H.C.R. NO. 89

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TERM, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT COVERING PORTIONS OF STATE SUBMERGED LANDS AT WAILEA, MAUI, TAX MAP KEY: (2)2-1-008 FOR BEACH ACCESS STAIRWAY PURPOSES.

1 WHEREAS, the Association of Apartment Owners of Wailea Elua 2 has requested a non-exclusive easement for a portion of a 3 stairway located on unencumbered state lands fronting property 4 located at 3600 Wailea Alanui Drive, Kihei, Maui, Hawaii to 5 resolve a shoreline encroachment that consists of a beach access 6 stairway fronting the Wailua Elua Village that descends from the 7 Wailea Costal Walk to Ulua Beach; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Association of Apartment Owners of Wailea Elua 10 seeks to obtain an easement for the stairway to provide 11 additional access throughout the entire Wailea Resort area to 12 the central part of Ulua Beach from the Wailea Coastal Walk for 13 members of the public and Wailea Resort guests who utilize Ulua 14 Beach for recreational and marine activities; and

16 WHEREAS, the subject encroachment connects the Wailea 17 Coastal Walk to the middle section of Ulua Beach, a sandy pocket 18 beach fronting the Wailea Elua Village Resorts. North of Ulua 19 Beach Park sits the parking lot, restroom area, Mokapu Beach 20 Park, and another pocket beach, and south of Ulua Beach Park is 21 a rocky shoreline fronting more resorts; and 22

WHEREAS, Shoreline Erosion Rate Maps developed by the University of Hawaii's Coastal Geology Group show that Ulua Beach, as well as the majority of the entire Wailea-Makena coastline, has experienced consistent erosion over the last century, decreasing the width of Ulua Beach Park by roughly thirty-five percent; and

30 WHEREAS, the total area of the stairway structure
31 originally built in the 1970s is one hundred twenty square feet,
32 with twenty-two square feet of the structure encroaching into



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1 the shoreline, and serves as one of four access points to Ulua 2 Beach from the resort areas and the Coastal Walk; and 3 4 WHEREAS, on September 30, 2009, the County of Maui issued a 5 building permit to the Association of Apartment Owners of Wailea 6 Elua for the reconstruction of a stairway to the beach from the 7 public accessway fronting the building's complex as the County 8 assumed the stairway was mauka of the shoreline based on a 9 certified shoreline survey done in 1983 and a subsequent shoreline survey in 2006 that was not certified; and 10 11 12 WHEREAS, on July 26, 2019, the Office of Conservation and 13 Coastal Lands concluded that removal of the encroaching stairway 14 would have minimal effects on the shoreline and beach 15 environment, there are no negative impacts on the beach 16 environment from the stairway, and that removal of the encroachment would not improve lateral access or interfere with 17 18 natural coastal processes; and 19 WHEREAS, the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands also 20 21 found that issuance of a term, non-exclusive easement in a developed area for an existing stairway would involve a 22 23 negligible change in use of the subject area beyond previously existing uses, the area is a portion of shoreline state lands 24 25 that is accessible to the public for the purposes of beach and offshore recreational activities, and there would be no 26 27 significant impact to sensitive environmental or ecological receptors; and 28 29 30 WHEREAS, in accordance with section 11-2001.1-15, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and the exemption list of the Department 31 32 of Land and Natural Resources reviewed and concurred on by the 33 Environmental Council on November 10, 2020, the request for an easement is exempt from the preparation of an environmental 34 35 assessment; and 36 37 WHEREAS, on January 22, 2021, under agenda item D-5 and 38 upon Department of Land and Natural Resources' staff 39 recommendations that the issuance of a twenty-five year term, non-exclusive easement to the Association of Apartment Owners of 40 41 Wailea Elua covering the subject beach access stairway purposes would have minimal or no significant effect on the environment 42

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and is presumed to be exempt from the preparation of an
 environmental assessment, the Board of Land and Natural
 Resources voted to authorize the issuance of the easement; and

5 WHEREAS, section 171-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires 6 the prior approval of the Legislature by concurrent resolution 7 to lease state submerged lands; now, therefore, 8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 10 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the Senate concurring, that pursuant to section 171-53, 11 12 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources is hereby authorized to issue a term, non-exclusive easement 13 covering portions of state submerged lands fronting the property 14 15 identified as Tax Map Key: (2) 2-1-008: seaward of 069, Wailea, Maui, for beach access stairway purposes; and 16 17

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY:

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