DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





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

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEY ANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Friday, February 3, 2017 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of SENATE BILL 289 RELATING TO LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR

Senate Bill 289 authorizes the issuance of \$3,300,000 in general obligation bonds and appropriates funds for the construction of a new ferry pier at Lahaina small boat harbor. The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.



The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry 1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003 Honolulu, HI 96813-3304 (808) 537-4308 Phone (808) 533-2739 Fax timlyons@hawaiiantel.net

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: TIME: PLACE: Friday, February 3, 2017 2:45 p.m. Conference Room 224

TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITION SPEAKING

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 289

Chair Senator Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition **speaking in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 289**. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated. Many of them have been in business for several decades and are an important and valued part of their respective communities. Most of these businesses operate from State Boating Facilities of which the Lahaina Small Boat Harbor is one.

This project has been in process for many years. It has strong community support and much thought has gone into the design and engineering of this much needed facility. Lahaina Harbor is one of the busiest harbors in the State. The cruise ship industry and the interisland ferry require additional loading dock space to operate efficiently.

Please authorize this very important project. It is not just the ferry that will benefit but Maui and neighbor island residents, visitors, cruise ships and the business community of West Maui needs this facility.

Sincerely, ~ a

James E. Coon, President Ocean Tourism Coalition