

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  
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Friday, March 4, 2022  
10:10 AM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 211, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2799, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO THE KAIWI COAST**

Senate Bill 2799, Senate Draft 1 proposes to transfer lands to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) and establish that land and adjacent state-owned lands as the Kaiwi Coast State Park and appropriate funds. **The Department is in support of the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

There is considerable public interest to further protect natural, undeveloped lands in East Oahu, as is evidenced by the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution 190, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 2 last Session. This is in response to public interest and was crafted to develop a plan to consider the following issues: consolidate management of the Maunalua-Makapuu Scenic Byway and Kaiwi coast area, address unauthorized vehicular access in the Maunalua-Makapuu Scenic Byway and Kaiwi coast area, provide for safe and protected pedestrian and bicycle access across the length of the Maunalua-Makapuu Scenic Byway from Waimanalo to Hawaii Kai, provide for proper signage, narratives, and education about the Maunalua-Makapuu Scenic Byway and Kaiwi coast area and its history, and to take appropriate steps to preserve and protect the Maunalua-Makapuu Scenic Byway and Kaiwi coast area in its wild and natural state, and to provide or limit access and manage visitors as may be necessary.

Yet to be determined by the working group is defining the project area. Participants being assembled are government agencies, elected officials, landowners and leaseholders and community and stakeholders. Senate Bill 2799, Senate Draft 1 furthers this intent, and the Department feels that further discussion with the Kaiwi Coast Working Group is warranted. The Department needs to clearly examine the TMK's that are called out in this measure and

**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

determine if they are appropriate for designation as part of the State Park system in consultation with the stakeholders of the Kaiwi Coast Working Group.

The Department appreciates the understanding and support that if new land is added to the State Park System, that additional positions and funds must be included to ensure adequate management capability. The Department supports future discussions as it relates to and evaluates the TMK's being proposed as additions to what is now established as the Kawai State Scenic Shoreline.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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

Testimony of  
Hawaii State Aha Moku

Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, March 4, 2022  
10:10 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

**IN SUPPORT OF  
SENATE BILL 2799 SD 1  
Relating to the Kaiwi Coast**

Senate Bill 2799 SD 1 authorizes the transfer of lands to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and establishment of that land and adjacent state-owned lands as the Kaiwi Coast State Park. It establishes positions within the Department of Land and Natural Resources for management of the Kaiwi Coast State Park and appropriates funds.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) supports this measure.

The Kaiwi Coast is an invaluable natural and cultural asset for the people of Hawaii, and particularly for the generational native Hawaiian people who are part of the Maunaloa and Waimanalo ahupua'a and who continue to practice their Lawai skills along this coastline.

We are grateful for the care and attention that DLNR has taken with the other state parks on Kakuhihewa (O'ahu) – Leahi (Diamond Head State Monument, He'eia State Park, Iolani Palace, Ka'ena State Park, Royal Mausoleum State Monument, Ke'ehi Lagoon Memorial State Park, and the numerous recreation areas and wayside areas within O'ahu. We believe that if this measure is adopted that DLNR will protect and sustain this last piece of the Ko'olaupoko Moku as it has taken care of the Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline which includes the Makapu'u Point Lighthouse Trail, a small part of the Kaiwi Coastline that the public uses and enjoys.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 3103 and we ask that you adopt this measure.

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho'okumu  
Hawaii State Aha Moku  
808-382-6043  
[kahalelehua@outlook.com](mailto:kahalelehua@outlook.com)

Rocky Kaluhiwa, Kahu Nui O Ko'olaupoko  
Hawaii State Aha Moku  
808-286-7955  
[rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com](mailto:rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com)

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director  
Hawaii State Aha Moku  
808-640-1214  
[Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov](mailto:Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov)



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

March 4, 2022      10:10 AM      Conference Room 211

**In SUPPORT of SB2799 SD1:** Relating to the Kaiwi Coast

---

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports SB2799 SD1**, which will help to facilitate the management and stewardship of O'ahu's long-cherished Kaiwi Coast.

Volunteers and members of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i have endeavored for decades to protect the natural and cultural integrity of the Kaiwi Coastline, helping to control invasive species, protect native species habitat, and maintain trails that allow residents and visitors to enjoy this area safely and with minimal impacts. Most recently, Sierra Club volunteers have successfully advocated for the installation of boulders and a designated parking area to prevent vehicular degradation of the sand dunes and adjacent coastal areas of Wāwāmalu.

By consolidating ownership and land use authority under the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and by providing resources needed to steward this special place, SB2799 SD1 will help to ensure that the ecological and cultural character of our Kaiwi Coast remains intact for current and future generations to steward, appreciate, and enjoy.

The Sierra Club does note that this measure does not contemplate the sale or gift of lands from the state to non-state agencies, and that HRS § 171-64.7 would therefore not be triggered by its provisions. See HRS §171-64.7(a), (f)(1). Accordingly, to avoid unnecessary confusion, the Sierra Club does recommend that the exemption to the requirements of HRS § 171-64.7 on page 3, lines 10-12 be deleted.

Accordingly, we respectfully urge the Committee to **PASS** SB2799 SD1.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony.

## **Testimony before Senate Committee on Water and Land**

### **Regarding SB2977 Relating to the Kaiwi Coast Monday, February 7, 2022**

#### **Submitted by William Reese Liggett**

I strongly support SB2799. Here is my rationale:

This Bill would transfer the Wāwāmalu Beach section of the city's Sandy Beach Park to the state and establish The Kaiwi Coast State Park. The city has for decades allowed rampant vehicular abuse of this City recreational parkland and habitat for native animals and plants in spite of its city park designation. Although the city finally came around in 2021 and responded to citizen requests that it address its responsibility toward Wāwāmalu Beach by erecting a boulder barrier, it sure wasn't timely or easy.

Further:

1. The city does not have governmental leverage with SDOT to get the guardrails necessary to seal off entry from the highway to the natural features that are dunes with native vegetation and white-sand beach. And the barrier's combination of boulders and vegetation is too vulnerable to interruption or destruction and is not a long-term solution.
2. City DPR personnel have already indicated that responsive repairs should not be expected when the barriers are interrupted by acts of vandalism because of the high expense for DPR to rent the heavy equipment necessary (excavator and/or front loader).
3. DPR, despite repeated requests, still hasn't erected standard park signage and notices at the SW access area. Such signage is basic to users' understanding that motorized entry is not allowed, and such signage is also important for the police to be able to cite when enforcing Park rules of ROH Chapter 10.

Finally, the state has deeper resources and I believe that a single agency (the state) is a better solution than two agencies (state and city) for this homogeneous stretch of coastline that reaches from Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline (Makapu'u) to the NE driveway entry to Sandy Beach Park. But it is critical that sufficient resources for management and enforcement remain a part of this Bill.

The Kaiwi Coast is a very special place—in fact it is one of only a few State Scenic Byways. And many citizens are hopeful that bringing Kaiwi Coast State Park into being will provide this undeveloped coast the utmost thoughtfulness and care by citizens and government that it deserves.