

lowen1-Kyli

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 11:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: rtmb@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB666 on Feb 1, 2013 08:00AM
Attachments: testimony opposed to HB 666 sand.docx

HB666

Submitted on: 1/29/2013

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 1, 2013 08:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ron Tubbs	RT Distributors Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments: Sand is the most abundant mineral on the planet.

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Opposed to SB 666 2-1-13 8AM Room 325

I am writing in opposition to HB 666.

The most abundant mineral on the planet is silica and that is what most sand is. I am a tropical fish diver and most of the ocean around all Hawaii Island is sand. It is very abundant! I do not take sand for my aquariums very much. I have taken only 5 gallons in 20 years as it last forever for my wrasse fish tank. I need sand for these fish to keep them live and healthy.

I know some have said there is a concern for contractors from some that using sand on job sites or for the taking of sand for commercial purposes but at 5 gallons per day per person it is not seem likely any commercial business will go out of it's way to get \$4 in sand. The cost of gas to the ocean instead of to the hardware store is more than \$4. And if they do why is it an issue. It is the most abundant resource in Hawaii!

Sand is also a renewable resource as millions of parrot fish eat coral and poop it out by the acre every year.

Ok now you are thinking if we take sand it takes away our beaches. Well not at a 5 gallons per day per person limit. Erosion not sand thieves are the cause of our beaches being washed away. Global warming is also a factor. In thirty years of ocean based diving I have never seen anyone take sand!

Oppose this unneeded legislation. I am virtually unbiased in this as like I said I do not take or sell sand.

Thanks,

Ron Tubbs BS ND

RT Distributors Inc.

Marine fish wholesale.

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

ESTHER KIAAINA
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
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

**Before the House Committees on
WATER & LAND
and
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, February 1, 2013
8:00am
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 666
RELATING TO OCEAN RESOURCES**

House Bill 666 proposes to prohibit the mining or taking of all sand, dead coral or coral rubble, rocks, soil, or other marine deposits seaward of the shoreline, except such as those inadvertently carried away on the body, and on clothes, toys, recreational equipment, and bags. The measure also proposes to provide an exception for the exercise of traditional cultural practices and for state or local disasters. The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports House Bill 666.

Hawaii's beach sand sources are diminishing daily due to erosion, inappropriate shoreline armoring, and illegal sand mining. If residents want sand for household uses, they can purchase either inland sand deposits or manufactured sand from various commercial sources.



HB666

RELATING TO OCEAN RESOURCES

House Committee on Water and Land

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

February 1, 2013

8:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Committee on Beneficiary Advancement and Empowerment **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS** HB666, which would delete the “one-gallon per person per day” exception to the prohibition against the removal of sand and other beach materials.

OHA supports further protection of Hawai‘i’s beaches and resources. Alleged large scale sand removal at Hawai‘i’s beaches may have long-term impacts on our natural and cultural resources, and deleting the exception for intentional removal of sand and other materials could abate these long-term impacts by making reporting and enforcement easier.

HB666 can be strengthened by preserving the “one-gallon” restriction in addition to inserting the bill’s proposed new language. Accordingly, OHA suggests the following changes to page 1, lines 7 – 12 and to page 3, lines 4-10:

- (1) The inadvertent taking from seaward of the shoreline of these materials, such as those inadvertently carried away on the body, and on clothes, toys, recreational equipment, and bags, not to exceed one-gallon per person per day;
- (1) The inadvertent taking from the shoreline area of ~~the~~these materials, such as those inadvertently carried away on the body, and on clothes, toys, recreational equipment, and bags, not to exceed one-gallon per person per day;

OHA’s BAE Committee urges this committee to **PASS HB666 WITH AMENDMENTS**. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair
Rep. Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair
Committee on Water & Land

Rep. Faye Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Friday, February 1, 2013

Testimony in Opposition to HB 666, Relating to Ocean Resources

As somebody who works in the aquarium fish industry, I am concerned about HB 666. First, I must state that, because the commercial taking of beach sand is (for good reason) already illegal under current law, I have no financial stake in the matter. However, personal aquariums are very important to many people in Hawaii, especially those who cannot go diving or snorkeling for a variety of reasons. For aquarists, beach sand is far superior to imported sand, because it contains natural microorganisms that help filter the water and keep it clean. It also seems wasteful to import sand from the mainland when we have such an abundant natural resource at home that, if used judiciously, should be enough for everybody.

I understand that there are concerns about people illegally taking large amounts of sand for construction projects and other uses. This is a valid concern, and if this practice continues it could be a serious threat to our beaches. Would it not be possible to create an improved permitting system (perhaps a one-time permit for only a small amount of sand on a certain day) that would still allow people to use the resource but would prevent it from being overexploited?

I also am concerned that the definition of "marine deposits" is too broad. Strictly interpreted, this bill could make it illegal to pick up rubbish from the shoreline, which surely is not in the public interest! At the very least, this should be amended to read "naturally occurring" marine deposits, so as to not prohibit legitimate beach cleanup efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Ross', written in a cursive style.

Matthew Ross

lowen1-Kyli

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 12:11 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: bert.basabe@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB666 on Feb 1, 2013 08:00AM*

HB666

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 1, 2013 08:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bertha Basabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 12:14 PM
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HB666

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas Ramirez	Individual	Support	No

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Pete Basabe	Individual	Support	No

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Submitted on: 1/31/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taetuna Faavesi	Individual	Support	No

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