

HB 2721,
HD1

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND AND AGRICULTURE**

**Monday, March 14, 2016
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2721, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO LIPOA POINT**

House Bill 2721, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to implement a management plan for Lipoa Point on Maui and to appropriate funds for the costs associated with the implementation of a plan. **The Department offers the following comments.**

Pursuant to Act 241, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, the Department acquired the property identified as Tax Map Key No. (2) 4-1-001:010, from Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc. (MLPC). The parcel came under the public trust for the Department to manage without any commensurate funding to do so, nor has the Department had any discussions with Hawaiian Island Land Trust (HILT) on the various elements of this management plan.

Therefore Department has concerns in the requirement to implement a management plan developed by the Hawaiian Island Land Trust for the Lipoa Point area prior to a master plan and Environmental Impact Statement being developed as this is now state property.

A master plan is critical in managing an area that is vast in size with competing public interests and requires the coordination and input of several respective departmental divisions with mandates related to land management, enforcement, historic marine and land based natural resource protection, and recreation management; the Department does not have a division authorized at this point in time with the collective funding, staffing, authority, skills or responsibilities to insure the highest and best use of this new public land that takes all of these resource elements into consideration.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

A master plan will provide the Department with interim and long-term management options through the development of goals, objectives, policies and future costs. The planning process and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process is a pre-requisite under Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for any improvement to this new parcel of state land for either recreational or sustainable agricultural use – or likely mixtures of both. Funding for the master Plan and EIS should be taken into consideration of \$400,000 for a master plan and \$200,000 for an EIS.

In addition, this new acquisition of public land presents significant challenges for the Department in both the interim and long term management of a vast, porous and complex new land area in regards to insuring: 1) public safety, 2) security, 3) sanitation, 4) resource protection and 5) appropriate recreational and land management.

The Department supports the provision for funds for costs associated with the implementation of the plan. The Department's cost to date for minimal management includes ancillary staff time and expenditure of funds for management signage (\$1,066.00 for 50 advisory/prohibited activity signs) and to contract for hazard tree trimming (\$29,000.00). This new acquisition of public land also presents the Department's Maui Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement with significant challenges given current staffing levels to protect both public safety and the resources on site.

A summary of the funding and cost elements critically needed by the Department is itemized as follows:

- \$300,000 annually to contract for various property maintenance services;
- \$323,052 annually for three (3) Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer III;
- \$400,000 for a master plan;
- \$200,000 for an EIS.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Date: Friday, March 11, 2016 12:29:43 PM
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HB2721

Submitted on: 3/11/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 14, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Felimon Sadang	Aha Moku Advisory Committee	Comments Only	No

Comments: Testimony of Felimon Sadang, AMAC Moku Representative Moku O Kaanapali, Maui Before the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture Monday, March 14, 2016 2:45 P.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 224 In Consideration of HOUSE BILL 2721 HD 1 RELATING TO LIPOA POINT House Bill 2721 HD 1 proposes to require DLNR to implement a management plan for Lipoa Point on Maui. Aha Moku O Ka'anapali supports the intent of this measure and respectfully offers the following comment. It is essential that discussion on the management of Lipoa Point be restored as soon as possible. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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