

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



**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, March 13, 2020  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2739, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO THE KA IWI COAST**

House Bill 2739, House Draft 2 proposes to: 1) transfer lands to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) and establish that land and adjacent, state-owned land as the Ka Iwi Coast State Park; and 2) appropriate funds. **The Department supports the intent of this measure and offers the following amendments.**

The Department supports the continued protection and expansion of undeveloped open space in East Oahu. The Department's Division of State Parks (State Parks) currently manages the heavily used Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline which includes the Makapuu Lookout. It is absolutely critical before accepting the management responsibility of new public trust resources that an increase in both staffing and the state park operating budget must occur in order to adequately manage the current new additions to the park and as of yet undetermined additional amounts of new acreage. As such the Department appreciates the Legislature's understanding and support in that this measure provides additional staff and funding to increase State Park's capacity to expand management responsibility.

The Department suggests the following amendments:

SECTION 2. (a) Lands spanning Wawamalu to Makapuu, identified by tax map key numbers: a portion of [~~1-3-9-10-3; a portion of 1-3-9-12-2; 1-3-9-10-2; and 1-3-9-15-20,~~] (1)3-9-10:003 located makai of Kalaniana'ole Highway and terminating at the eastern access road ingress and egress for Sandy Beach Park trending southerly to (1)3-9-12:002; a portion of (1)3-9-12:002 located makai of Kalaniana'ole Highway and makai of (1) 3-9-10:003 starting at Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline and terminating at eastern access road

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
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

ingress and egress for Sandy Beach Park trending southerly to the shoreline; and (1)3-9-15:020, shall be transferred to the department of land and natural resources. These lands, [and those adjacent to it that are owned by the State of Hawaii, including the lands identified by tax map key numbers: (1)3-9-11:002; and (1)3-9-11:007, are designated as a state park under the name "Ka Iwi coast state park", to be administered by the department of land and natural resources. ; provided that this section shall not apply to lands to which the State of Hawaii has a property interest, identified by tax map key numbers: 1-3-9-015-1; 1-3-9-15-19; and 1-4-10-14-2.] and lands identified by tax map key numbers (1)3-9-11:002 and (1)3-9-11:007 located within the Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline, shall be designated as a state park under the name "Ka Iwi coast state park," to be administered by the department of land and natural resources.

The Department offers the following comments to the measure:

- a) SECTION 2(a)  
Currently, the City has given no indication at this time that they would be willing to transfer these lands. Further clarification and discussions would be needed on the portions of these TMKs that ultimately go to the Department.
- b) SECTION 2(b)  
This SECTION could be deleted since the Department checked the TMK listed in this measure and all areas are currently designated as Conservation Lands. Furthermore, it is the Departments understanding that the State Land Use Commission may be a process that will still have to occur to achieve the zoning change, as listed in the bill.
- f) SECTION 4  
The appropriation out of general funds needed for planning is \$50,000.

The appropriation out of general funds for construction is \$250,000 for elements such as barriers, signage, parking, and other related improvements to better management the public's use of these designated properties.

The appropriation out of general funds will be needed in the future for operation and maintenance once the subject properties have been clearly identified and transferred.

Additionally, in assuming more jurisdiction, the Department must be always be cognizant of natural hazards associated with rockfall, fire, and flooding. For these proposed properties, consideration must be given to ocean related hazards and the future implications of climate change and sea level rise. While the bill currently specifies a coastal section of land under City and County jurisdiction, future planning and community effort associated with potential mauka expansion needs to address both natural hazards and associated liabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the measure.



**Website**

[www.hawaiiikaihui.org](http://www.hawaiiikaihui.org)  
[www.kaiwicoast.org](http://www.kaiwicoast.org)

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Livable Hawaii Kai Hui  
Aloha 'Aina 'O Kamilo Nui  
Ka Iwi Coast

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@hawaiiikaihui



**Ka Iwi Coalition**

Mauka to Makai



A COMMUNITY DRIVEN, VOLUNTEER-BASED RESTORATION PROJECT.

*Hānau Heiau Complex  
& Keanoāwā Wetland*

CELEBRATE THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF YOUR COMMUNITY!

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui is a 501c(3) non-profit, community organization serving East Honolulu since 2004. We strive to promote sensible growth, respect for cultural & natural resources and upholding the integrity of the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan.

March 9, 2020

Committee on Water and Land

Hearing on March 13, 2020 at 1:15 p.m.

Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and respected WTL Committee Members,

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui proudly stewards the Ka Iwi Coast Mauka Lands with the help and support of communities not only in East Honolulu, but across Southeast O'ahu and the entire island.

As an organizing member of the Ka Iwi Coalition and contributor to the Maunaloa-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan, the Hui takes particular interest in HB 2739 regarding the proposed "Ka Iwi Coast State Park."

The Hui is excited to see the State taking up such an initiative that aims to protect and preserve the cultural and natural resources of Ka Iwi Coast, particularly one that mindfully seeks to engage community members and stakeholders in the planning process and beyond.

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui appreciates this Committee's time and consideration in support of HB 2739.

Mahalo nui loa,

Elizabeth Reilly

President, Livable Hawaii Kai Hui

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui P.O. BOX 25493 Honolulu, Hawaii 96825



## HAWAII KAI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

March 9, 2020

**ROBERTA MAYOR**  
Sub district #10  
Chairperson

**ELIZABETH REILLY**  
Sub district #5  
Vice Chair

**KATIE SCOTT**  
Sub district #3  
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**BYRON APO**  
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**RENÉ GARVIN**  
At-Large

**NATALIE IWASA**  
At-Large

**GREG KNUDSEN**  
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**SOLOMON THOMPSON**  
At-Large

**ROBERT CLARK**  
Sub district #1

**MARIAN GREY**  
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**HERB SCHREINER**  
Sub district #6

**KIM HOLLANDSWORTH**  
Sub district #7

**TEHANI MALTERRE**  
Sub district #9

**PAIGE ALTONN**  
Sub district #11

**Hawaii Kai  
Neighborhood Board #1**  
c/o Neighborhood  
Commission Office  
925 Dillingham Blvd., #160  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Phone: (808) 768-3710  
Fax: (808) 768-3711  
[www.honolulu.gov/nco](http://www.honolulu.gov/nco)

Hawaii Kai Neighborhood  
Board meets 7 p.m. the last  
Tuesday of every month  
except Dec. at Hahaione  
Elementary School cafeteria.  
The public is welcome to  
attend.

### Testimony Supporting HB 2739, HD 2 Relating to the Kaiwi Coast

At its regularly scheduled Board meeting of February 25, 2020, the Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board took action by a unanimous vote to support HB 2739, HD 2 Relating to the Kaiwi Coast.

The Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board has long supported and advocated for the preservation of the natural environment and resources of the Kaiwi Coast and has joined various community organizations to create the Maunalua to Makapu'u Scenic Byway and to keep undeveloped land in conservation. We appreciate that the bill is consistent with the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan and the Maunalua to Makapu'u Scenic Byway.

The Board strongly supports this Act to "Protect and preserve the lands of the Kaiwi coast in perpetuity by establishing the Kaiwi Coast State Park for the benefit of local residents and future generations." All land within the Kaiwi coast state park would be designated conservation land, and would be preserved in perpetuity in its wild and natural state.

We also agree with the Act's intent to properly manage this valuable natural resource by transferring the land from Wawamalu to Makapu'u to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and providing oversight and protection of the land through the establishment of management positions, and expansion of their current sand dune restoration and native vegetation planting.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for properly managing the natural gifts we enjoy in East Honolulu for all to share. We strongly urge the passage of HB 2739 HD 2.

Sincerely,

Roberta Mayor, Chairperson  
Hawaii Kai Neighborhood Board #1

cc (via email): Senator Laura Thielen  
Representative Gene Ward  
Representative Chris Lee  
Members of the HK Neighborhood Board

Senator Stanley Chang  
Representative Mark Hashem  
Councilman Tommy Waters

**HB-2739-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 10:10:12 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Bishop	Testifying for Friends of Hanauma Bay	Support	No

Comments:

Friends of Hanauma Bay strongly supports this bill!

Lisa Bishop

President



Water and Land Committee  
Senator Kai Kahele, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

**Committee Hearing**  
**Friday, February 7, 2020**  
**Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol**  
**415 South Beretania Street**

**Re: Testimony In Support Of HB 2739 HD2 - Relating To The Ka Iwi Coast**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Water and Land Committee:

As advisors of the Ka Iwi Coalition, we are writing in **support** of HB 2739 HD2, which will keep the Ka Iwi Coastline in its wild and natural state for future generations through collaborative stewardship.

Our community has spent over 45 years across multiple generations to protect the Ka Iwi Coastline mauka to makai. The Ka Iwi Coalition is part of the same group of community members who led the successful Save Sandy Beach Movement in the 1980s and fought to preserve the entire Maunalua-Makapu'u corridor over the past 40 years. In 2017, the Ka Iwi Coalition received a Legacy Conservation Program grant to acquire 182 acres of land overlooking Makapu'u to Sandy Beach. We successfully led the successful grassroots fundraising campaign that garnered over 1,600 donors and nearly \$700,000 in three months to secure the conservation purchase. This history of community activism demonstrates strong public support for the continued stewardship of the Ka Iwi Coastline.

HB 2739 will address the challenges that the Department of Land & Natural Resources and community partners currently face in stewarding the Ka Iwi Coastline. The bill will transfer management of the makai parcels of Wawamalu to the Department of Land & Natural Resources and ensure consistency that all public lands across the Ka Iwi Coastline are designated as conservation by the State of Hawai'i. HB 2739 will also add appropriate staffing positions to maintain the Ka Iwi Coast state park.

Finally, HB 2739 dictates that future master planning of the Ka Iwi Coast state park builds upon the vision of community partners and stakeholders who have fought for over 45 years to protect the coastline. As noted in the bill, the Department of Land & Natural Resources must incorporate the community's vision through the Maunalua-Makapuu scenic byway plan, which was drafted by members of the Ka Iwi Coalition. We are hopeful that HB 2739 will foster future collaboration between the State of Hawai'i and community partners to steward the Ka Iwi Coast state park.

HB 2739 recognizes the many years of community activism spent to protect the Ka Iwi Coastline from urban development, including hotel resorts, golf courses, and cabins. We urge you to pass HB 2739.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2739 HD2.

Phil Estermann  
Advisor  
(808) 227-9390

Gary Gill  
Advisor  
(808) 366-8950

Kendrick S. Chang  
Community Outreach  
(808) 627-2758

**HB-2739-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:51:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My testimony remains the same.. YES, we need to take care of the Ka Iwi coast. BUT we also need to keep the DLNR accountable.

**HB-2739-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 9:59:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



Testimony before  
Senate COMMITTEE ON WATER and LAND  
Sen Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair  
Sen Gilbert Kieth-Agaran, Vice Chair

HB 2739 HD2 RELATING TO THE KA IWI COAST  
Hearing scheduled for 1:15 PM March 13, 2020

Chair Kahele and Vice Chair Kieth-Agaran

I am strongly in favor of the House Bill 2739 HD2.

The region on the Kaiwi Coast between City's Sandy Beach Park and States Kaiwi Scenic Shoreline that is identified as Wāwāmalu Beach on many maps. Currently it is a no-mans-land of joy riding vehicles through its area of natural features—native vegetation, sand dunes, shoreline rocks and a white sand beach. The depredation of the natural features is severe. I attach a pictorial report of my 3 PM visit to Wāwāmalu Beach January 27<sup>th</sup>.

This area is a natural habitat for monk seals. Endangered monk seals, one of only two mammals native to Hawaii, must come on shore to rest and give birth. And the vehicle joyriding day and night puts them in jeopardy.

On the other hand, the neighboring State Ka Iwi Scenic Shoreline is a protected paradise for natural Hawaiian shoreline features. Therefore it would be a capital move to conjoin the state's land with Wāwāmalu Beach and extend state's stewardship of natural features there.

The Kaiwi coast is one of State's Scenic Byways. And the lands along a scenic byway are to be protected and recovered where necessary—not destroyed the way it's happening daily. Please support this HB 2739

Yours truly,

William Reese Liggett,  
4947 Maunalani Circle, Honolulu, 96816

Attachment follows: Pictorial report of depredation at Wāwāmalu Beach on Kaiwi Coast

# Depredation of Wāwāmalu Beach: Update

(pictures as of 3 PM, January 27, 2020)

- Wāwāmalu Beach is made up of six TMK parcels or parts of parcels owned by City or leased to City from State
- Wāwāmalu Beach is bordered by City's Sandy Beach Park to the west and State's KA`IWI Scenic Shoreline (DLNR/DSP) to the east and lies between Kalaniana`ole Highway and the Kaiwi Channel
- The intersection of Kealahou Street and Kalaniana`ole Hwy sits at the midpoint of Wāwāmalu Beach.
- Wāwāmalu Beach is positioned near the midpoint of the State's Maunaloa-Makapu`u Scenic Byway (DOT). Scenic Byways are established to recognize, **preserve**, and enhance locally-significant corridors featuring archaeological, cultural, historic, **natural**, recreation, and/or **scenic** qualities.
- There have been no known actions by City Parks since the October 29, 2019 promulgation of **HAWAII KAI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD #1 RESOLUTION NO. 19-02 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, TO PROTECT THE NATURAL FEATURES OF WĀWĀMALU BEACH.** (see page 6)



## Devastation of Native-Vegetated, Dune System Continues at Wāwāmalu Beach



**Contrasted** to regenerated dunes at **State's adjacent Kaiwi Scenic Shoreline** (file photo). This is what Wāwāmalu Beach could look like.





## Camping or Homeless or Squatter?



There is no signage forbidding these illegal acts at Wāwāmalu Beach.



Abandoned Construction Debris





Multi-Tracked from driving on the beach (monk seal habitat)



There is no sign prohibiting driving on the beach at Wāwāmalu Beach.

**HB-2739-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 4:43:35 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia Marquez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2739-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 6:36:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: