

ACT 235

S.B. NO. 1254

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Kaiwi Coast.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the lands of the Kaiwi coast are an invaluable natural asset for the people of Hawaii. Numerous community members and organizations have fought long and hard over many decades to protect and preserve this unspoiled area for future generations.

The legislature further finds that a growing interest in this area of Oahu has brought a rapid increase in visitors to the Kaiwi coast. Dangerous conflict between vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists along the highway is increasing the risk of injury and death on a regular basis.

Collaboration between community organizations and government agencies is necessary to address myriad issues, such as ensuring safety, managing human impacts, preventing invasive species, and restoring the local ecosystem.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to protect and preserve the lands of the Kaiwi coast in perpetuity by requiring certain lands to be petitioned to be designated as the Kaiwi coast state park so the area can be properly protected and managed for the benefit of residents and future generations.

SECTION 2. (a) The department of land and natural resources shall petition the board of land and natural resources to designate the following tax map key numbers as a state park under the name “Kaiwi coast state park”:

(1) (1)3-9-11:002; and

(2) (1)3-9-11:007.

(b) The department of land and natural resources shall administer the lands in subsection (a) that have been designated by the board of land and natural resources as a state park.

(c) This Act shall be exempt from the requirements of section 171-64.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the boundary amendment requirements of chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

(d) All conditions and obligations related to federal funds previously expended on lands in subsection (a) shall be observed unless otherwise authorized by the federal government.

SECTION 3. (a) All land within or added to the Kaiwi coast state park shall be considered for designation as conservation land.

(b) Land in the Kaiwi coast state park shall be preserved in perpetuity primarily in its wild and natural state.

(c) Any land added to the Kaiwi coast state park after the effective date of this Act shall be subject to this section.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved July 6, 2023.)