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LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Testimony in opposition to SB 2900.

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Committee members:

The Small Boat Harbors were created for three purposes, Recreation, Landing of fish, and Commercial vessel activities (chapter 200-9). The Public Trust Doctrine and the thought full disposition of ceded lands, including submerged lands, is precisely why previous Legislators adopted chapter 171-59, requiring a Concurrent Resolution.

Public access to beaches, harbors, and near shore waters is a tradition that dates back to Hawaiian Kingdom laws. Affordable access is Public access.

No compelling reason has been given to justify this significant Public Policy change. The Boating and Recreation Division budget is not in crisis, nor is there a public health or safety reason.

We ask that you kill SB 2900 and maintain public confidence in the Legislature. Hawaii does not need any more gated communities, especially on the ocean.

Mahalo for your consideration of our opposition to SB 2900.

William and Melva Aila.