



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Monday, February 25, 2019
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 1287, SD1
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) appreciates the intent and offers comments on SB1287, SD1, which adds a section in Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes that provides for objectives and policies and implementation guidelines for planning for the lei of green in the state of Hawaii.

The proposed amendment aligns with OP's overall sustainability and green infrastructure goals and appreciates the opportunity to comprehensively identify green infrastructure opportunities. This amendment would enhance Section 12 of Chapter 226, however, OP feels that the proposed report should encompass the entire state rather than the select area from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower.

Lastly, due to limited personnel and project funding resources of the OP, we feel that this measure should include an appropriation of \$250,000 to secure a temporary planner position who will then be tasked to conduct the report, provided that it does not adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

O'AHU ISLAND PARKS CONSERVANCY

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, February 13, 2019, Hearing
Senate Conference Room 229
1:20 PM

In Strong Support of Senate Bill 1287, SD1 **Relating to State Planning**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 1287 is an important policy enactment to ensure the protection, preservation and connection of Honolulu's renowned shoreline parks from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower in the greater public interest and as a legacy to benefit of present and future generations.

SB 1287 is consistent with HRS 226-104 that sets forth State Planning Priority Guidelines for the protection and enhancement of Hawaii's shorelines, open spaces, and scenic resources; and defines Hawaii's scenic and recreational shoreline resources, open space and natural areas, historic and cultural sites, and scenic resources as critical environmental areas to identify.

The purpose of enacting this policy under the State Planning statute is to benefit the Physical Environment of scenic, natural beauty and historic resources as addressed under HRS Chapter 226, Section 12, toward achievement of this objective:

- preservation and restoration of significant natural and historic resources
- maintaining and enhancing historic, cultural, and scenic amenities
- preserving views and vistas to enhance the visual and aesthetic enjoyment of mountains, ocean, scenic landscapes, and other natural features
- protecting those special areas, structures, and elements that are an integral and functional part of Hawaii's ethnic and cultural heritage
- encouraging the design of developments and activities that complement the natural beauty of the islands

Clearly this measure embodies all of the above to maintain and improve the quality of life and physical environment for both individuals and communities, with the linkage of Honolulu's existing shoreline resources that include our existing historic parks, recreational open green spaces, and scenic greenways.

This policy was first recommended by renowned national planner Lewis Mumford to benefit the Territory of Hawaii, as a plan to link Honolulu's green parks, open space, recreation areas and greenways as a lei of green mauka to makai along the shoreline, interconnected with tree-lined pedestrian paths for shade and climate protection.

The Lei of Green has been further emphasized by the Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1999, as well as incorporated as a Guiding Principle in the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan by the Hawaii Community Development Authority in 2011.

The objective of the enacted Lei of Green policy is to officially recognize and complete the established Lei of Green comprised of historic parks and green open spaces with connecting pedestrian greenways from the Diamond Head State Monument to Aloha Tower.

To accomplish this objective, there is a need for coordination among related State and City agencies in guiding this policy to ensure the intended and continued protection and preservation of the Lei of Green comprised of Honolulu's historic parks and green recreational open spaces from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower as an interconnected system. Thus it has been found that the State Office of Planning is best suited to oversee the Lei of Green Policy for Honolulu's network of green parks and open spaces to continue to benefit the people of Hawaii for present and future generations.

With enactment of the Lei of Green policy with State Office of Planning oversight, the various city and state agencies will be in a better position to complete greenway connections between the established Parks and green open space elements within the Lei of Green. Additionally, SB 1287 is consistent with several other Bills now moving through the Legislature relating to Hawai'i's fragile environment in view of sustainability goals and policies, green urban planning and climate change.

Further, SB 1287 serves as a precedent model to benefit Hawai'i's public shorelines elsewhere around O'ahu and throughout the State. With this precedent model completed and functioning as intended, expansion of the Lei of Green policy island-wide and state-wide can then be achieved.

We applaud the State Senate's consideration of this important measure, and all Senators and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee who participated in the introduction of this Bill.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michelle Spalding Matson
President, O'ahu Island Parks Conservancy



Testimony before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Monday, February 25, 2019 10:30 A.M.
Conference Room 211

RE: SB1287 SD1 RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means:

Trees for Honolulu's Future is a non-profit organization with a vision for a tree-filled island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change.

We support SB1287 SD1. The bill include objectives and policies and implementation guidelines for planning for the lei of green in the Hawaii state plan. An integral part of such a lei of green are trees. Benefits of trees include those associated with improved: 1) Human Health; 2) Water Quality and Management; 3) Public Well-Being and Safety; 4) City Planning; 5) Economic Development; 6) Air Temperatures; 7) Air Quality and Energy Use; and 8) Transportation.

Codifying initiatives such as the lei of green and then importantly, acting/implementing them as part of a comprehensive change effort, will further the livability and vitality of our island home.

Mahalo,

Tom Dinell
President, Board of Directors
Trees for Honolulu's Future

SB-1287-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 2:47:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Foster	Testifying for Hawaii Advocates For Consumer Rights	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this forward thinking bill.

Mahalo.

Scott Foster

Communications Director

Hawaii Advocates For Consumer Rights

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Helping to keep Hawai'i
clean, green, and beautiful
since 1912



RE: Testimony in Strong Support of SB 1287 Relating to State Planning

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

The Outdoor Circle and its many branches have over a century of advocacy for the promotion, protection and planting of green spaces. All of the trees, green spaces, parks and protected scenic and natural beauty our state has are because someone on the past took action to ensure that our quality of life and our resources are well-managed for the good of the public.

For the many good reasons listed in this bill, including protection and expansion of greenways and shoreline promenades, restoration, protection and preservation of intrinsic elements of the lei of green, promotion of the lei of green for immediate and future generations, and the enhancement of views and scenic landscapes provided for in this bill, The Outdoor Circle strongly supports this bill.

Ideally, we would like to see this include the entire south shore of Oahu and the entire State of Hawaii, and would ask for your continued work towards that goal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill and our special thanks for those who participated in the introduction of this important bill.

Mahalo nui loa,

Winston Welch
Executive Director

SB-1287-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 9:28:28 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
douglas valenta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please preserve Kaka'ako Makai



O'ahu County Democrats
oahudemocrats.org



Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

LATE

RE: SB 1287 SD1, Relating to State Planning

I write in support of Senate Bill 1287, Senate Draft 1. This bill provides for objectives, policies and implementation for the lei of green in the Hawaii State Planning Act.

When looking to the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform we see that we "*need policies and investments that will keep Hawai'i's public lands public, strengthen protections for our natural and cultural resources, increase access to parks and public lands for all people, protect native species and wildlife, and harness the immense economic and social potential of our public lands and waters.*" This measure clearly fits the intent and purpose of our Platform as Democrats/.

By strengthening public lands planning between Le'ahi ("Diamond Head") to Aloha Tower, we will be serving the people. Let us protect our public lands, and our quality of life, from the encroaching threats of development and climate change. Stewarding the parks of this area with comprehensive planning takes a relatively small sum to maximally benefit society. Hundreds of thousands of people who live between the valleys of Nu'uanu and Wai'alaie Iki and those areas makai, along with a multitude of neighbors in the adjoining areas.

A government that serves the people with public lands access is a government that engenders social stability, economic vitality and personal health well-being. Such a bill is worthy of support from the people's party.

As such, I write in support of this measure.

I thank Senator Moriwaki for her efforts to improve public lands planning, and as such am pleased to offer testimony in support as based on the tenets of the Democratic Party. Please vote 'aye' on SB1297 SD1.

Respectfully,

Dylan P. Armstrong, Vice Chair

O'ahu County Committee, O'ahu County Democrats

Liaison for Ways and Means,
O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP)

LATE

SB-1287-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 9:29:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

LATE



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February 25, 2019

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

SB 1287 SD1
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members;

Hawaii's Thousand Friends (HTF), a non-profit statewide organization dedicated to ensuring that land use planning and decisions protect the environment, human health and natural and cultural resources, supports the creation of a *lei of green* along Honolulu's urban waterfront.

SB 1287 SD1 enacts the objectives and policies of the Hawai'i State Planning Act §226-11 *for the physical environment--land-based, shoreline, and marine resources (2) effective protection of Hawaii's unique and fragile environmental resources.*

The policy of this section is to (1) *Exercise an overall conservation ethic in the use of Hawaii's natural resources.*

The vision of a *lei of green* along urban Honolulu's shoreline is not new. Lewis Mumford, renowned authority on architecture and city planning and consultant to the Honolulu City and County Park Board in 1938, envisioned Honolulu's urban shoreline lined with parks, open space and recreation areas decades ago.

HTF urges the committee to pass SB 1287 SD1 that not only preserves the natural urban environment, enacts the goals, objectives and policies of the Hawai'i State Plan but finally realizes an eighty-year old vision.

LATE

SB-1287-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 4:38:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John & Rita Shockley	Testifying for FREE ACCESS COALITION	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

The Free Access Coalition supports SB 1287 that establishes a "Green Lei" along Honolulu's coastline. This is a chance to preserve the natural coastline for future generations to come. We hope it gains Legislative and Executive Department support.

This Bill needs to become law.

Mahalo for your time.

John & Rita Shockley www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com

672-6535

**Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council
Testimony In Strong Support
SB 1287**

LATE

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING
Monday, February 25, 2019, 10:30 am

Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Please accept this testimony in strong support for SB1287 to protect, preserve and improve sensitive areas along Honolulu's South Oceanfront Parks and Shorelines to be enjoyed Hawaii's residents and visitors.

My name is Wayne Takamine and I serve as the chairman and spokesman for the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC). My involvement in community planning for Kaka'ako Makai began in late 2005 when the Kaka'ako community, stakeholders, environmental groups and ocean recreational park user groups began to understand the plans for 3 condominiums of 200 feet to be built in Kaka'ako Makai. After 6 months of strong statewide public opposition, the A & B Condominium RFP was repealed and new law were created prohibiting residential development in Kaka'ako Makai and prohibiting the sale of state land in Kaka'ako.

The Legislature also created HCR 30, 2006 the required the HCDA to create a community working group to organize, plan and implement a Master Plan for Kaka'ako Makai. The Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) was created in 2008. In 2010 I was selected by the CPAC Steering Committee to become the CPAC Chair. In 2011 with the support of hundreds of community participants, the HCDA Board approved the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan.

Included in the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan is the **Vision and Guiding Principals** that was created by CPAC and adopted by the HCDA Board that has become the basis for all future planning in Kaka'ako Makai. In a survey that was conducted by CPAC in collaboration with the HCDA, Community Participants of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning process and in accordance with legislation described in HCR 30, 2006, it was revealed that the **Lei of Green and Shoreline Promenade was the most popular planning concepts**. Therefore it should be noted that, SB 1287 is legislation in the public interest and should be further refined to insure our precious Honolulu Shorelines are protected and preserved for greater community and future generations.

Mahalo,

Wayne Takamine
Chair
Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC)

Testimony in Strong Support of SB 1287 SD1

February 24, 2019

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the senate committee on Ways and Means:

On behalf of Kaka'ako Ūnited and its 150+ members who wish to ensure the quality of life for an integrated Kaka'ako community from mauka to makai, we **strongly support SB1287 SD1**, which adds the "Lei of Green" to State Plan and charges the State Office of Planning to work with relevant agencies to implement it.

Working closely with other organizations in Kaka'ako , we support the efforts of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC), which was created in 2008. In 2011 with the support of hundreds of community participants, the HCDA Board approved the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan. Included in the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan is the Vision and Guiding Principals that was created by CPAC and adopted by the HCDA Board that has become the basis for all future planning in Kaka'ako Makai.

We applaud this and several other Bills now moving through the Legislature relating to Hawai'i's fragile environment in view of sustainability goals and policies, green urban vegetation planning, and climate change. Further, SB1287 SD1 serves as a precedent model to benefit Hawai'i's public shorelines elsewhere around O'ahu and throughout the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our support



Bernard K. Nunies
President, Kaka'ako Ūnited

KŪ: Kaka'ako Ūnited

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