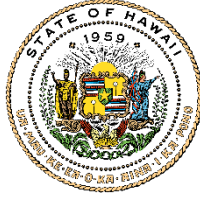


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

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

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

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

DEAN D. UYENO
ACTING 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

Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, February 12, 2024
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2057
RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION

Senate Bill 2057 proposes to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill.**

A restoration project at Kahalu'u Beach Park aligns with the following recommendations of the 2022 Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report Update (Report):

- Recommendation 4: Enable beaches to persist with sea level rise.
- Recommendation 5: Preserve Native Hawaiian culture and communities with sea level rise.
- Recommendation 9: Promote collaboration and accountability for adapting to sea level rise.

Furthermore, the proposed work is responsive to the following priority areas identified in the Report: facilitate interagency coordination for holistic adaptation planning; conserve and adapt Native Hawaiian cultural resources and sites; and address and stop the loss of shoreline access.

The Department seeks to encourage and assist beach restoration efforts throughout the state, and we find that partnerships between State and county agencies are critical in areas with overlapping jurisdictions. The Department appreciates that this effort will be guided by a non-profit that has experience in acting as stewards at Kahalu'u. We believe that this restoration project can serve as a potential template for other communities that are being affected by climate change and sea level rise, and will give the project our full support.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267
FAX: (808) 323-4786
EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740*

TESIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS COUNCIL MEMBER
HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL
ON SB 2057 RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION
Senate Committee on Water and Land
February 7, 2024

Chairperson Inouye and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to SUPPORT SB2057. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawaii County Council.

Kahalu'u Bay has historically been regarded as a sacred place to native Hawaiians, adorned with heiau, fishponds, and barrier rock walls that provided for better fishing conditions for hunter-gathers in the area. Because of its historic nature and popularity among visitors, there have been recent efforts by the County of Hawai'i, in partnership with the Kohala Center's Kahalu'u Bay Education Center, to preserve the beach park for future generations through the promotion of reef friendly practices.

Kahalu'u Bay Restoration Working Group, comprised of state and county officials and community leaders, planned for the restoration of the Kahalu'u Beach Park, the Kahalu'u Bay planning, as well as the need for a sea level rise study and coastal engineering input to help guide the planning process.

For these reasons stated above, I urge the Senate Committee on and Water and Land to oppose this measure. Should you have any questions, please contact me at, (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Villegas".

Rebecca Villegas
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor



Maurice C. Messina
Director

Michelle Malia Hiraishi
Deputy Director

County of Hawai`i

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

101 Pauahi Street, Suite 6 • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720

(808) 961-8311 • Fax (808) 961-8411

Email: parks_recreation@hawaiicounty.gov

<http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/parks-and-recreation/>

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2057

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye

Sen. Brandon J.C. Elefante

Monday, February 12, 2024, 1:00 pm
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land, the Hawai`i County Department of Parks and Recreation submits the following in SUPPORT of SB 2057.

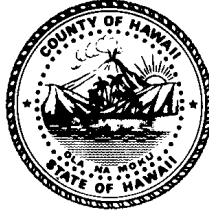
This Bill appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai`i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawaii contribution of matching funds.

The Hawai`i County Department of Parks and Recreation (hereinafter, "DPR") currently manages and has the maintenance responsibility for thirty beach parks in the County of Hawai`i (hereinafter, "COH"). Kahalu`u Beach Park is the most visited beach park in the COH, and hosts upwards of four hundred thousand visitors annually.

Due to its low-lying state, Kahalu`u Beach Park must be frequently closed during high surf events and was the only COH Beach Park on Hawai`i Island that required closure for numerous days to conduct debris clean-up from the recent Tonga tsunami. This opportunity to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahaluu Beach Park would help us work toward the restoration of a sacred place for future generations.

For the foregoing reasons, the Hawai`i County Department of Parks and Recreation SUPPORTS the passage of SB 2057. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba
Council Member, District 8, N. Kona



Office: (808) 323-4280
Email: holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 7, 2024

Committee on Water and Land
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Re: Support for SB2057 RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION.
Hearing: Monday, February 12, 2024 at 1 p.m.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol - 415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Senators,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for SB2057 relating to Beach Park Restoration at Kahalu'u Beach Park.

I am expressing my strong support for this measure that would appropriate funds for a grant to the Hawai'i County to hire an engineering firm to conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahalu'u Beach Park.

This County owns and operates the Kahalu'u Beach Park which is a heavily used park, enjoyed by the entire constituency of West Hawai'i and visitors to Hawai'i island.

We fully support the preservation and restoration efforts that this bill provides for one of the most vulnerable sections of our West Hawai'i coastline.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Holeka Goro Inaba".

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA, Council Member
District 8, North Kona

HGI.wpb



RE: SB 2057 Relating to Beach Park Restoration

Description: Appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawai'i contribution of matching funds.

Monday, February 12, 1:00 p.m., Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Position: **Strongly Support SB 2057**

To: The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair, The Honorable Brandon Elefante, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

The Kohala Center (TKC) collaborates with the County of Hawai'i to mālama Kahalu'u Beach and Bay Park, a Wahi Pana (sacred and storied place) in West Hawai'i. Kahalu' u Bay is a premier visitor destination and key Kona economic generator, a traditional community gathering place, and a coral reef spawning habitat. TKC has taken a leadership role in the care of the Bay, offering a unique visitor experience that teaches respect for natural and cultural resources through education, public outreach, and research. We believe that to make wise conservation and development investment decisions, we need current information about the forces affecting the bay's marine structure, how those forces are affecting the terrestrial landscape now, and how they are likely to do so in the future. With good data and a carefully crafted master plan, existing educational and stewardship activities can be most effective while future developments to the park facilities and regulations about park and bay use can maximize the potential for conservation and restoration

We ask your **strong support for SB 2057** to appropriate funds for the restoration of Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa,
Cynthia Punihaole Kennedy
Director
Kahalu'u Bay Projects
The Kohala Center

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 4:47:16 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MELYNDA DANT	Testifying for Fair Wind Cruises	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

Our 53-year-old company in Keauhou has experience working with the public and our fragile coral reefs. We know firsthand how critical it is that we fund the recovery and protection of our shorelines. I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Melynda Dant



To promote and support ocean conservation by raising awareness and appreciation of the marine environment and to serve as a catalyst for multidisciplinary collaboration in ocean-related sustainability efforts.

February 8, 2024
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair
Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hearing: Monday, February 12, 2024
SB2057 RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION
Position: **Strongly Support SB2057**

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing as the president of Dear Ocean and a Mission Blue Hope Spot Champion for Kahalu'u Bay.

On May 26th, 2022, the international marine conservation nonprofit [Mission Blue named Kahalu'u Bay a Hope Spot](#). It is the second designated Hope Spot in the state of Hawai'i, and a wahi pana — a sacred, celebrated, and storied place abundant with cultural and ecological treasures.

You can see the Kahalu'u Bay Hope Spot launch video with Dr. Sylvia Earle [here](#), and the Mission Blue press release for the Hope Spot designation [here](#):

Dr. Sylvia Earle, Founder of Mission Blue, says, "Kahalu'u Bay serves as a model for other smaller bays around the world and shows how they too can harness the deep relationships between people and the environment to protect these cherished places. [the] Bay has become a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for the community."

Kahalu'u Bay is now receiving international attention and will continue to gather more recognition as it matures into a Mission Blue Hope Spot model for other community stewardship programs worldwide. In fact, in June of 2022, on World Ocean Day, the "[Hope in Hawaii](#)" webinar featuring Hawai'i's two Mission Blue Hope Spots aired with over one thousand individuals across the globe having registered to participate. How we choose to care for this ecologically important bay will have a wide-ranging and long-term impact.



Kahalu‘u Bay is a treasure. The bay’s coral reef is a key spawning ground for fish and coral, and acts as a nursery for juvenile fish and invertebrates including endemic and culturally significant species. The large, shallow, protected reef of Kahalu‘u Bay is directly adjoined to a deeper offshore habitat making it an ideal location for spawning and dispersal to occur.

But, Kahalu‘u Bay has seen profound changes in the past several decades. Overuse and development have severely degraded the reef in the bay, and coral deaths continue even in the absence of large-scale bleaching events. Local stressors include overcrowding and unsustainable tourism, sunscreen pollution, sediment kick-up, coral trampling, coastal inundation, sewage, and polluted groundwater runoff, as illustrated in the brief video [Kahalu‘u Bay | Then and Now](#). These stressors combine with warming waters to create synergistic negative impacts that further inundate the coastline and harm and kill marine life.

Clearly, much work needs to be done— before the damage is irreversible.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF KAHALU‘U BAY IN RECENT YEARS







ONE EXAMPLE OF CAULIFLOWER CORAL DEATH IN KAHALU'U BAY

Rassy
2018



See the hawkfish sheltering in the coral colony named "Rassy"?



Note the beginning of coral decline.

Rassy
2019

Rassy
2022



Rassy is one of many cauliflower corals that have died in Kahalu'u Bay since 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2057 in support of the restoration of Kahalu‘u Bay Beach Park.

Kind Regards,



Christine Zalewski, PhD
President, Dear Ocean

LINKS PROVIDED IN TEXT ABOVE:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75fa9febcbd94fe08f946f59a1fb2cfe>

<https://www.dearoccean.org/kahaluu-bay-hope-spot-launch-video>

<https://mission-blue.org/2022/05/kahaluu-bay-on-hawaiis-west-coast-recognized-as-a-mission-blue-hope-spot/>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=XstF672fC8s

<https://www.dearoccean.org/then-and-now-kahaluu-bay-video>



Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Marine Education and Research Center as well as the 'Āko'ako'a Reef Restoration Program, and as a coral ecologist and resident of the State of Hawai'i, I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects. This Bay and Beach Park are of utmost importance to the cultural heritage of the island and to the community of West Hawai'i.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory P. Asner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Gregory P. Asner PhD
Hawai'i Marine Education and Research Center

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 7:18:27 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Bishop	Testifying for Friends of Hanauma Bay	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Committee Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support for this bill that will help restore the Kahaluu Bay Beach Park which adjoins Kahaluu Bay - the State of Hawaii's newest Mission Blue Hope Spot. It is a much needed and reasoned first step in restoring this beautiful cultural and ecologically significant part of Hawaii Island's Kona Coast.that is strongly supported by residents and Hawaii County.

Please support this bill!

With Aloha,

Lisa Bishop I President

Friends of Hanauma Bay

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 10:58:33 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Testifying for Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!

Kahalu'u Bay has precious coral reef resources. The park needs upgrades to serve this popular attraction.

Please pass this bill!



LATE

SB2057
RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION.
Senate Committee on Water and Land

February 12, 2024

1:00 PM

Conference Room 229

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2057, which appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai‘i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawai‘i and conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawai‘i’s contribution of matching funds.

For centuries Kahalu‘u, North Kona has been a place of worship, recreation, and subsistence gathering. This significance and practice continue today. OHA advocates for the protection of our sacred places, nearshore natural and cultural resources, and programs that demonstrates how modern technology and traditional knowledge combined to care for these places. We believe the work that will be supported by this grant-in-aid will further mālama this significant place.

OHA supports the State Legislature in appropriating matching funds to the County of Hawai‘i for Kahalu‘u Beach Park restoration efforts. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

Testimony for SB2057

Isaiah's Testimony

My name is Isaiah Herbert. I live in Kailua-Kona and I'm six years old. I strongly support this bill.

The steps on the pavilion are falling apart and the roof on the pavilion is falling in. Kahalu'u Beach Park is falling into the ocean.

Thank you.

Solomon's Testimony

My name is Solomon Herbert, and I support this bill. I am ten years old and live near Kahalu'u Beach Park. I go there regularly, and I am even learning to surf there.

I believe that Kahalu'u Beach Park is an important gathering place for the community of Kailua-Kona, but it is falling apart. In the central area of the beach park, there is a roped off and rusting pavilion that is pounded by sea spray on a daily basis. This pavilion appears to be dangerous in its current condition and needs to be repaired.

We have included a small collection of photos running from the south to the north end of the beach park showing the current state of Kahalu'u Beach Park. My dad took these photos on Sunday, February 11th, 2024.

Please support this bill for the people of Kailua-Kona and ensure that there is enough funding in it to successfully restore Kahalu'u Beach Park. Thank you.













Kahalu'u Beach Park 1 Eroded steps off Makai side of South Pavilion .jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 2 South Pavilion Roof 1.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 3 South Pavilion Roof 1.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 4 Collapsed Central Sea Wall and Condemned Central Pavilion.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 5 Condemned Central Pavilion.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 6 Condemned Central Pavilion Roof 1 jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 7 Condemned Central Pavilion Roof 2 .jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 8 Condemned Central Pavilion Roof 3 .jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 9 Collapsing North Bathroom Platform 1.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 10 Collapsing North Bathroom Platform 2.jpeg

Kahalu'u Beach Park 11 Collapsing North Bathroom Undercut Platform 3.jpeg

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:09:49 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Clark	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects. The

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Kathleen M. Clark

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:27:39 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Silverman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Esteemed Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for SB 2057, which proposes the appropriation of funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i. This grant would facilitate the hiring of an engineering firm to conduct crucial work aimed at the restoration of Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park hold immense cultural, ecological, and recreational significance. However, they face imminent threats from various human activities and the impacts of climate change. Reef trampling, improper waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, and ocean heating are just a few of the challenges endangering this precious coastal ecosystem.

The proposed project outlined in SB 2057 offers a vital opportunity to address these threats and preserve the integrity of Kahalu'u Beach Park for current and future generations. By engaging an engineering firm to study, plan, and conduct preliminary design and concept work, we can take proactive measures to mitigate the detrimental effects of human interaction and climate change on this sacred and storied place.

I urge you to lend your support to SB 2057 and allocate the necessary funds to enable the County of Hawai'i to undertake this essential restoration effort. By doing so, we demonstrate our commitment to mālama (care for) Kahalu'u Beach Park and honor its cultural significance while safeguarding its ecological health.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Mahalo nui loa for your dedication to the preservation and enhancement of Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Rachel Silverman

Science Teacher

Innovations Public Charter School

Resident of Kailua Kona

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 9:29:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Luka Wohl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

As someone who has grown up five minutes away from Kahalu'u and have cherished this beach as an extension of my home, I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Luka Wohl

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:07:48 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Peitz-Eberle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i. This money would be spent to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii by hiring an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase restoration project.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects. I witnessed these detrimental effects while volunteering to educate Kahalu'u Bay visitors.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Karen Peitz-Eberle

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:18:09 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devin jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

*Mahalo for your consideration,
Devin Jones*

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 10:25:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan skiman jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

As a frequent visitor to Kahalu'u Beach Park, I see the impact of human overuse combined with severe weather destroying our coral and reef. We need to step up now and protect this special place I don't believe we have indefinite time to act.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Susan Skiman Jones

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 7:48:15 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stuart D Liroff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Stuart D Liroff

Stuart.liroff@gmail.com

650.200.8839

stuartliroff.com

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:47:33 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Ryan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha State Legialature,

i support restoration efforts for Kahu'u Beach Park. As a participant of the beach park on land and in the water, i appreciate the place and the efforts of the Sierra Club, Reef Talk, and all the individuals supporting the education and hands on help for the land, water and aquatic species at Kahalu'u. I live on Ali'i Drive so i see how much use the beach park sustains. Please continue closing the park at critical coral spawning times. Any progress toward proper sewage disposal for buildings nearby is appreciated. Funding for on site education and enforcement of infractions for degradation of reef and aquatic species is appreciated.

I just wanted to speak up for the water, the plants and the animals not having a clear voice at this hearing.

Sincerely,

Lynn Ryan, Kailua Kona, Hawaii

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 7:32:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eve Murray	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sample Testimony

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to share my strong support of SB 2057 to appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii.

Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects.

Your support of SB 2057 will provide the opportunity to mālama this very sacred and storied place in West Hawai'i.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 2:54:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Prunk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support for the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. This area is an extremely popular area for snorkeling and surfing used by many, many people. There is a long history here that must be preserved as well as Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park are threatened by human interactions through reef trampling, waste disposal, ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects. Please vote to protect this sacred place.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 7:35:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
david baasch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I writing to express my support of SB 2057 for updating the facilities plans for Kahalu'u Beach Park to meet the innumeral ocean-front challenges of the immediate future.

This park has been supported by locals for over 20 years. It is world recognised not only for the site, but also for the continuous local support for cultural education provided by the Kohala Foundation and their Reef Teach volunteers.

It is one of the few places where anyone from ages 1 to 100 can snorkle, even for a first time. Locals come to teach their families spearfishing and throw-netting. Cruise ship passsengers come to where they can see over 100 speies of fish - and honu. My son, now 32 years old, learned to shorkel here 30 years ago and it is still his first stop when he get back to the island.

Please support this bill, which provides funding to plan for the environmental challenges this special bay is facing.

And, if you have never been to Kahalu'u, take the time to stop by. King Kamehameha would approve and I think it is unlikely you will be disappointed.

Respectfully,

David Baasch, Kailua-Kona

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 4:24:41 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kariesmart@hotmail.com	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support funding the restoration of the park. This is the most visited snorkel spot on the west side of the island. It is currently so run down that some areas just aren't safe.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 5:03:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

- U'ilani Naipo