



**Ka Moku'aina 'O Hawai'i Aha Moku O Pae'Aina**

**State of Hawai'i Aha Moku**

**P. O. Box 621**

**Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of the Hawaii State Aha Moku  
Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Monday, February 13, 2023

12:30 PM

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**IN SUPPORT of Senate Bill 770**

Relating to Beach Park Restoration

Senate Bill 770 appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawaii to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. It conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawai'i contribution of matching funds.

**The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) strongly supports this measure.**

Added to the National Register of Historic Places on December 27, 1974, the Kahaluu District showcases Kahaluu Beach Park, a beautiful and popular beach that is a main attraction in Kailua-Kona, Moku O Keawe (Island of Hawai'i). It is heavily used by residents, native Hawaiian *lawaiia* (fishing and gathering), tourists and visitors.

As is stated in SB 770, we believe that this two-phase project is necessary to preserve and protect this jewel of Hawai'i for current and future generations.

Historically, Kahalu'u is a sacred place to native Hawaiians. The area was once an important royal residence and was known for the *Pa O Ka Menehune*, a breakwater constructed in ancient Hawaii that might have once enclosed the entire bay. The *Ku'emanu Heiau* is on the north end of the bay and was used by royalty to view surfing. Two ancient *loko'ia* (fishponds) called *Waikua'ala* and *Po'o Hawai'i* are still visible. King David Kalakaua built a beach house in this area which has been reconstructed. South of the bay is *Hapaiali'i Heiau*, associated with astrological observation built between 1411 and 1465 and restored in 2007. These are just a few of the many historic places in the Kahaluu District.

Although Kahaluu Bay is better known for its snorkeling and ocean activities, the history of this special place is important to the native Hawaiian families of Kahalu'u and to Kailua-Kona. The restoration of the Kahaluu Beach Park is essential to the needed restoration of its true history. We support SB 770 and urge its adoption.

Respectfully,

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director

Hawaii State Aha Moku

808-640-1214, Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov

*Pae'Aina: Moku O Keawe, Moku O Piilani, Moku O Kanaloa, Nana'i Kaula, Moloka'i Pule O'o, Moku O Kakuhihewa,  
Manokalanipo, Ka'Aina O Kawelonakala*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:27:00 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglass S. Adams	Testifying for Research and Development, County of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SB 770, which appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawaii to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. The bill's findings note many of the partnerships that are occurring to revitalize and protect Kahaluu Bay. The County of Hawaii has been a part of several of these and looks forward to continuing to work together on behalf of the beach and the bay. We encourage the Committee to move this bill forward with a favorable recommendation for passage by the Senate.

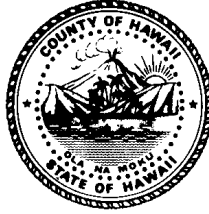
very respectfully

Douglass S Adams

Director, Dept of Research & Development

County of Hawaii

**Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba**  
Council Member, District 8, N. Kona



Office: (808) 323-4280  
Email: [holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 12, 2023

Committee on Water and Land  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Re: Support for SB770 Relating to Beach Park Restoration  
Hearing: February 13, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.

Aloha Senators,

On behalf of myself and constituents of Council District 8 in North Kona, I am expressing strong support for SB770 relating to Beach Park Restoration.

We support this measure that would appropriate funds for a grant-in-aid to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a project to restore the Kahalu'u Beach Park in Hawai'i County.

Kahalu'u Bay is a sacred place with heiau, fishponds and barrier rock walls that provide safer fishing conditions for gatherers in the area. We need to preserve this beach park for future generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

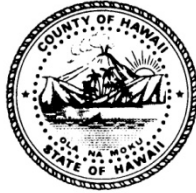
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Holeka Goro Inaba', written in a cursive style.

---

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA, Council Member  
District 8, North Kona

**Mitchell D. Roth**  
*Mayor*



**Maurice C. Messina**  
*Director*

**Michelle Malia Hiraishi**  
*Deputy Director*

## County of Hawai`i

### DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

101 Pauahi Street, Suite 6 • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720

(808) 961-8311 • Fax (808) 961-8411

Email: [parks\\_recreation@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:parks_recreation@hawaiicounty.gov)

<http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/parks-and-recreation/>

**LATE**

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 770

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye

Sen. Brandon J.C. Elefante

Monday, February 13, 2023, 12:30 pm  
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Honorable Chair Inouye, Honorable Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land, the Hawai`i County Department of Parks and Recreation submits the following in SUPPORT of SB 770.

This Bill appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawaii to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawaii contribution of matching funds.

The Hawaii County Department of Parks and Recreation (hereinafter, "DPR") currently manages and has the maintenance responsibility for thirty beach parks in the County of Hawaii (hereinafter, "COH"). Kahalu`u Beach Park is the most visited beach park in the COH, and hosts upwards of four hundred thousand visitors annually.

Due to its low-lying state, Kahalu`u Beach Park must be frequently closed during high surf events and was the only COH Beach Park on Hawai`i Island that required closure for numerous days to conduct debris clean-up from the recent Tonga tsunami. This opportunity to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore Kahaluu Beach Park would help us work toward the restoration of a sacred place for future generations.

For the foregoing reasons, the Hawai`i County Department of Parks and Recreation SUPPORTS the passage of SB 770. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



**RE: SB 770 Relating to Beach Park Restoration**

Description: Appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawai'i contribution of matching funds.

Monday, February 13, 12:30 p.m., Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Position: **Strongly Support SB 770**

To: The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair, The Honorable Brandon Elefante, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

I am the director of the Kahalu'u Bay Education Center, a program of The Kohala Center (KBEC/TKC). KBEC collaborates with the County and the State of Hawai'i to revive and revitalize Kahalu'u Beach and Bay Park in Kona on Hawai'i Island. Kahalu' u Bay is a premier visitor destination and key Kona economic generator, a traditional community gathering place, and a coral reef spawning habitat. However, the bay and beach are threatened by both human interactions through trampling, waste disposal and by ocean acidification, sea level rise, ocean heating, and other climate change effects. In May 2022, Kahalu'u Bay was recognized by Dr. Sylvia Earle, world-renowned Marine Biologist, as the 141 Mission Blue Hope Spot. Hope Spots are **marine areas** that are considered scientifically critical to the ocean's health. [Kahalu'u Bay on Hawai'i's West Coast Recognized as a Mission Blue Hope Spot - Mission Blue.](#)

KBEC/TKC has taken a leadership role in the care of the Bay, offering a unique visitor experience that teaches respect for natural and cultural resources through education, public outreach, and research. We believe that to make wise conservation and development investment decisions, we need current information about the forces affecting the bay's marine structure, how those forces are affecting the terrestrial landscape now, and how they are likely to do so in the future. With good data and a carefully crafted master plan, existing educational and stewardship activities can be most effective while future developments to the park facilities and regulations about park and bay use can maximize the potential for conservation and restoration. It is in our best interest to mālama this precious wahi pana (sacred, cherished place) because this reef ecosystem is both a key spawning ground for marine life and a regional economic asset.

To sustain Kahalu'u Bay as a gathering place and marine resource for future generations and to implement and expand pono practices, a strategic preservation plan is critical. In September 2021, KBEC/TKC and Sea Engineering LLC completed a Kahalu'u Beach and Bay Coastal Hazard

Assessment Sea Level Rise (SLR) Report. This analysis considered how ocean trends affect the nearshore environment in the face of climate change. The report included recommendations for the restoration of the park. In December 2021, KBEC and Senator Kanuha's office formed a Kahalu'u Bay Working Group with members from State Planning, Army Corp of Engineers, County of Hawai'i Parks, and the Coastal Zone Management Program to work on the next steps for the restoration of the park. The group consensus was to apply for appropriate funding to begin the preliminary design and concept work.

We ask your **strong support for SB 770** to appropriate funds for the restoration of Kahalu'u Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa  
Cynthia Punihaole Kennedy  
Director  
Kahalu'u Bay Education Center



I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB770.

The historic town of Kailua, Kona has become a popular destination for people from all over the world looking to buy a condo or high priced residence for their vacation stay or “second home”. It is a mecca for tourists who stay at hotels or come in on a tour boat to visit our shops and beaches. During the Ironman Triathlon Kailua, Kona is a place most of the people who live here try to avoid.

Located just a few miles from Kailua, Kona, Kahalu’u Beach Park is inundated daily with tourists who swim or relax in the waters close to the pavilion. On the north side of the bay there are businesses who offer surf lessons which have recently been regulated to control the increasing number of tourists who come there for that purpose.

The impacts from the substantial amount of people in the bay along with the effects of climate change needs to be recognized to protect the park from further degradation. The Kohala Center’s Kahalu’u Bay Education Center has been strong stewards of this culturally significant place and this bill will support their efforts at restoration and protection.

Families and communities from Ho’okena and Kauhakō in South Kona are striving to keep our marine resources from being depleted and our coastline from degradation. We look to Kohala Center’s Kahalu’u Bay Education Center as a role model for our community, to learn and become involved in resource protection and the perpetuation of our cultural practices.

Please pass SB770 for the benefit all residents on Hawaii Island and visitors to our Ka Pae ‘Aina.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/9/2023 10:13:00 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christopher Dean	Testifying for Clean The Pacific	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this initiative. We need to restore the whole planet, but a good place to start is the beach, because the coastline is a sacred place, it's the meeting of the three main elements, Earth, Sky, Ocean. Having a healthy environment isn't just nice, it's critical to our survival.



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:04:21 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chiu yee carrie Leung	Testifying for Reef teach	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,  
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

Committee on Water and Land (WTL)  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

DATE:	Monday, February 13, 2023
TIME:	12:30 PM
PLACE:	Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Re: **Strong Support for SB770**

Aloha WTL Chair Senator Inouye, Vice Chair Elephante, and WTL Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing Friends of Hanauma Bay to testify in strong support of SB770 which would provide matching Grant-in-Aid funding for Hawaii County to restore Kahalu'u Bay Beach Park.

Due to the extraordinary efforts of the Kahalu'u Bay Stewardship Community, including The Kohala Center's Kahalu'u Bay Education Center, and far-reaching support from State Legislators and ocean stewards across Hawaii, the internationally acclaimed Sylvia Earle Alliance selected Kahalu'u Bay as Hawaii's second Mission Blue Hope Spot in 2022.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75fa9febcbdb94fe08f946f59a1fb2cfe>

Championed by local conservationists, Hope Spots are special places scientifically identified as critical to the health of the ocean.

<https://missionblue.org/hope-spots/>

SB770 will authorize matching funds for Hawaii County to begin a long deferred, and much needed, restoration of the Kahalu'u Beach Park adjoining the Kahalu'u Bay Hope Spot.



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,  
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

Hearing and passing SB770 affirms ongoing legislative recognition of the extensive community stewardship efforts that led to the prestigious Hope Spot designation for Kahalu'u Bay itself. Hawaii County is already onboard with providing matching funds for this project, so it's a clear win-win for everyone!

Mahalo for passing SB770!

With Aloha,

Lisa Bishop  
President  
Friends of Hanauma Bay



To: The Honorable Chair Inouye and Vice-chair Elefante, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing SB770 **RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION**

Hearing: Monday, February 13, 2023, 12:30 p.m.

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean.

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**The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB770!**

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Kahalu'u Bay on Hawai'i Island is a jewel in Hawaii's reef systems! The Beach Park is a sacred cultural site and marine tourist destination, with over 400,000 visitors per year. The County of Hawai'i and the Kahala Center's Kahalu'u Bay Education Center do a fantastic job in educating visitors on how to protect the reefs. This greatly helps preserve the marine and coastal ecosystem. Indeed, the site was designated in 2022 as a Mission Blue "Hope Spot."

Despite all of these efforts, the Bay still faces the impacts of climate change, overuse, trampling of the coral and chemical sunscreens degrading the marine

area. State grant-in-aid funds are needed to match County funding to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work as part of a two phased restoration of the beach park.

Please pass this bill and enable the County of Hawai'i to restore this jewel!

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Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

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*To promote and support ocean conservation by raising awareness and appreciation of the marine environment and to serve as a catalyst for multidisciplinary collaboration in ocean-related sustainability efforts.*

February 11, 2022  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair  
Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Hearing: Monday, February 12, 2023  
SB770 RELATING TO BEACH PARK RESTORATION  
Position: **Strongly Support SB770**

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing as the president of Dear Ocean and a Mission Blue Hope Spot Champion for Kahalu'u Bay.

On May 26th, 2022, the international marine conservation nonprofit [Mission Blue named Kahalu'u Bay a Hope Spot](#). It is the second designated Hope Spot in the state of Hawai'i, and a wahi pana — a sacred, celebrated, and storied place abundant with cultural and ecological treasures.

You can see the Kahalu'u Bay Hope Spot launch video with Dr. Sylvia Earle [here](#), and the Mission Blue press release for the Hope Spot designation [here](#):

*Dr. Sylvia Earle, Founder of Mission Blue, says, "Kahalu'u Bay serves as a model for other smaller bays around the world and shows how they too can harness the deep relationships between people and the environment to protect these cherished places. [the] Bay has become a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for the community."*

**Kahalu'u Bay is now receiving international attention** and will continue to gather more recognition as it matures into a Mission Blue Hope Spot model for other community stewardship programs worldwide. In fact, just this past June on World Ocean Day, the "[Hope in Hawaii](#)" webinar featuring Hawai'i's two Mission Blue Hope Spots aired with over one thousand individuals across the globe having registered to participate. How we choose to care for this ecologically important bay will have a wide-ranging and long-term impact.



Kahalu‘u Bay is a treasure. The bay’s coral reef is a key spawning ground for fish and coral, and acts as a nursery for juvenile fish and invertebrates including endemic and culturally significant species. The large, shallow, protected reef of Kahalu‘u Bay is directly adjoined to a deeper offshore habitat making it an ideal location for spawning and dispersal to occur.

But, Kahalu‘u Bay has seen profound changes in the past several decades. Overuse and development have severely degraded the reef in the bay, and coral deaths continue even in the absence of large-scale bleaching events. Local stressors include overcrowding and unsustainable tourism, sunscreen pollution, sediment kick-up, coral trampling, coastal inundation, sewage, and polluted groundwater runoff, as illustrated in the brief video [Kahalu‘u Bay | Then and Now](#). These stressors combine with warming waters to create synergistic negative impacts that further inundate the coastline and harm and kill marine life.

Clearly, much work needs to be done— before the damage is irreversible.

### PHOTOGRAPHS OF KAHALU‘U BAY IN RECENT YEARS









ONE EXAMPLE OF CAULIFLOWER CORAL DEATH IN KAHALU'U BAY

Rassy  
2018



See the hawkfish sheltering in the coral colony named "Rassy"?



Note the beginning of coral decline.

Rassy  
2019

Rassy  
2022



Rassy is one of many cauliflower corals that have died in Kahalu'u Bay since 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB770 in support of the restoration of Kahalu'u Bay Beach Park.

Kind Regards,

Christine Zalewski, PhD  
President, Dear Ocean

LINKS PROVIDED IN TEXT ABOVE:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75fa9febcb94fe08f946f59a1fb2cfe>

<https://www.dearoccean.org/kahaluu-bay-hope-spot-launch-video>

<https://mission-blue.org/2022/05/kahaluu-bay-on-hawaiiis-west-coast-recognized-as-a-mission-blue-hope-spot/>

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XstF672fC8s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XstF672fC8s)

<https://www.dearoccean.org/then-and-now-kahaluu-bay-video>

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 5:41:38 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert P Thomas Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My wife Eleanor and I have visited Kahaluu Bay since 2007. We have noticed the need for repairs to the facilities and parking area for many years. The park is not only used by visitors but is an important venue for local's having Graduations, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Barbeques, Paddle Outs, Marine biology classes and many other classes like yoga, snorkeling and kilo.

We support SB770 and companion Bill HB169 which appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawaii to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawaii. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawaii contribution of matching funds.

We no longer live in beautiful Kailua Kona but visit frequently and continue to volunteer with Kahaluu Bay Education Center which gives time to teach visitors to the bay how to enjoy and preserve the beauty and bounty of the bay.

Mahalo for your time and Aloha,

Ele and Robert Thomas

11650 N. Europa Place

Oro Valley, AZ. 85737

970-270-6684 Ele

970-618-5424 Robert

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 8:28:17 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Cranshaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I and my family strongly support passage of SB770, which will provide much needed funding to maintain and improve Kahaluu Beach Park. As you know, Kahaluu provides many educational services to its hundreds of thousands of visitors, services that help all visitors understand and appreciate how important it is to protect and preserve the biodiversity of Hawaii.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve and protect our aina.

John Cranshaw

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 8:54:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
marjorie erway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to support this bill with all your strength and influence. Kahalu'u is heavily used by tourists AND residents and needs to be restored and improved.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Marjorie Erway

808-324-4624

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 9:02:34 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Our county parks and near shore waters are often neglected.

Appropriates funds for a grant-in-aid to the County of Hawai'i to hire an engineering firm to study, plan, assist, and conduct preliminary design and concept work for a two-phase project to restore the Kahaluu Beach Park in the County of Hawai'i. Conditions the appropriation on the County of Hawai'i contribution of matching funds.

I urge you to support and pass this needed bill to update and protect this popular park and snorkel spot.

mahalo nui from Keauhou in Ka'u



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 9:38:28 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathleen Clark	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u is a sacred and storied place. The beach park is a cherished area for community gatherings as well as one of the most heavily visited tourist destinations on Hawai‘i Island. There is a critical need to repair the facilities as many pose a risk to human safety as well as an ecological risk from debris entering the sensitive coral reef ecosystem. Restoration carried out in a way that is both respectful to the sacredness of the area and addresses the impacts of rising sea levels and a changing climate is imperative. This bill is an essential step in the right direction.

Mahalo for your support and consideration.

Kathleen Clark

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:04:07 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael McGuire	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*Our family is writing to express our strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*We appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

Michael and Deborah McGuire

77-188 Mahihie Street, Kailua-Kona HI 96740

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:04:34 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Johansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*Jen Johansen*

*Kona Resident*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:46:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Moana Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o au i kēia hana nui.

Mahalo,

Moana Ching

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 10:52:51 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB770 to plan restoration work for Kahalu'u Beach Park, which is by far the most used park in Kona.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:04:14 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bert Jackson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Attn: Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Dear Senators,

I am writing in strong support of SB770. The preservation of our coastal ecosystems is critical not only to our economy, but to maintaining the ecological health of our waters. Coral reefs around the world have been devastated by the impacts of climate change and other forms of human intervention. The loss of living reefs severely impacts the biodiversity of that region, with wide-ranging consequences. We have a moral imperative to not only repair the damage done by past neglect and abuse, but to preserve these fragile environments for future generations.

This study will help define a path forward to being this reclamation of our environment.

Please support SB770.

BJ/Keaau

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:09:04 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vincent J Carr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land;

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is an important historical, cultural, ecological and social landmark on the Big Island. Visitors to the park come from the neighborhood, other islands, the mainland and foreign countries to enjoy the beach, view the amazing marine life and to celebrate events. The park facilities and grounds are showing the results of years of heavy use, inadequate maintenance, weather events and higher sea levels. It is not only an aesthetic issue, there are safety concerns and environmental matters to be considered as well.

I would appreciate your consideration and support for this first step that will initiate a much needed project of renewal for Kahalu'u Beach Park.

Mahalo,

Vince Carr

75-6009 Alii Drive F-4

Kailua-Kona. HI 96740

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:40:31 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Lorenzo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land.*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo, Nancy Lorenzo*

*78-7039 Kamehameha III Dr.  
# 126*

*Kailua-Kona, HI 96740*



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:42:46 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. I grew up in Kona, and this was one of my favorite childhood memories- building sandcastles by the showers, making canals based off of the run off from the shower water, and learning to snorkel wih my best friend at Kahalu'u.

Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters. Please help keep this park a place where the next generation can experience joyful childhood memories as well.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:43:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Liam Kernell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Liam Kernell*

*Honoka'a, Hawai'i Island*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 11:59:03 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rick Gaffney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahalu'u Beach Park is one of, if not the most heavily used beach park(s) on Hawaii Island, and for this reason, and many others, this bill should be passed so that the park can be protected and enhanced to better serve the community and the many visitors who flock there daily.

Beyond the heavy daily use are the unique attributes of Kahalu'u, which is one of the most protected embayments on the island, making it accessible virtually year round, and an ideal place to introduce keiki to the ocean, to learn to snorkel, to learn about diverse reef fish communities, to swim for exercise, to learn to surf, and so much more.

Kahalu'u is the Hanauma Bay of the Big Island and as such it is worthy of preservation and upgrade in order for it to continue to serve kama'aina and visitors alike, in the years to come.

Please vote in favor of this important legislation.

Mahalo,

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 12:03:19 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Palmer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly support SB770. Kahalu'u Beach park is a treasure and should be upgraded so that it is safe and accessible.

Kahalu'u Beach Park was named a Mission Blue Hope Spot last year and has received worldwide attention as a cultural and environmental treasure.

The infrastructure has failed. The main pavilion is rat infested and the roof is rusted through all over. The structure is rotting away and is unsafe. The smaller pavilion on north side has been condemned as unsafe and fenced off for several years.

Kahalu'u gets about 400 thousand visitors each year and it's scary to see that they are subjected to increasingly dangerous conditions every time they visit.

Please help!

John Palmer, Kailua-Kona

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 12:36:44 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary Ellen Jaske	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Mary Ellen Jaske, Kailua Kona*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 12:41:09 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Kent	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*  
susan Kent

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 1:07:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janice Prunk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Jan Prunk*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 1:14:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Thank you.



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 2:07:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Arthur John Tarsa. Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahaluu Beach Park is an important cultural site and tourist destination. The current condition of the pavilion is deplorable. Funds to correct this are sorely needed. Volunteers, who last painted the pavilion, can only do so much. I fully support SB770.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 2:47:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Murray	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*Kahalu'u Beach park is in dire need of some TLC. I have been visiting the park and helping with the ReefTeach program for over ten years and I have seen no resoration of the buildings in that time. The roof is shedding toxic lead geen paint chips onto the reef that I have been picking out for years. The bathrooms are so gross I do not recommend people use them, somethimes leaking out onto the reef. When someting at the beach crumbles it is given some caution tape and that is the fix. Then I pick the caution tape off the reef a week later.*

*This beach park deserves more. So many people love this beach as much as I do and together we can make it so much better. Please do everthing you can to improve this magical spot.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Jason Murray*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 2:52:49 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Herring	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in **strong support** of Senate Bill 770 that appropriates funds for a Grant-in-Aid to the County of Hawaii to support restoration of Kahaluu Bay Beach Park. Kahaluu Beach Park is a very highly used beach near the heart of Kona. It is home to an incredibly important near-shore coral reef system that has recently been recognized as a Mission Blue Hope Spot. This reef ecosystem attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year that come to marvel at the bounty of tropical fish and corals in this incredible bay. The beach park is also historically and culturally important meeting place for the local community. Unfortunately the park has been greatly affected by rising sea levels and the passage of time. As a result the park itself and many of the facilities within it are in such dire need of repair that they are becoming unsafe. I therefore, strongly urge you to support SB770 and initiate the next step toward restoring this cherished place.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 3:02:51 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dorothy Norris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a unique and cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo, Dorothy Norris*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 3:09:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maki Morinoue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye, Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante, Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

Thank you for this opportunity, as this bill impacts the place I grew up visiting all the time.

I am very much supporting SB770.

Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a beloved community gathering place and home to vital coral reef ecosystems, native limu, and more. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem in the adjacent waters. This place is now visited by thousands of people every day for better or worst, and its facilities need to be looked after.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Mahalo nui loa in advanced,

Maki Morinoue  
96725

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 6:42:02 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sanjay Velappan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Mahalo,

Sanjay Velappan

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:15:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Kurtzman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Dana Kurtzman*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:58:11 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Georgia Kossoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

I am writing to convey my strong support of SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is one of the most special places in the world to me and to so many others in our community. It's a sacred, treasured place - it's an important community gathering center and it houses one of our most important nearshore coral reef ecosystems. But the park and its facilities urgently need repairs to be safe for visitors and to reduce harm to the coral reef housed in the bay. Please support SB770 - your community would be so grateful.

Thank you for everything you do for us.

Georgia



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:17:16 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yuhgene Liu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

Yuhgene

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:34:25 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marty Kossoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kakou,

Much aloha. SB770 needs your support! It is an important piece of legislation that will provide funds for Kahalu'u Beach Park through a grant-in-aid the the County of Hawaii. Funds that will be used to hire an engineering firm to do the necessary planning work to restore this precious gem of a beach park, which is in such bad disrepair at the same time it is a huge tourist attraction on the Big Island. We cannot let this be the face of Hawaii Parks while in such a bad state!! We need to take care of our precious resources, and this is a major one!

Thanks you.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:09:47 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cynthia Urry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.

I appreciate your support and consideration.

Mahalo,

Cyndy Urry

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 8:34:35 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
CARL ROBERT WARGULA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*As a frequent visitor (over 20 years) and volunteer for the Reef Teach program at the Kahaluu Bay, I am spiritually moved no matter how many times I've been there. Encounters with other visitors have been extremely positive with regard to keeping the Bay as pristine as possible. This would include the replacement of the current facilities. This Bay is a gem that needs attention now.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Carl Wargula*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 9:16:14 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Howard Warshaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I am writing in support of SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is still a unique and wonderful place, but I have witnessed first hand the deterioration of both the beach and the waters since I first came to the Big Island 23 years ago. Back then, there was a full sand entry into the waters and honu would regularly come out to rest a few hours on that sand.

I hope you will approve this measure which will help protect and hopefully restore Kahalu'u Beach Park!

Mahalo for you consideration,

Howard Warshaw

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:02:25 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laurel Terry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have been coming to the Big Island almost every year since 2000. Kahalu'u is one of the reasons why I love the Big Island and keep returning. It is a treasure that should be cherished and protected. Doing so benefits not just the citizens of Hawaii but the citizens of the world.

The Reef Teach and Kahalu'u Bay Education Center volunteers have made a tremendous difference, with the addition of on-site educational materials, barriers to keep people from walking on top of the fragile rocks and coral when entering the water, and by dispensing reef-safe suntan lotion. They do an admirable job, but more needs to be done. SB 770 provides the kind of institutional support that is needed and that is appropriate to conserve this amazing resource for future generations.

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 10:47:46 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wendy Galasso	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I am a volunteer at Kahalu'u Bay Education Center and observe the use of this Hawaii island treasure first hand. It is very obvious that the existing park and facilities need major repairs and improvements so this can continue to be a place for residents and vistors alike to appreciate the unique attributes and history of Hawaii Island*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

*Wendy Galasso*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 11:03:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jamie Pardau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha Senator Inouye, Senator Elefante, and all members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land, As a long-time resident of Kailua Kona, I have enjoyed the beauty of Kahalu'u Baech Park and worked as a volunteer to help preserve it. However there are repairs beyond the abilities of volunteers. This park introduces thousands of guests to the wonders of our ocean life each year. It continues to sustain local families with fishing and recreational opportunities. The repairs that this bill would support will make Kahalu'u a safer place for residents and guests. It will also benefit the multitudes of creatures that live in the bay. I urge you to support SB 770. Mahalo



**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:12:04 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Debra Kokinos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to strongly support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished gathering place for both locals and visitors and is home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in desparate need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo,*

Debra Kokinos

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 12:22:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judith Matsunobu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is an important community gathering place and home to a significant coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities really need repairs to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem in its waters.*

*As a senior citizen born and raised in Hawaii, I have been watching with concern the deterioration of our aina as our population grows and strains all of our natural resources. Please help preserve this one place that has been the focus of so many efforts to preserve our endangered coral reefs and all the ocean life that depends on them.*

*Thank you for your support and consideration.*

*Judith Matsunobu*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 1:30:22 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lisa Bunge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu'u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo, Lisa*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:11:42 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
R A Culbertson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators!

Strong Support Testimony for SB 770!

Kahalu'u is a gem! Volunteers work hard to keep so.

Please back us up.

Mahalo!

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 3:25:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judy A Wormington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,*

*I am writing to express my strong support for SB770. Kahalu‘u Beach Park is a cherished community gathering place and home to an important nearshore coral reef ecosystem. The park and its facilities are in dire need of repair to ensure that the park is safe for all who visit and to reduce harm to the coral reef ecosystem found in the adjacent waters.*

*I live within one mile of the Park. It is one, if not the most used park on the West Side of the Big Island for its size. It is vital that we keep it in pristine condition for all of us to enjoy.*

*I appreciate your support and consideration.*

*Mahalo, Judy A. Wormington*

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:02:43 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
WILBUR F. VAN PELT	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and land.

My name is Bill Van Pelt, I live in Seattle. I have an undergrad degree in Marine Biology and a master in Environmental science. I have worked with the Reef Teach program for over a decade till the pandemic and illness made me call a halt.

I fully support SB770. Over the years I have witnessed the decay of the facilities at Kahaluu from being "loved to death" by tourists and damage by nature without sufficient repair. The site is too valuable to both the local economy and the health of the reef system of the island itself to continue as is. Careful thought and planning addressing both the beach facilities and the safety of the marine residents is desperately needed. Passage of this bill is important to the continued health of the island and the state.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo,

Bill Van Pelt

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:26:02 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Angelina Kossoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senator Lorraine Inouye Chair, Senator Brandon Elefante Vice Chair, and the Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

I would like to express my strong support for SB770. As a treasured community gathering space and home to diverse nearby marine and coastal ecosystems, the Kahalu'u Beach Park is in serious need of repair. The repairment of the park and the facilities will create a safer space for visitors and minimize the damage to the coral reef ecosystem found in the nearshore waters.

Thank you for your time and support,

Angelina Kossoff

**SB-770**

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 3:22:00 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/13/2023 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rachel Silverman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill to help rehabilitate Kahalu'u beach park. It desperately needs the help. The infrastructure is crumbling and impacting the ecosystem. Please support this bill!

Mahalo

Rachel Silverman