through this venue, our people have been able to collaborate with government to address critical issues that are important to the people. The construction of a new boat ramp and pier in Puna is a critical need that will benefit the Public Trust all diverse communities who are part of Puna; and the native Hawaiian communities who have never stopped using their traditional fishing practices.

On behalf of the Ahupua'a of Puna, Moku O Keawe, We humbly ask that Senate Bill 472 be passed by the Senate Committee on Water and Land.

Respectfully yours,

Rocky Kaluhiwa, Acting Chair
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
For the Ahupua'a of Puna, Moku O Keawe
Phone: 808-286-7955
Email: rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 4:03:53 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Geoffrey Wells	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The recent lava flows blocked the only boat ramp on the Puna side but created a new black sand beach and warm pond in its place. In order to preserve this new status quo, I support searching for and then implementing the construction of a new boat ramp as opposed to dredging to access the old one. Thank you

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 5:06:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong Support

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 3:47:06 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josephine Keliipio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

please provide the funding for the study to open up the Pohoiki boat ramp in Puna.

mahalo

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 10:21:55 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Selah levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Puna needs a boat ramp! It is the only district in Hawaii without a boat ramp. Also there needs to be a safe road to reach the boat ramp. If Pohoiki is chosen to be the boat ramp location a new road is needed to reach it. Kamaili Rd. is not suitable to handle the current traffic. Boater traffic will make a bad situation worse.

SB-472

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:23:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
carolan cash	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm an 18 year resident of Lelani Estates. I lost my home there from the 2018 Kiluaea Lava flow. Many friends an neighbors lost too much also. Our Puna community has been super supportive of each other. Many fishermen friends have lost their liveyhoods. Its just too far to trailer a boat from Puna to Hilo boat harbor. Too expensive as sale of fish doesn't cover the costs to tarvel their boats back and forth. We need to support our local Puna fishermen and women. We all love fresh fish but we need to support local catch. Please vote YES in Favor of bill SB472. Mahalo and Aloha.

SB-472

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 6:20:29 AM

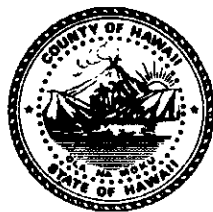
Testimony for WTL on 2/1/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Dierking	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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February 1, 2019

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

LATE

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

RE: SB 472, RELATING TO PUNA (Boat ramp)

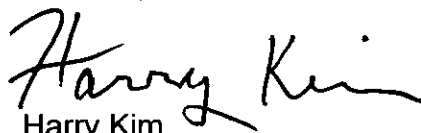
Thank you for this opportunity to provide supportive comments on SB 472. This bill would provide funding to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a feasibility and cost study as a necessary first step toward the development of a new boat ramp as a replacement for the Pohoiki Boat Ramp 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.

The Committee on Water and Land's support of SB472 would be sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,


Harry Kim
MAYOR