JOSH GREEN, M.D.

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA





STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 DAWN N.S. CHANG

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER AND LAND

Monday, March 25, 2024 1:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 117 SENATE RESOLUTION 100 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO IDENTIFY ALL APPROPRIATE SITES AT STATE PARKS AT WHICH A WATER-BOTTLE FILLING STATION COULD BE INSTALLED

Senate Concurrent Resolution 117-Senate Resolution 100 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to identify all appropriate sites at state parks at which a water-bottle filling station could be installed. **The Department provides the following comments.**

The Division of State Parks (State Parks) initiated the process of installing and/or replacing water bottle filling stations at various state parks using a NOAA grant that seeks to reduce the use of plastic bottles and prevent plastic from becoming marine debris.

The focus was on replacing water fountains where water hook-ups were available. State Parks is continuing to install water bottle filling stations through CIP projects that include the construction of new comfort stations such as Makena and Waiʻānapanapa State Parks on Maui and the renovation of existing comfort stations such as Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site on Kauaʻi.

A review of the water systems in our parks indicates that 12 parks use water from springs or stream intakes that is not a potable water source and another 13 parks do not have a water source. This constitutes almost 50% of our parks.

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The parks where we can feasibly install new water bottle filling stations are:

Hawai'i Island: Waialea (Hāpuna Beach State Recreation Area) and Rainbow Falls (Wailuku River State Recreation Area)

Kaua'i: Wailua River State Park (large park with multiple locations)

Oʻahu: 'Aiea Bay SRA, Heʻeia SP, Ahupuaʻa O Kahana State Park, Mālaekahana SRA, Puʻu 'Ualakaʻa State Wayside, and Wahiawa Freshwater SRA.

Besides water quality, some other constraints to installing a water bottle filling station are construction requirements when water lines are not readily accessible, ADA compliance, and funding. The cost of an outdoor water bottle station ranges from \$4,000 for a single station (no water fountain) to \$7,000 for a tri-level station with water fountains, and interior stations are about \$2,500. These costs do not include any labor or construction costs to install. The inclusion of new water bottle filling stations in future CIP and renovation projects is seen as the best way to continue State Parks' goal of installing more stations in the parks.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SCR-117

Submitted on: 3/22/2024 9:55:48 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/25/2024 1:00:00 PM

| Su | omitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|----|------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| L | sa Bishop | Testifying for Friends of Hanauma Bay | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and WTL Committee members,

Friends of Hanauma Bay strongly supports this resolution. We have been working to install a water bottle refilling station at Hanauma Bay, and recommend that the Division of State Parks include Hanauma Bay as one of its sites for installation of a water bottle refilling station.

The underwater terrain in the Bay comprises Hawaii's only underwater State park under the jurisdiction of the Parks Division. The water in the embayment up to the high water mark falls under the jurisdiction of the Division of Aquatic Resources. Mauka of the high water mark falls under county agency which also manages access control to the Hanauma Bay Underwater State Park and Hanauma Bay Marine Life Conservation District, which are the biggest attractions for the visitors to Hanauma Bay who, coincidentally, have been asking for the means to refill their water bottles to help curb plastic pollution.

Please pass this resolution, and we will urge DLNR to include Hanauma Bay as a site that benefits from these common sense health and safety as well as plastic pollution mitigation measures.

With Aloha,

Lisa Bishop

President

Friends of Hanauma Bay

SCR-117

Submitted on: 3/22/2024 11:09:35 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/25/2024 1:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jacqueline S. Ambrose | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

YES to; REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STREAM MAINTENANCE WORKING GROUP WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.