

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**

**Monday, January 27, 2020
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2028
RELATING TO HEALTH**

Senate Bill 2028 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (“Department”) to establish a two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers at Hanauma Bay and Waikiki beaches to provide sunscreens without oxybenzone or octinoxate to visitors and educate visitors on the harmful effects of oxybenzone and octinoxate on the marine environment, and appropriates funds for the pilot program. **The Department supports this bill provided that sufficient funding is provided for the pilot program, and further provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.**

The Department recommends an appropriation of \$120,000 per year to cover expenses related to this pilot project, including the cost of the dispensers, stands, and sunscreen refills, as well as costs for installation, maintenance, and repair. Success of the pilot project will also largely depend upon the cooperation of the City and County and other landowners to allow use of their property to install the sunscreen dispensers.

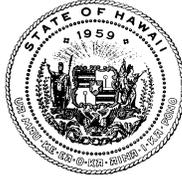
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2028
RELATING TO HEALTH:**

SENATOR KAIALI'I KAHELE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: 1/27/2020

Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill proposes a general fund appropriation for DLNR to provide
2 sunscreen dispensers and education at Hanauma Bay beach and Waikiki beach. The Department
3 of Health defers to the Governor's Supplemental Budget Request for appropriation priorities.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure in response to concerns about
5 the release of chemicals from personal care products into coastal waters and recognizes the
6 importance of protecting Hawaii's coral reefs. This pilot project is a very effective public
7 education effort and outreach solution to educate Hawaii beachgoers about about how they can
8 safely enjoy Hawaii's beaches while reducing the impacts of oxybenzone and octinoxate on the
9 marine environment. Because the risk of skin cancer from sun exposure is an important public
10 health issue facing Hawaii's residents and visitors, the Department requests that the importance
11 of sun protection including the use of "reef safe" alternative sunscreens be promoted by the
12 DLNR pilot project in conjunction with the environmental concerns. The proposed dispensers
13 with safer sunscreen alternatives will be useful in furthering this goal.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

15

16 **Offered Amendments:** None

17

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

January 26, 2020

TO: The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Tamara Paltin, Councilmember for West Maui
Maui County Council

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF JANUARY 27, 2020; SUPPORT OF SB 2028, RELATING
TO PUBLIC HEALTH**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill requires DLNR to establish a two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers at Hanauma Bay and Waikiki beaches to provide sunscreens without oxybenzone or octinoxate to visitors and educate visitors on the harmful effects of oxybenzone and octinoxate on the marine environment. The bill also appropriates funds for the pilot program.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this support in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

To ensure the health of not only our coral reefs and natural resources, but sunscreen consumers, I support the two year pilot project at the two locations on O'ahu with the hope that further programs be instituted at Ka'anapali and Wailea on Maui.

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MICHELE K. NEKOTA
DIRECTOR

JEANNE C. ISHIKAWA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LATE

January 24, 2020

The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water and Land
State Senate
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

SUBJECT: S.B. No. 2028, Relating to Health

The Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") **opposes** SB 2028, "Relating to Health," requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to establish a two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers at Hanauma Bay and Waikiki beaches to provide sunscreens without oxybenzone or octinoxate to visitors and educate visitors on the harmful effects of oxybenzone and octinoxate on the marine environment.

DPR supports the intent of the bill and understands the environmental impact of sunscreens with oxybenzone or octinoxate on the beaches, reef and marine life. A program on reef-safe sunscreen is already in place at the Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve as the gift shop concession educates the public on and only sells reef-safe sunscreen. The concessionaire provides a discount on the reef-safe sunscreen if visitors turn in a bottle of harmful sunscreen. Visitors then leave the Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve with an awareness and a bottle of reef-safe sunscreen to use at other beaches. The revenue the City and County of Honolulu receives from the gift shop, which include sunscreen sales of approximately 3,500 bottles annually, go directly back to the Hanauma Bay special fund.

DPR respectfully requests that this two-year pilot program may be more effectively implemented in a State of Hawaii beach park under the jurisdiction of the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of SB 2028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele K. Nekota".

Michele K. Nekota
Director

SB-2028

Submitted on: 1/24/2020 8:49:18 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/27/2020 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

FRIENDS OF HANAUMA BAY

To: Senate Committee on Water and Land
Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Re: SB2028 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hearing: Monday, January 27, 2020 1:15 p.m., Room 229

Position: STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2028.

Further, based on evolving science on the reef-toxic effects of other chemical sunscreens since Hawaii enacted Act 104, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, we strongly recommend that the chemicals homosalate, octocrylene, and octisalate be added to "oxybenzone and octinoxate", as follows:

"Requires DLNR to establish a two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers at Hanauma Bay and Waikiki beaches to provide sunscreens without oxybenzone, octinoxate, homosalate, octocrylene, or octisalate to visitors and educate visitors on the harmful effects of oxybenzone, octinoxate, homosalate, octocrylene, and octisalate to the marine environment. Appropriates funds for the pilot program."

Mahalo for supporting this bill with the recommended amendments.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bishop
President
Friends of Hanauma Bay



TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
For hearing Jan. 27, 2020 1:15 PM
Room 229 Hawaii State Capitol

Re: SUPPORT OF SB 2028

Dear Senator Kahele, Senator Keith-Aragan and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mendy Dant, and I am the Executive Vice President of Fair Wind Cruises and Kona Sunrise Charters in Keauhou-Kona, Hawaii. We have been going to Kealakekua Bay since 1971, taking visitors and residents alike snorkeling in this bay. Over the years as tourism has grown, we have seen a negative effect in our coral population. Now, that we have had a couple of summers with very warm waters causing stress to the coral we have seen a further decline.

We understand the harmful chemicals in the popular sunscreens have caused many of our corals to become sterile. With this science even convincing the FDA to insist these chemical sunscreen makers to prove these chemicals are not harmful in order to place them on GRASE or declare them unsafe and not allow them to be included in products for public sale.

As these studies continue, we need to take steps of our own, and that is why I support the two-year pilot program to install sunscreen dispensers with mineral based sunscreens for public use at Hanauma Bay and on our Waikiki beaches.

Whether we are on Oahu, Maui, Kauai or Hawaii Island we need to take action today. With science giving us so much information proving these chemicals are not safe for coral, fish and humans we need to band together as a state and protect our natural resources.

Please support SB2028 and head us in the right direction for our ocean's sake as well as our communities.

Sincerely,

Mendy Dant

Executive Vice President
Fair Wind Cruises
Kona Sunrise Charters
78-6775 Makenawai St
Kailua-Kona , Hawaii 96740

SB-2028

Submitted on: 1/24/2020 8:46:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/27/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Punihaole Kennedy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this Bill. Hanauma Bay experiences a large number of visitors daily. Oxybenzone and Octinoxate have been proven to be very detrimental to our marine environment. Providing easy access to reef-friendly sunscreen through dispensers with an education component is *pono*.

SB-2028

Submitted on: 1/25/2020 12:37:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/27/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dorothy Norris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The existing sun screen situation on our beaches is unsustainable. The coral continues to decline and the number of fish and marine life declines with them. If beach users have an option, most will take the more resonable and safe alternative. Please pass this bill and help save our coral and, along with it, our fisheries and tourism industry.

SB-2028

Submitted on: 1/26/2020 10:40:37 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/27/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Poiani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

While this is a good short term solution, reef damaging sunscreens need to be banned in the state of Hawaii, however alternative sunscreens also need to be evaluated for safety of the individual and reefs as well.