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Mayor



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**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
**County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i**  
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**Testimony before the Senate Committee on Housing**  
**SENATE BILL SB2969 Relating to Special Management Areas**

February 1, 2018 at 2:55pm Conference Room 225

By Michael A. Dahilig - Director of Planning, County of Kaua'i

Honorable Chair Espero and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the County of Kaua'i, I offer testimony with **STRONG SUPPORT** of this measure.

This particular SMA exemption for a single family home has been a problematic loophole that has eroded protections of our shorelines for since the adoption of the CZM enabling act in the 1970's. The building of these homes without any compatibility analysis has led to piecemealed hardening of our coastal areas, contrary to what we now know as what's needed to address sea level rise and coastal hazards.

We believe this measure is a step in the right direction toward comprehensive management of our shorelines. We would further request that the Counties be empowered to set by rule a smaller square footage than what's prescribed by state law. We would suggest the following additional language:

Construction or reconstruction of a single-family residence that is less than [~~seven thousand five hundred~~] 2,750 square feet of floor area, or an area prescribed by county rule no more than 2,750 square feet of floor area, and is not part of a larger development;

We respectfully request the committee **APPROVES** the measure as stated above. Mahalo for your consideration.