

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 21, 2023
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1254, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE KAIWI COAST

Senate Bill 1254, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to petition the Board of Land and Natural Resources to designate certain lands as the "Kaiwi Coast State Park" and appropriates funds. **The Department supports this measure.**

The Department deeply appreciates this measure's support for safe public access and sufficient stewardship of the Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline.

The amount of CIP funding needed to implement the planning, design and construction for the proposed bicycle and pedestrian pathway still needs to be determined. The Department is appreciative of the consideration of funds for the establishment, planning, and design of the park and suggests One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to enact parts of this endeavor.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
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



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair

DATE:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023
TIME:	2:00 PM
PLACE:	VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Conference Room 325

Strong Support for SB1254

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members,

Friends of Hanauma Bay **strongly supports SB1254** which would designate the Kaiwi Coast Scenic Shoreline and adjacent lands as the Kaiwi Coast State Park. It would also establish protection and directions for land management, and positions, within the Department of Land and Natural Resources for this new State Park.





*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

The lands of the Ka Iwi coast extending from Hawaii Kai to Waimanalo for almost seven miles are an invaluable natural asset for the people of Hawaii. Framed by dramatic mauka-to-makai views and natural landscapes; cultural and historic features; popular recreational areas; and landmarks such as Koko Crater, Hanauma Bay, Makapu'u Lighthouse, and the lava tube known as Halona Blowhole, Kaiwi comprises the last wild and undeveloped coastal lands in east Oahu.

Designating the Kaiwi Coast Scenic Shoreline and adjacent lands as the Kaiwi Coast State Park is a culmination of an extraordinary and unwavering decades-long commitment by the entire East Honolulu Community to protect and preserve this last undeveloped acreage in east Oahu in perpetuity.

Our children and grandchildren thank you in advance for passing SB1254!

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support for SB1254.

With Aloha,

Lisa Bishop
President
Friends of Hanauma Bay

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – 2:00pm

Hawai'i Bicycling League Supports SB 1254 SD2 HD1, relating to the Kaiwi Coast

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Committee Members,

My name is Travis Counsell, and I am the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll.

Hawai'i Bicycling League strongly supports SB1254 SD2 HD1, requires the department of land and natural resources to petition the board of land and natural resources to designate certain lands as the "Kaiwi coast state park". It also establishes protection and guidance for land management and funds two positions within the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The Kaiwi Coast Scenic Shoreline, which includes the Maunaloa-Makapu'u scenic byway, is a space that deserves additional protection. It is also a very popular destination for recreational activities including biking, walking, hiking, and beach activities. This has resulted in an increase of roadway users, on a highway which lacks adequate infrastructure to safely protect all users. This bill emphasizes the need for roadway improvements that focus on the safety of people who walk and bike.

Hawai'i Bicycling League members participate in multiple weekly group bicycle rides along this area. Additionally, HBL's signature bicycling event, the Honolulu Century Ride, attracts over 2000 participants annually and proceeds along this shoreline with an aid station at Sandy Beach Park.

We strongly urge you to pass this legislation to protect this important shoreline and ultimately create a safer space for all to enjoy. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Ride Aloha,

Travis L. Counsell
Executive Director
Hawai'i Bicycling League

Ka Iwi Coalition

Mauka to Makai



Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. David Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Vice Chair

Committee Hearing

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Conference Room 325, Hawai'i State Capitol & Videoconference
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Testimony In Support of SB 1254 - Relating to the Kaiwi Coast

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

As advisors of the Ka Iwi Coalition, we are writing in support of SB 1254, which will keep the Kaiwi Coastline in its wild and natural state for future generations.

Our community has spent over 45 years across multiple generations to protect the Kaiwi Coastline mauka to makai. The Ka Iwi Coalition is part of the same group of community members who led the successful Save Sandy Beach Movement in the 1980s and fought to preserve the entire Maunaloa-Makapu'u corridor over the past 40 years. In 2017, the Ka Iwi Coalition received a Legacy Conservation Program grant to acquire 182 acres of land overlooking Makapu'u to Sandy Beach. We successfully led the successful grassroots fundraising campaign that garnered over 1,600 donors and nearly \$700,000 in three months to secure the conservation purchase. This history of community activism demonstrates strong public support for the continued stewardship of the Kaiwi Coastline.

SB 1254 will address the challenges that the Department of Land & Natural Resources and community partners currently face in stewarding the Kaiwi Coastline. The bill will have the state park incorporate lands currently part of the Kaiwi state scenic shoreline and ensure consistency that all parcels across the Kaiwi Coastline receive the protections of a state park. SB 1254 will also appropriate adequate staffing to maintain the Kaiwi Coast state park.

Finally, SB 1254 dictates that future master planning of the Kaiwi Coast state park builds upon the vision of community partners and stakeholders who have fought for over 45 years to protect the coastline. As noted in the bill, we hope that the Department of Land & Natural Resources incorporates the Maunaloa-Makapu'u scenic byway plan, which was drafted by members of the Ka Iwi Coalition among a diverse group of stakeholders. SB 1254 will foster future collaboration between the State of Hawai'i and community partners to steward the Kaiwi Coast state park.

SB 1254 recognizes the many years of community activism spent to protect the Kaiwi Coastline from urban development, including hotel resorts, golf courses, and cabins. We urge you to pass SB 1254.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1254.

Phil Estermann
Advisor

Gary Gill
Advisor

Kendrick S. Chang
Community Outreach



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www.hawaiiikaihui.org
www.kaiwicoast.org

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Livable Hawaii Kai Hui
Aloha Aina O Kamilo Nui
Ka Iwi Coast

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community organization serving East Honolulu since 2004. We strive to promote sensible growth, respect for cultural & natural resources, and upholding the integrity of the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan.

March 21, 2023

Hawai'i State House of Representatives
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Meeting on March 21, 2023 at 2 p.m.
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

RE: **Strong support and comments for SB1254 SD2 HD1, Kaiwi Coast State Park**

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Takayama, and JHA Committee Members,

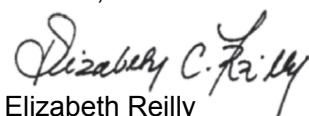
As an organizing member of the Ka Iwi Coalition and contributor to the Maunaloa-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan, Livable Hawaii Kai Hui testifies in **strong support** of SB1254.

LHKH proudly stewards the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands with the support of communities and individuals not only from East Honolulu, but across O'ahu and beyond. As such, we take particular interest in SB1254 and are eager to support what we hope is the final push to create the Kaiwi Coast State Park.

The Hui is excited to see the State taking up this initiative that aims to protect and preserve the cultural and natural resources of Kaiwi Coast in perpetuity, especially because it respectfully seeks to engage community members and stakeholders in the planning process. That said, while we are encouraged by such mindfulness, we hope this inclusivity and a commitment of adequate resources extend throughout the park's lifetime. Also, we hope that the effective date is brought up to at least 2024.

We'd like to send a big mahalo to this Committee for hearing this measure and considering the decades of grassroots stewardship that brought us all to this momentous point. Special thanks to Senator Chris Lee, Senator Stanley Chang, Representative Gene Ward, Representative Mark Hashem, and all their teams for working with us on this effort for years. We look forward to the passage of SB1254 and our continued collaboration.

Mahalo,


Elizabeth Reilly
Founder/President


Dylan Ramos
Communications & Operations

SB-1254-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 3:00:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **strongly** support this Bill.

SB-1254-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2023 3:19:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Abe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the intent to preserve the undeveloped open space along the Ka Iwi scenic coast. I would like to raise the following concerns and points of emphasis in any preservation action:

- A part of the plan should require beautification of the byway by removing excessive road signs. the sheer amount of No Parking, Towing Zone and No Vending signs that are meters away from each other ruin the view plane as you drive. The traffic signs are horribly unwelcoming and unattractive. I encourage policymakers to drive through and imagine all those signs weren't in the way and how much more natural and beautiful the byway would look without them. The amount of No Vending signs around Sandy Beach and Irmas surfspot is an eyesore. If people park or vend where they shouldn't just enforce the law with the numerous cops that patrol the area all day.
- Any sort of mandate or presumption that a bicycle right of way path along the narrow two lane highway is necessary should be discouraged. Imagine one slow biker taking their "right of way" along the miles of road causing chaos, traffic, anger and poor experience for the majority of everyone else trying to enjoy the byway. It's a byway, not a bike way, and as much as we should encourage biking, there are instances where it causes more harm than good.
- Statutory protection of the Ka Iwi coast is preferable over HB1254 amendments that put in a BLNR approval process.
- the "undeveloped" nature of the coast should be preserved. That means no more parking lots (like the relatively newly Makapuu lookout and hiking trail parking lots) should be built along the coast. The informal parking and driving locals do on the beach is what it is and does not need further over-regulation or development. More development encouraging more visitors would kill the goose that lays the golden egg, it will ruin the character of the coast.