## har3 - Megan

From: Sent: pam kam [pkam614@yahoo.com] Thursday, February 03, 2011 7:30 PM

To:

WLOtestimony

Cc:

Gene Ward; Rep. Gene Ward; Jame Schaedel

Subject:

**HB1360 TESTIMONY** 

Attachments:

LIONEL TEST. EXH. A - HB 1360.doc

# February 3, 2011

To the Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources,

My name is <u>Lionel Keahi</u>, resident of Hawaii Kai and avid fisherman. Below please find my <u>written testimony for House Bill 1360</u>, scheduled <u>to be heard</u> <u>February 4, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.</u>, at the <u>Hawaii State Capitol</u>, Conference room 325.

I support HB 1360 - Request For a Harbormaster for Maunalua Bay - only if the monies allotted for this new hire can NOT be transferred or added to the budget for Maunalua Bay's CIP budget requests.

If the harbormaster monies can NOT be transferred to the CIP budget requests, I hereby testify in support HB 1360. Please see my written testimony below:

February 4, 2011

Re: HB 1360 – Request for a Harbormaster

To all members of the Commitee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify <u>in support of HB 1360</u>, requesting a harbormaster for Maunalua Bay .

Attached as Exhibit A is a description of MB's rapidly deteriorating conditions due in large part to persistent neglect and abuse. This exhibit also serves as supporting evidence demonstrating the "need" for a harbormaster.

The harbormaster would be responsible for restoring the overall "health" of the bay, in the water and out. Other like-kind launch ramp facilities that have harbormasters – Sand Island, Kaneohe Bay – are evidence that harbormasters and proper maintenance go hand in hand.

Although MB may not be considered a major launch ramp facility given its size, its usage easily counters this consideration. Did you know that MB's launch ramp facility is the only public ramp facility between the Ala Wai and Kaneohe Bay? That commercial outfits from as far away as Waikiki and beyond utilize the bay? That most escort boats assisting in interisland paddle races launch and dock at the bay?

The bottom line is I support HB 1360 requesting a harbormaster to restore the health of Maunalua Bay and to monitor and enforce current launch ramp facility regulations.

Thank you once again for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1360.

Mahalo,

Lionel Keahi 309 Lunalilo Home Road Honolulu, HI 96825 808 395-6783



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JAPAN MAINO

#### Testimony in support of HB 1360

Aloha, my name is Lyle Hosoda. I represent Annette "Lehua" Lum, and the estate of her late son, Keahi, and Jace Silva. Keahi was killed on October 4, 2009 and Jace was run over and hit twice on the head with the same boat's propellers as they were free diving approximately 175 yards off the shore of China Walls in Maunalua Bay. This tragedy raises the issue of ocean safety. Lehua and Jace both strongly support any laws which will make Maunalua Bay and all waters of Hawaii safer. They believe that laws must be enacted, the public must be educated, and the laws must be enforced to make Hawaii's waters safer.

Ms. Lum was told by various investigating authorities that there were questions regarding jurisdiction. The laws and rules are not clear as to whether the Coast Guard, DLNR or HPD have jurisdiction to apply and enforce laws or rules in the area.

Our roadways are designed by engineers and highway specialists. There lots of laws and rules about road use, speed, etc. which are enforced. And generally, roadways are limited to authorized vehicles and perhaps pedestrians and bicycles in certain areas. In contrast, there are few laws or rules governing the use of the waters. The public is not educated on them, and there is little to no enforcement of the same. If those that are responsible for enforcing the existing laws or rules do not know, or are unsure of which laws or rules apply, the public either does not, or can not, be expected to know. Ms. Lum understands and appreciates the budgetary constraints that come with enactment and enforcement of new laws. However, she believes that without such laws and enforcement, with as many different types of uses of the water (swimmers, body boarders, surfers, divers, jet skis, water skis, paddle boarders, parasailers, motorized boats, sail boats, etc.) more tragedies are inevitable.

Ms. Lum urges new and more laws regarding water safety which include education and enforcement to avoid more tragedies in the future.