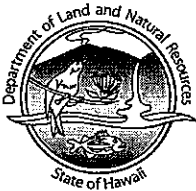


NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
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  
KAIHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of**  
**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
**Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on**  
**WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Friday, February 3, 2012**  
**9:00 AM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of**  
**HOUSE BILL 2812**  
**RELATING TO TOURISM**

House Bill 2812 will establish an ecotourism permit program that will require ecotourism operators to meet certain guidelines specified by Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) prior to obtaining a business license. In addition, this measure will establish an Environmental Activities Special Fund that would be administered by DLNR. DLNR supports the provision for establishing an Ecotourism Permit, but opposes the provisions to require DLNR to develop and certify ecotourism operations as part of the business licensing process. The licensing of businesses is more appropriately left to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

DLNR supports establishing a requirement for ecotourism operations to obtain a ecotourism permit before operations. DLNR currently issues permits for park use, hiking, ocean uses, and could incorporate a basic operators permit into those processes. Likewise, DLNR has established special funds for ecotourism revenues and creating a new Environmental Activities Special Fund is not needed.

DLNR supports the provision to dedicate a portion of the funding to the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement for increased enforcement operations. DLNR would also suggest that a portion also needs to go to the specific division or department that is selling the permits so that a portion of the proceeds can go toward management of the resources that will be impacted by the use.

DLNR also suggest that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands duplicate this approach for recreational uses of their lands. The division or department issuing the permits would benefit from the use.

# LATE TESTIMONY

har2-Samantha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 4:32 PM  
**To:** WLOtestimony  
**Cc:** orgillv@polynesia.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2812 on 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2812

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Von Orgill  
Organization: Polynesian Cultural Center  
E-mail: [orgillv@polynesia.com](mailto:orgillv@polynesia.com)  
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

**Comments:**

This is not legislation that has been carefully thought through and should be rejected.  
Thank you!

# LATE TESTIMONY

har2-Samantha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 5:40 PM  
**To:** WLOtestimony  
**Cc:** david@adventureskauai.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2812 on 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2812

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: DAVID CARSWELL  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [david@adventureskauai.com](mailto:david@adventureskauai.com)  
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

# LATE TESTIMONY

har2-Samantha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 6:37 PM  
**To:** WLOtestimony  
**Cc:** denise@adventureskauai.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2812 on 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2812

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Denise Carswell  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [denise@adventureskauai.com](mailto:denise@adventureskauai.com)  
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

Comments:

# LATE TESTIMONY

ALOHA,  
2/2/2012

This is a citizen wishing to address the approval and construction of zip lines in Hawaii.

There should be a Special Hearing held by the County to allow comments from the neighborhoods that may be impacted by the construction of a zip line.

The zip line should not be allowed to cross over Conservation lands.

The land being impacted by construction of a zip line should have a soils assessment study done to assure suitability of anchoring towers.

The zip line plan I have before me has printed in bold letterings at the bottom:

“Structures exempt from professional engineers certification as per paragraph  
464-13  
Of the Hawaii Licensing Act”

This should not be permitted. There should be a structural engineers stamp of the plan to be submitted to the County Building Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these suggestions.

Sincerely,

Micah Miller

har2-Samantha

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 4:58 PM  
**To:** WLOtestimony  
**Cc:** ken@hikemaui.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2812 on 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2812

Conference room: 325  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kenneth Schmitt  
Organization:  
E-mail: [ken@hikemaui.com](mailto:ken@hikemaui.com)  
Submitted on: 2/2/2012

**Comments:**

This bill needs serious re-working. It should not apply to eco-tourism companies operating only on private lands or national park lands. It is too vague in its requirements. It does not address county planning issues. It does not address local community issues. It appears that it would be yet another burden for small business, making it more difficult to obtain already overwhelmingly difficult permits from the county and state and would guarantee that Hawaii would have no eco-tourism operators.