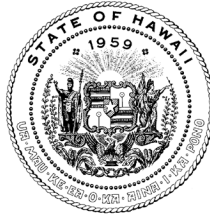
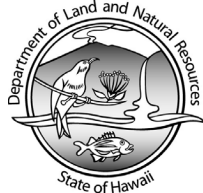


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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

Monday, February 28, 2022
12:30 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 308, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2413, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO STATE PARKS

House Bill 2413, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a feasibility study on a revenue generating and management system of user fees for Hawaii's state parks and to submit a report to the Legislature. **The Department supports the intent of this measure but does not support passage, as this work is well underway and requires a variety of actions that are in play to achieve what the bill directs the Department to do.**

Chapter 13-146, Hawaii Administrative Rules has established and increased fees in 2020 for residents and visitors for camping and lodging with price differential in place for visitors and in state residents. (see attached)

Parking and entry fees are enabled at all State Park managed areas, with additional flexibility provided in the last Legislative Session via Act 194. Hawaii residents are exempt from all parking and entry fees.

Currently there are 10 park units out of 50 collecting and generating income from parking and entrance fees: Kokee, Waimea Canyon and Haena State Parks on Kauai; Diamond Head State Monument and Nuuanu Pali State Wayside on Oahu; Makena and Waianapanapa State Parks and Iao Valley State Monument on Maui; and Hapuna State Recreation Area and Akaka Falls State Park on Hawaii.

These are highly patronized park units and have been examined as feasible for fee collection due to the high percentage of out of state patronage. Thus, creating the income stream

significant enough to partner with private sector parking companies to install and manage machines and place staff on site to ensure payment and manage parking and entry. Three of the monetized park units have been identified as being eligible to improve the quality of experience and reduce impacts to resources and community with advanced reservations systems: Haena State Park, Waianapanapa State Park, and under development, Diamond Head State Monument which will have a digital system that may be applicable to other park units.

Examples of other park units eligible that have been examined and evaluated for either advanced reservation or online payment that are currently monetized include Iao Valley State Monument and Akaka Falls State Park. Examples of currently non monetized (no parking concession in place) park units that may be subject to parking and entrance fees, advanced reservation or online payment are Wailuku River State Park, Kekaha Kai State Park and Puu Ualakaa State Wayside. (Please refer to the attached Park Unit Management Key)

It is critically important to evaluate the economy of scale of each park unit for fee collection, the cost or revenue collection, and threshold of patronage to make it cost effective. Simply automating pay with smart phone applications and reservations - absent either parking staff, additional State Park staff or law enforcement ensuring payment or citing for non-payment as a means to ensure payment will not be effective. Staff have witnessed non-payment at an alarming rate at monetized park units where the attendant has been temporarily off site and there is no law enforcement presence.

A current priority to enable this process is in progress, the Board of Land and Natural Resources in November of 2021 authorized State Parks to solicit for 7 revised parking and entry concessions for fee collection and visitor management to establish new contracts and lock in management for a sustained period. The current permits reflect a fiscal relationship crafted due to pandemic impacts, and new contracts for these are essential. The 3 others will follow when fee collection permits near expiration. This process, in itself, is time consuming when coupled with other lease management, fee recording and depositing, and placing other properties out to bid (such as the Kokee recreational cabins), new concessions (new solicitation of mobile food trucks in parks) and trying to establish new paradigm with reservations systems. The additional analysis as mandated in this measure is unnecessary and will interfere with the limited capacity of current staff to manage all the current property management requirements related to generating special fund income.

The revenue stream has been increased to record levels, hence the Department's request to have the State Park special fund ceiling raised to 12 million dollars.

State Parks will keep the Legislature apprised as we continue to increase the capacity to both collect revenue and better manage patronage through automated methods.

The Department requests that the measure be held in committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**Division of State Parks
PARK UNIT CATEGORY MANAGEMENT KEY**

Park Unit	current fee generating status	comments
Hawaii District		
'Akaka Falls State Park	parking and entry fees in place	eligible for reservation system
Hāpuna Beach State Recreation Area	lodging reservation system and parking and entry fees in place	
Hulihe'e Palace State Monument		Lease to Daughters of Hawaii
Kalōpa State Recreation Area	camping and lodging reservation system in place	
Kealakekua Bay State Historical Park		eligible for parking and entrance fees Parking lot and vendor needed
Kekaha Kai State Park - Mahai'ula and Manini'owali Sections		eligible for parking and entrance fees
Kīholo State Park Reserve	camping reservation system in place	
Kohala Historic Sites State Monument		low use
Lapakahi State Historical Park		low use
Lava Tree State Monument		low use
Mackenzie State Rec Area		low use
Manuka State Wayside		low use
Wailoa River State Recreation Area		low visitor impact, porous boundary
Wailuku River State Park (Rainbow Falls)		eligible for parking and entry fee

Division of State Parks
PARK UNIT CATEGORY MANAGEMENT KEY

Kauai District		
Ahukini State Rec Pier		no visitor impact
Hā'ena State Park	parking, access and reservation system fee collection in place	managed by non profit
Kōke'e State Park	parking and access fee in place	
Nā Pali Coast State Wilderness Park	camping reservation system fee in place	permit must be purchased to hike past Hanakapiai
Polihale State Park	camping reservation fee in place	low visitor use
Russian Fort Elizabeth SHP (Pā'ula'ula)		no visitor impact
Wailua River State Park		Eligible for parking and entrance fees
Waimea Canyon State Park	parking and access fee in place	No community impact from tourism
Waimea State Recreation Pier		low use
Maui District		
Haleki'i-Pihana Heiau State Monument		no visitor impact
Hana Road Wayside - Kaumahina SW		Heavy use - short stay
Hana Road Wayside - Pua'a Ka'a SW		Heavy use - short stay
Hana Road Wayside - Wailua Valley SW		No visitor impact
'Iao Valley State Monument	parking and access fee collection in place	eligible for reservation system
Kanekauila Heiau		no visitor impact

Division of State Parks
PARK UNIT CATEGORY MANAGEMENT KEY

Mākena State Park	parking and access fee in place	heavy visitor use
Poli Poli Springs State Recreation Area	lodging reservation system in place	low use
Wai'ānapanapa State Park	camping, lodging, access and parking fee and reservations system in place	high use
Molokai		
Pālā'au State Park (Leased from DHHL)	camping reservation fee in place	low use
Oahu District		
Ahupua'a 'O Kahana State Park	camping fee reservation system in place	
'Aiea Bay State Recreation Area		low use - vandalized frequently
Diamond Head State Monument	parking and entry fees in place	reservation system under development
He'eia State Park	revenue generator from events, building and kayak rentals	leased by Kama'aina Kids
'Iolani Palace State Monument	Reservation for tours in place	gratis lease with Friends of Iolani Palace
Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline	under consideration for parking and access fee collection	
Ka'ena Point State Park: Mākua, Keawa'ula and Mokulē'ia Sections)		gratis on line vehicle access permit for residents
Kapena Falls State Park		unmanaged park unit - access issues
Keaīwa Heiau State Recreation Area	camping reservation system in place	low visitor use
Ke'ehi Lagoon War Memorial Park	Lessee has reservation system, revenue generator from events and building rentals	leased by Ke'ehi Lagoon Memorial Association (KMO)
Kokua Kalihi Valley State Park		leased by Kokua Kalihi Valley

Division of State Parks
PARK UNIT CATEGORY MANAGEMENT KEY

Lā'ie Point State Wayside		State Parks only owns a % of the land
Makiki Tantalus State Rec Area		gratis lease to Hawaii Nature Center and Halau Ku Mana Charter School
Mālaekahana SRA - Kalanai	camping reservation system in place	
Mālaekahana SRA - Kahuku (leased by Mālaekahana Beach Campground)	camping reservation system in place	
Nu'uanu Pali State Wayside	parking fee in place	
Pupukea-Paumalu State Park Reserve		unmanaged park unit
Pu'u O Mahuka Heiau State Historic Site		low use
Pu'u 'Ualaka'a State Wayside		eligible for parking and entry fee
Queen Emma Summer Palace		Daughters of Hawaii lease
Royal Mausoleum State Monument-Mauna Ala		low use
Sacred Falls State Park		CLOSED
Sand Island State Rec Area	camping reservation system in place	no visitor impact
Ulupō Heiau State Historic Park		limited parking
Wa'ahila Ridge State Rec Area		Eligible for parking and entrance fees
Wahiawa Freshwater State Rec Area		no visitor impact
Waimano Valley SP Reserve		unused and unmanaged.

Exhibit 2. Hawaii State Park System Camping and Cabin Rental Fee Schedule. (February 4, 2020)

	Resident Fee	Nonresident Fee
Camping Fees:		
State Park Camping Fees (except Na Pali Coast SWP)	\$20.00 night/campsite	\$30.00 night/campsite
Na Pali Coast State Wilderness Park Camping Fees	\$25.00 per person/night	\$35.00 per person/night
Cabin Rental Fees:		
Hapuna Beach SRA	\$40.00 per night/A-Frame	\$70.00 per night/ A-Frame
Kalopa SRA, Polipoli Springs SRA, Wai'anapanapa State Park	\$70.00 per night/cabin	\$100.00 per night/cabin
Camping or Cabin Rental Change Fee	\$3.00	\$3.00
Cancellation Fee	\$5.00	\$5.00
Day Use Pavilion Rental Fees:		
Large pavilions (Capacity of 150 or more persons)		\$250.00 flat day use fee
Medium pavilions (Capacity of 61-150 persons)		\$15.00/hour
Small pavilions (Capacity of 60 or fewer persons)		\$10.00/hour

Exhibit 3. Hawaii Park System Entrance and Parking Fee Schedule. (February 4, 2020)

Entrance Fees	
State Parks	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$5.00 per person
State Monuments	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$5.00 per person
State Recreational Areas	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$5.00 per person
State Historic Parks	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$5.00 per person
State Wilderness Parks	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$5.00 per person
State Scenic Shorelines	No charge
State Recreational Piers	No charge
State Wayside Parks	No charge

Exhibit 3 (cont'd).

Parking Fees	
State Parks	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$10.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$25.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$90.00
State Monuments	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$10.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$25.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$90.00

Exhibit 3 (cont'd).

Parking Fees (cont'd)	
State Recreational Areas	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$10.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$25.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$90.00
State Historic Parks	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$10.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$25.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$90.00

Exhibit 3 (cont'd).

Parking Fees (cont'd)	
State Wilderness Parks	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$10.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$25.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$90.00
State Scenic Shorelines	
Per noncommercial vehicle	No charge
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$15.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$30.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$50.00

Exhibit 3 (cont'd).

Parking Fees (cont'd)	
State Recreational Piers	
Per noncommercial vehicle	No charge
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$15.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$30.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
State Wayside Parks	
Per noncommercial vehicle	Residents: No charge Nonresidents: \$7.00 per vehicle
Per commercial PUC vehicle	
1 to 7 passengers per vehicle	\$15.00
8 to 25 passengers per vehicle	\$30.00
26+ passengers per vehicle	\$50.00
All State Park Facilities	Overnight Parking Fee
Noncommercial vehicle	\$20.00
Commercial vehicle	Prohibited

HB-2413-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 1:55:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2022 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Carpenter	DLNR	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I am available for answers to DLNR. Please allow me Zoom access.

HB-2413-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2022 8:34:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2022 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Julia M. Yano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you to support HB2413. The research/analysis information is worth the investment, as non-resident park fees could potentially be a win/win program.

HB-2413-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 3:39:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2022 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair and Members of the House Committee on Finance

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HB2413 HD1 RELATING TO STATE PARKS.**

Hearing: Monday, February 28, 2022, 12:30 p.m., CR 308 and by videoconference

Aloha Chair Luke and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition is a group focused on protecting corals and other ocean species. Charging visitors who are not Hawaii taxpayers some of the costs to maintain natural resources will benefit corals and other ocean species.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition **SUPPORTS the intent** of HB2413 HD1, **but COMMENTS** that we need action now, and so we prefer an approach like that in Senate bill SB3192 SD1.

Please pass a bill that establishes a program to charge visitors impact fees, not just to have DLNR study feasibility.

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)