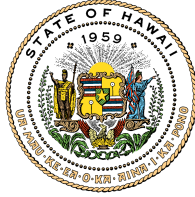


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE
KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | 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
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
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RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY
CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
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

**Testimony of
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Thursday, April 2, 2026
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2401, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS**

Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to plan and serve in a coordinating role to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for regional shoreline mitigation districts in coordination with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), applicable county planning department, and the community. **The Department supports this measure, provided that certain changes are made which would ensure that the measure prioritizes the protection of the State's public trust resources.**

The Department recognizes the increasing urgency of coastal erosion and sea level rise impacts, as well as the importance of regional coordination in addressing shoreline change. The Department had previously expressed concerns that earlier versions of this measure could have altered the balance between planning and regulatory authority in a manner that raised significant concerns regarding the protection of public trust resources. Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 addresses these concerns and establishes a more appropriate planning framework.

This measure appropriately centers on the development of shoreline adaptation pathways. By requiring analysis of both short-term and long-term shoreline adaptation options, this measure establishes a structured, phased planning approach that reflects the dynamic nature of shoreline processes and long-term coastal risk.

This measure also requires meaningful engagement with local businesses, community organizations, groups, and individuals within and surrounding the proposed district. Requiring culturally-informed, community-engaged planning strengthens the legitimacy and durability of adaptation strategies and ensures that district-level planning is informed by local knowledge and community priorities.

Importantly, Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 requires analysis of public trust resources at risk within the adaptation district and evaluation of their social, cultural, environmental, and economic value to the broader community. Explicit consideration of these public trust resources — including public beaches, coastal ecosystems, cultural resources, and shoreline access — supports sound policy development and aligns shoreline planning with the State’s constitutional and statutory obligations.

In Section 2, on page 6, line 18 through page 8, line 2, there is a line regarding the prioritization of protecting shoreline properties that appears to be inconsistent with the remainder of House Draft 1, and that the Department recommends be struck to read:

- (f) Any shoreline adaptation pathway identified or proposed in the shoreline adaptation pathways plan shall prioritize the preservation of public beach [~~and shoreline properties~~] and shall provide for lateral public access along the shoreline.

The Department is concerned that the current draft contains amendments that would weaken the protections of Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 205A, the Coastal Zone Management Act, which sets state policy for the preserving, protecting, and restoring Hawai‘i’s coastal resources.

In Section 4, on page 18, line 12, through page 19, line 7, the Department recommends deleting the following phrase in (6) (E), which does not align with the objectives of Chapter 205A, as stated in Chapter 205A-1:

- (6) Coastal hazards
 - (A) Develop and communicate adequate information about the risks of coastal hazards;
 - (B) Control development, including planning and zoning control, in areas subject to coastal hazards;
 - (C) Ensure that developments comply with requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program; ~~and~~
 - (D) Prevent coastal flooding from inland projects; and
 - (E) Support and integrate shoreline adaptation pathways planning for the preservation of public beaches and public trust resources, [~~which may include the protection of shoreline properties,~~] into county special management area planning and permitting processes, to the extent feasible and consistent with this chapter;

In the same section, on page 20, line 13 through page 21, line 6, the Department recommends the following deletion, as the counties do not have regulatory authority over lands makai of the shoreline, nor do they have authority to amend permits issued by the Department of Land and Natural Resources:

(9) Beach protection;

- (A) Locate new structures inland from the shoreline setback to conserve open space, minimize interference with natural shoreline processes, and minimize loss of improvements due to erosion;
- B) Prohibit construction of private shoreline hardening structures, including seawalls and revetments, at sites having sand beaches and at sites where shoreline hardening structures interfere with existing recreational and waterline activities; ~~[provided that counties may approve temporary shoreline hardening structures where an imminently dangerous shoreline condition has extended beyond an emergency authorization pursuant to section 183C-6(g);]~~

The Department believes that our proposed amendments are consistent with the intent of the proposed legislation, and with these changes would strongly support Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 and its framework for coordinated, forward-looking, and resource-protective shoreline adaptation planning.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



TESTIMONY PROVIDING COMMENTS ON SENATE BILL 2401 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka ‘Oihana ‘Imi Kālā
(House Committee on Finance)

Ke Kapitala ‘o Hawai‘i
(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

‘Apelila 2, 2026

2:00 PM

Lumi 308

Aloha e Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) provides **COMMENTS** on **SB2401 SD1 HD1**, which proposes the development of shoreline adaptation pathway plans for regional shoreline mitigation districts as designated by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD).

OHA recognizes the urgent need for forward-looking responses to climate change and coastal hazards. We have consistently supported comprehensive regional planning approaches over parcel-specific shoreline responses, and we appreciate the improvements made in SD1 that move this measure toward a more structured and planning-based framework. However, **OHA has significant concerns with amendments taken in the previous committee that would authorize the extension of temporary shoreline hardening structures beyond the period allowed under an emergency permit, and inappropriately places private property interests on equal footing with the State’s constitutional obligation to protect public trust resources.**¹

OHA’s longstanding position is that shoreline hardening and armoring are environmentally harmful and contribute to beach loss and degradation of coastal ecosystems. Shoreline hardening fixes the shoreline in place, prevents the natural inland migration of beaches, accelerates passive erosion, and impairs lateral public access. These impacts directly affect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, including fishing, gathering, and access to culturally significant coastal areas. OHA therefore supports adaptation strategies that prioritize retreat, nature-based solutions, and regional planning over individual structural protections.

This policy direction is consistent with the *2017 Hawai‘i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report*, which identified shoreline retreat as an inevitable consequence of sea level rise

¹ See Haw. Const. Art. XI, § 1.

and recommended limiting shoreline hardening in favor of accommodation and managed retreat.² The Legislature relied on these findings in enacting Act 16 (2020), which reflects the State’s commitment to long-term resilience and public trust obligations. Allowing indefinite or extended shoreline hardening outside of true emergencies undermines this policy framework and risks perpetuating shoreline armoring that contributes to long-term beach loss.

Accordingly, OHA respectfully recommends the following amendments to ensure that existing environmental and cultural protections remain fully operative and that the State upholds its constitutional obligations to protect cultural and public trust resources.

First, OHA recommends adding the assessment of impacts to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices protected under Article XII, Section 7, of the Hawai‘i Constitution during development of adaptation pathway plans. While impacts to cultural practices and resources must be considered by BLNR at the permitting stage, OHA supports a proactive identification process at the regional district planning stage so that culturally sensitive areas may meaningfully inform adaptation planning before specific shoreline measures are advanced. Early assessment will improve planning outcomes and better fulfill the State’s trust obligations under Article XII, Section 7, consistent with the manner in which the State’s public trust resource obligations are evaluated at the planning stage. **OHA recommends inserting at page 5, line 1, as part of subsection (e), the following:**

“(2) The identification and assessment of the scope, nature, and extent of potential impacts to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and cultural resources that may be at risk within the regional shoreline mitigation district.”

Second, OHA strongly opposes the HD1 insertion of language that prioritizes preservation of private properties on par with public trust resources, as this may be in direct conflict with the State’s constitutional public trust doctrine, which recognizes separate and enduring public rights in trust resources superior to any private interest.³ Accordingly, OHA recommends the following amendment at page 6, line 20 to page 7, line 1:

(f) Any shoreline adaptation pathway identified or proposed in the shoreline adaptation pathways plan shall prioritize the preservation of public beach **and shoreline properties** and shall provide for lateral public access along the shoreline.

² Hawai‘i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. 2017. *Hawai‘i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report*. Prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc. and the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, under the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources Contract No: 64064.

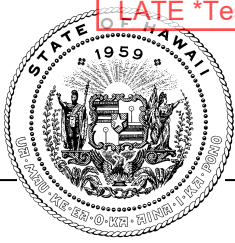
³ See e.g., *In re Water Use Permit Applications (Waiāhole I)*, 94 Hawai‘i 97, 138 (2000); *Kauai Springs, Inc. v. Planning Comm’n of the Cnty. of Kaua‘i*, 133 Hawai‘i 141 (2014).

Lastly, OHA strongly opposes the HD1 amendments that authorize the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the counties to extend temporary shoreline hardening structures beyond the duration of an emergency permit. Existing law already provides sufficient emergency permitting authority for shoreline stabilization where there is an imminent threat to public health, safety, welfare, or natural resources.⁴ The emergency provisions included would allow extensions of shoreline hardening beyond the emergency period without clear time limitations or defined standards, effectively creating a pathway for indefinite armoring. This undermines the purpose of the emergency permitting framework, which is intended to address immediate threats, while this measure is meant to evaluate responsible long-term shoreline responses. Expanding this authority risks normalizing temporary emergency measures as long-term solutions, contrary to the State’s climate adaptation policies and public trust responsibilities. **Accordingly, OHA recommends deleting those provisions at page 12, lines 8-19; and page 21, lines 2-6.**

OHA appreciates the Legislature’s efforts to improve this measure and supports thoughtful, regionally coordinated adaptation planning. With the recommended amendments and the removal of the HD1 provisions above, this bill can better align with the State’s long-term shoreline management policies while preserving existing environmental safeguards and protecting cultural and traditional resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. We look forward to the careful consideration of our **COMMENTS on SB2401 SD1 HD1.**

⁴ See HAR § 13-5-35. The Chairpeson may authorize temporary erosion control measures while applicants pursue longer-term solutions through standard processes and are expressly temporary, requiring a specified duration.



LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

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LATE

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thursday, April 2, 2026, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
SB 2401 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS.

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

S.B. 2401 SD1, HD1, establishes a statewide adaptation pathways planning framework under Ch. 225M, HRS, by creating regional shoreline mitigation districts and establishing procedures to implement shoreline hazard mitigation plans. OPSD respectfully offers the following **comments with concerns** on S.B. 2401 SD1, HD1.

OPSD, as the lead agency of the Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program, concurs that regional shoreline management is an appropriate approach to protect public trust resources and public shoreline access and develop proactive strategies to reduce the risk of coastal hazards to shoreline properties and infrastructure. However, OPSD has two primary concerns with this measure.

First, S.B. 2401 SD1, HD1 contains provisions that direct OPSD to act outside of its statutory authority and functional capacity and to take actions that appear to duplicate the jurisdiction of county planning authorities under Ch. 225M-2(c).

Second, this legislation is premature because CZM is conducting a multi-year pilot project for regional shoreline management in three shoreline areas across the State using federal funding. This pilot project has not yet able to provide guidance for statewide implementation.

OPSD prefers that S.B. 2401 SD1, HD1 be deferred until after the completion of its regional shoreline management pilot project. However, if this Committee chooses to advance this measure, OPSD requests that the Committee on Finance adopt the following amendments to S.B. 2401 SD1 HD1 to prevent jurisdictional and functional duplication:

1. **Amend** section 2, page 2 line 19 through page 9 line 17, as follows:

“§225M- Shoreline adaptation pathways planning. (a) The office of planning and sustainable development shall serve in a planning and coordination role to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for designated regional shoreline mitigation districts. The office shall:

- (1) Identify and designate regional shoreline mitigation districts comprised primarily of contiguous shoreline and shoreline-adjacent properties based on criteria that include but are not limited to traditional ahupuaa designation, interrelated coastal processes; documented and predicted erosion rates, and functional connection of sediment cells or littoral subcells, for the purposes of implementing coordinated shoreline protection and adaptation planning;
- (2) Assist state and county permitting and regulatory agencies by facilitating participation by community stakeholders; shoreline property owners; state, county, and federal agencies; and others as may be appropriate in the planning process; and
- (3) Provide technical assistance and planning guidance in the preparation of shoreline adaptation pathway plans specific to each designated regional shoreline mitigation district, which may include structural or non-structural, nature-based, hybrid, temporary, or permanent measures including beach and dune restoration, armoring, elevating and floodproofing infrastructure, relocation, or retreat, to prioritize the preservation of public beaches.

(b) Any shoreline adaptation pathway identified or proposed in the shoreline adaptation pathways plan shall prioritize the preservation of public beaches and dunes, and shall provide, protect, and maintain lateral public beach access along the shoreline.”

2. **Delete** section 4 of the measure, amending Chapter 205A, HRS, Hawai‘i’s Coastal Zone Management law.

The proposed amendments to section 205A-2(c), HRS, contained in section 4 of S.B. 2401 SD1 HD1 are duplicative of the counties’ existing authority pursuant to Parts II and III of chapter 205A, HRS, to manage shoreline and shoreline-adjacent development in alignment with county plans and county priorities.

Parts II and III of chapter 205A, HRS, provide flexibility for the counties to respond to local conditions, local concerns, and local priorities through the issuance of emergency permits within the SMA, and grant of variances within the shoreline setback to respond to imminent threats to life, safety, or property where it is clearly in the public interest.

SB 2401 SD 1 RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE
MITIGATION DISTRICTS - COMMENT
State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
April 2, 2026

3. **Delete** sections 5 and 6 of the measure, appropriating funds to OPSD for specified activities and for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position.

OPSD's amendment to section 2 of this measure removes the unnecessary functions proposed for assignment to OPSD by the SD1 and, therefore, eliminates the need for the proposed additional funding and position.

Implementing and sustaining the type of statewide regional planning program contemplated by S.B. 2401 SD1, HD1 would require significant recurring appropriations of general funds as a stable, long-term funding source. OPSD believes that the on-going pilot program will provide the information necessary to design and implement a proposed statewide regional shoreline mitigation program contemplated by S.B. 2401 SD1 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

April 2, 2026

The Honorable Chris Todd, Chair

House Committee on Finance

State Capitol, Conference Room 308 & Videoconference

RE: Senate Bill 2401, SD1, HD1, Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts

HEARING: Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lyndsey Garcia, Director of Advocacy, testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawaii and its over 10,000 members. HAR **supports** Senate Bill 2401, SD1, which requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to plan and serve in a coordinating role to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for regional shoreline mitigation districts designated by OPSD. Requires OPSD to coordinate shoreline adaptation pathways planning with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, applicable county and federal agencies, and the community. Requires OPSD to collaborate with community stakeholders and consider certain criteria when developing a shoreline adaptation pathways plan. Requires OPSD, upon finalization of a shoreline adaptation pathways plan to transmit the plan to the Board of Land and Natural Resources for approval. Authorizes BLNR to adopt a shoreline adaptation pathways plan after determining that the plan satisfies certain requirements. Establishes procedures for the review of state and county permits associated with regional shoreline mitigation districts. Establishes the support and integration of shoreline adaptation pathways planning as a policy under the Coastal Zone Management Program. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000.

Shoreline communities across the state are increasingly affected by coastal erosion and sea-level rise. Accelerating coastal erosion statewide is affecting housing stability and insurability in affected shoreline areas.

Since changes to the shoreline do not stop at property boundaries, erosion affecting one property can also impact neighboring homes. The current parcel-by-parcel approach to erosion mitigation and permitting is not well-matched to how erosion mitigation impacts coastlines and has resulted in inconsistent results that vary from property to property and within regional areas.

As such, a shoreline adaptation pathway plans for regional shoreline mitigation districts provides a long-term planning solution to longstanding erosion concerns by creating a defined framework for regional planning, programmatic environmental review, and coordinated agency decision-making to help homeowners and our communities. It also preserves existing environmental safeguards and county and state



 808-733-7060

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 1259 A'ala Street, Suite 300
Honolulu, HI 96817

agency oversight. Well-planned regional plans will benefit not only property owners, but also renters, local businesses, public access, visitors and broader coastal communities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:11:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ed Jones	Hololani AOA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is EJ, and I am the President of the AOA of Hololani in Kahana on Maui. I am providing testimony on behalf of a residential community that includes both long-term residents and families who live here year-round.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion is something we are actively dealing with today. Over time, the shoreline has moved inland, and areas that were once part of daily use are no longer accessible. During periods of higher surf, the ocean reaches much closer to our buildings than it did in the past, which raises real concerns about safety and long-term stability.

What stands out most is that this is not limited to one property. The same conditions exist across Kahana Bay, where multiple communities are facing similar impacts at the same time. While there have been efforts to coordinate, progress has been difficult to achieve in a consistent way.

From our experience, addressing this issue on a property-by-property basis does not reflect how the shoreline actually behaves. The impacts are shared, but the path forward is often fragmented, which makes it challenging for communities to move ahead together.

This bill provides a more workable approach by supporting coordinated planning and helping align efforts between communities and agencies. It allows for a more organized and forward-looking way to address shoreline change.

For communities like ours, having a clear and coordinated path forward is critical. We are ready to be part of a broader solution that reflects the shared nature of this issue.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

EJ

President, AOA of Hololani



April 1, 2026

House Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State Legislature
Via Electronic Transmission

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2401 SD1 HD1, Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts
Hearing: Thursday, April 2, 2026, 2:00 PM CR 308 & Via Videoconference

To: The Honorable Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee

Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region supports Senate Bill 2401 SD1 HD1 which represents a meaningful step forward in advancing regional shoreline planning in Hawai'i. By establishing a framework for shoreline adaptation pathways planning and integrating that framework into existing coastal permitting and policy processes, this measure begins to align shoreline management with the reality that coastal processes operate across connected beach cells rather than individual parcels.

The Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots environmental organization dedicated to the protection of our ocean, waves, and beaches for all people. Through our Coast & Climate initiative, chapters on Maui, Kaua'i, and O'ahu work directly on coastal erosion issues, including shoreline armoring, loss of public beach access, and long-term coastal resilience planning. As sea level rise accelerates and erosion intensifies along developed shorelines, we are increasingly encountering properties and infrastructure that are no longer defensible in place. Too often, the response is reactive, relying on emergency shoreline hardening and short-term fixes that can exacerbate erosion, degrade beaches, and transfer risk to neighboring areas.

This bill presents an opportunity to shift toward proactive, regional shoreline planning across connected beach systems that advances long-term solutions and reduces reliance on piecemeal responses. Surfrider Foundation believes this framework is most valuable as a tool to preserve public beaches and natural shoreline processes, which are foundational to Hawai'i's coastal ecosystems, cultural resources, public access, and economy. By establishing regional adaptation pathways planning, the State can better plan for long-term shoreline change, support nature-based solutions, and create pathways for transition strategies such as relocation or retreat where appropriate.

This measure aligns with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development’s Managed Retreat Study (2025), which recommends a regional planning approach focused on eroding sandy beaches identified as priority areas¹. It also emphasizes the use of adaptation pathways with defined triggers, where thresholds guide when specific actions are implemented over time. SB2401 SD1 HD1 creates a framework that could begin to operationalize these recommendations, particularly if strengthened with timelines for implementation and clear adaptation triggers.

While we support the overall direction of the bill, we would like to flag a few concerns with amendments added in the HD1 version that may unintentionally open the door to expanded shoreline hardening and undermine HRS 205A:

1. **§205A-2(c)(6)(E) – Potential expansion of shoreline hardening through property protection language:** The provision stating that adaptation pathways planning “may include the protection of shoreline properties” may be interpreted as elevating property protection within coastal hazards policy in a way that is not fully aligned with Chapter 205A’s longstanding policies to minimize shoreline armoring and protect natural shoreline processes.
 - a. **Recommendation:** Remove this language to avoid inadvertently expanding pathways for shoreline hardening.
2. **§205A-2(c)(9)(B) – County authorization of temporary shoreline hardening:** This provision allows counties to approve temporary shoreline hardening beyond an emergency authorization under §183C-6(g). This raises concern, as shoreline hardening is primarily regulated at the State level and this may create overlapping jurisdiction and expand pathways for shoreline armoring. It may also allow temporary measures to extend beyond the emergency period without clear public oversight.
 - a. **Recommendation:** Remove this language to avoid conflicting jurisdiction and prevent unintended expansion of shoreline hardening.
3. **§183C-6(g) – State oversight of extended temporary shoreline hardening:** This provision appears intended to improve oversight by routing continued temporary shoreline hardening requests to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. However, “concerted effort” for long-term adaptation is not defined and there are no clear timelines. Additionally, when an emergency permit extends beyond the set initial emergency period, public oversight and input is warranted.
 - a. **Recommendation:** Clarify that this section provides Board-level oversight of extended temporary shoreline hardening, define clear, time-bound criteria for demonstrating progress toward long-term solutions, and require public notice and opportunity for comment for any continued authorization beyond the initial emergency period.

In addition, we recommend the following amendments to help translate this measure from a conceptual framework into implementable actions aligned with OPSD’s Managed Retreat Study:

¹ Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD), *An Analysis of Managed Retreat Strategies in Hawai‘i*, Final Report (March 2025).

4. **Set a defined timeline for OPSD action:** As drafted, the framework relies on OPSD to identify districts and develop plans but does not require that work to begin within a defined timeframe.
 - a. **Recommendation:** Require designation of a small number of pilot shoreline districts within a set period, such as two years, to ensure early implementation.
5. **Define measurable triggers in adaptation pathways:** Without triggers, plans may remain conceptual rather than functioning as decision-making tools. OPSD's Managed Retreat Study (2025) emphasizes that adaptation pathways rely on defined thresholds and triggers to guide when specific strategies are implemented over time.
 - a. **Recommendation:** Require identification of thresholds, such as shoreline change or coastal flooding exposure, that trigger implementation of specific strategies over time.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important measure, which can help advance a more actionable framework for long-term coastal adaptation and beach preservation in Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Hanna Lilley
Hawai'i Regional Manager
Surfrider Foundation



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: April 1, 2026

TO: Representative Chris Todd
Chair, Committee on Finance

FROM: Chris Delaunay / Mihoko Ito

RE: **SB2401, SD1, HD1 – Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts
Hearing Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 2:00 PM
Conference Room 308**

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC) submits this testimony in **strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1.**

KBSC is a group of nine condominium properties and one residential shoreline parcel at Kahana Bay on Maui that have been working collaboratively for several years to address severe and ongoing shoreline erosion affecting the bay. Recognizing that shoreline erosion operates on a regional scale, the property owners formed the KBSC in 2017 to develop, plan, implement and fund a regional solution to stabilize the shoreline and restore the beach.

Since that time, KBSC members have invested significant time and resources in this project, and have hired engineers, worked on an environmental assessment, and coordinated with state and county government agencies. Oceanit published the Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2021. However, despite these efforts, the planning and approval process stalled, in part because the County of Maui indicated that it was unwilling to assume liability risk of owning the proposed groins that would be required to keep the restored sand in place.

In the meantime, shoreline conditions continue to worsen. Many of the condominium properties along this shoreline are currently relying on emergency sandbags as their only protection against further erosion. These temporary measures leave buildings and infrastructure vulnerable to additional shoreline loss and highlight the urgent need for both short-term and long-term solutions.

S.B. 2401, SD1, HD1 provides an important path forward. The measure establishes a framework for regional shoreline mitigation districts and directs the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) to coordinate with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), county planning departments, shoreline property owners, and the community to develop shoreline adaptation pathways

plans. This coordinated regional approach is necessary because erosion and sediment movement affect multiple properties along the same shoreline system.

Importantly, the bill preserves full regulatory authority for state and county agencies. Projects developed through a regional shoreline adaptation pathways plan will still be subject to environmental review and permitting processes to ensure protection of public trust resources, shoreline processes, and public access.

This bill will help not only Kahana Bay, but other similarly affected shorelines statewide to move forward from reactive, short-term emergency responses toward coordinated, long-term coastal resilience. It supports solutions that are science-based, regionally designed, environmentally reviewed, and publicly accountable. It also evaluates financing tools so that groups of affected owners can collectively fund appropriate mitigation.

For these reasons, KBSC respectfully urges the Committee to pass S.B. 2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

STARN · O'TOOLE · MARCUS & FISHER

A L A W C O R P O R A T I O N

April 1, 2026

Representative Chris Todd, Chair,
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair,
and Members of the Committee on Finance

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of SB 2401 SD1 HD1
Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of
the Committee on Finance:

I represent the Shoreline Preservation Coalition (“SPC”), who offers this testimony in **strong support** of SB 2401 SD1 HD1. SPC’s members consist of community groups and individuals concerned with the preservation of Hawaii’s beaches and shorelines.

Coastal erosion due to sea level rise affects our shorelines in different ways based on the geography of a littoral cell. Regional shoreline adaptation pathways plans will allow for solutions to be tailored to the unique challenges each littoral cell faces. Community stakeholders and shoreline property owners would be consulted during the development of the plans, allowing for the historic use of the beach and shoreline to also be considered.

SPC hopes that the collaborative process for developing regional shoreline adaptation pathways plans set forth in SB 2401 SD1 HD1 will lead to plans that are truly responsive to the unique needs of each beach. For these reasons, SPC supports SB 2401 SD1 HD1.

Sincerely,



Bernie Bays

April 2, 2026

Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State House of Representatives
State Capitol

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2402, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaleo Schneider, and I submit this testimony in strong support of SB2402, SD1, HD1 on behalf of ADF Properties.

ADF Properties, representing the Furtado 'ohana, owned multiple commercial and residential structures along Front Street in Lahaina—many of which were lost in the devastating 2023 wildfires. Like many others in our community, we are still navigating the complex and often unclear regulatory pathway to rebuild what was lost and restore both housing and economic activity to West Maui.

SB2402, SD1, HD1 provides a much-needed framework to help streamline and coordinate recovery and redevelopment efforts. For property owners like us—particularly those with shoreline-adjacent properties—the current regulatory environment presents overlapping jurisdictional challenges, uncertainty, and prolonged delays. These barriers not only impact individual families and businesses, but they also stall the broader recovery of Lahaina's historic and economic core.

This measure represents a critical step forward by:

- Supporting a more coordinated and efficient approach to rebuilding;
- Providing clearer pathways for permitting and compliance;
- Recognizing the urgency of restoring communities impacted by disaster; and
- Balancing environmental considerations with the immediate need for recovery and resilience.

For the Furtado 'ohana and many others, rebuilding is not just about structures—it is about restoring generational roots, livelihoods, and a sense of place. Without legislative support like SB2402, recovery timelines will continue to stretch indefinitely, placing additional emotional and financial strain on families who have already endured so much.

We respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB2402, SD1, HD1 to help create a viable and timely pathway for Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued commitment to supporting our community during this critical time.

Mahalo,

Kaleo Schneider
ADF Properties
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 2:36:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mason Blake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Mason, and I am a board member of the Valley Isle Resort AOA on Maui. I have owned property at Valley Isle Resort for several years and have watched firsthand as the shoreline that makes this place so special has steadily deteriorated.

I am writing in strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion is not an abstract concern for our community — it is something our owners live with every day.

The situation is especially serious for owners on the first and second floors who face the beach directly. These residents are seeing the ocean move closer to their units with each passing year. What was once a comfortable buffer of beach is shrinking, and the water and wave damage risks are becoming very real. This creates legitimate safety concerns, rising maintenance costs, and deep uncertainty about the long-term value and livability of their homes.

As a board, we are trying to address these issues responsibly, but the current process makes that incredibly difficult.

- Erosion doesn't respect property lines — it's a regional problem that affects every owner along our stretch of shoreline, and yet each property is forced to navigate approvals and planning in isolation.
- The approval process is slow, fragmented, and confusing, which makes it nearly impossible for neighboring properties to coordinate on meaningful long-term solutions.
- We keep finding ourselves reacting to individual events instead of getting ahead of the problem with a real plan.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would finally give communities like ours a workable framework — a clearer path to plan regionally, coordinate with state and county agencies, and pursue lasting solutions rather than repeated emergency patches.

Our owners deserve more than uncertainty. This bill moves us in the right direction.

I respectfully ask for your support of SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Mason
Valley Isle Resort AOA, Board Member

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:00:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOSHUA JOHN WEST	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha ,

My name is Joshua West, and I am a resident of the North Shore of O'ahu. I write in strong support of SB 2401, which establishes Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts and requires OPSD to develop community-informed shoreline adaptation pathways plans.

For those of us on the North Shore, coastal erosion is not an abstract policy issue — it is happening in front of our homes, at the beaches our children play on, and along the roads we drive every day. The shoreline here is the foundation of our community's identity, our economy, and our way of life.

What makes SB 2401 especially meaningful is its requirement that OPSD collaborate with community stakeholders. North Shore residents have local knowledge that cannot be replicated by planners in Honolulu — we know which areas flood first, how sand moves between seasons, and which infrastructure is most at risk. Legislation that mandates our participation is built on the right foundation.

The bill's coordinating role across DLNR, county, and federal agencies is equally important. Coastal erosion doesn't respect agency boundaries, and neither should our response to it. A structured, regional approach — developed with community input — is exactly the systemic tool we need to get ahead of these losses rather than perpetually react to them.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2401.

Mahalo, Joshua West North Shore, O'ahu

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:01:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl West	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Cheri West, and I am a longtime resident and senior citizen of the North Shore of O'ahu. I write in strong support of SB 2401, which establishes Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts and requires OPSD to develop community-informed shoreline adaptation pathways plans.

For those of us who have lived on the North Shore for many years, the changes to our shoreline are impossible to ignore. Coastal erosion is happening in front of our homes, at the beaches our grandchildren play on, and along the roads we depend on every day. This is not a future problem — it is happening now, and it is getting worse.

What makes SB 2401 especially meaningful is its requirement that OPSD collaborate with community stakeholders. Long-time North Shore residents like myself have watched these shores change over decades. That lived experience and local knowledge must have a seat at the table, and this bill ensures it does.

The bill's coordinating role across DLNR, county, and federal agencies is equally important. Coastal erosion doesn't respect agency boundaries, and neither should our response to it. A structured, regional approach developed with community input is exactly what we need to protect the shore we love for future generations.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2401.

Mahalo, Cheri West North Shore, O'ahu

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:05:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert West	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Robert West, and I am a resident of the North Shore of O'ahu. I write in strong support of SB 2401, which establishes Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts and requires OPSD to develop community-informed shoreline adaptation pathways plans.

For those of us who live on the North Shore, the changes to our shoreline are impossible to ignore. Coastal erosion is happening in front of our homes, at the beaches our families use, and along the roads we depend on every day. This is not a future problem — it is happening now, and it is getting worse.

What makes SB 2401 especially meaningful is its requirement that OPSD collaborate with community stakeholders. North Shore residents have watched these shores change over the years and have firsthand knowledge that planners in Honolulu simply cannot replicate. This bill ensures that local voices have a seat at the table, and that matters.

The bill's coordinating role across DLNR, county, and federal agencies is equally important. Coastal erosion doesn't respect agency boundaries, and neither should our response to it. A structured, regional approach developed with community input is exactly what we need to protect the shore we call home.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2401.

Mahalo, Robert West North Shore, O'ahu

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:09:24 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristy Janczak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kristy Janczak, and I am a resident of the North Shore of O'ahu. I write in strong support of SB 2401, which establishes Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts and requires OPSD to develop community-informed shoreline adaptation pathways plans.

For those of us who live on the North Shore, the changes to our shoreline are impossible to ignore. Coastal erosion is happening in front of our homes, at the beaches our families use, and along the roads we depend on every day. This is not a future problem — it is happening now, and it is getting worse.

What makes SB 2401 especially meaningful is its requirement that OPSD collaborate with community stakeholders. North Shore residents have watched these shores change over the years and have firsthand knowledge that planners in Honolulu simply cannot replicate. This bill ensures that local voices have a seat at the table, and that matters.

The bill's coordinating role across DLNR, county, and federal agencies is equally important. Coastal erosion doesn't respect agency boundaries, and neither should our response to it. A structured, regional approach developed with community input is exactly what we need to protect the shore we call home.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2401.

Mahalo, Kristy Janczak North Shore, O'ahu

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:48:38 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie gigliotti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We took a loan out when we bought our oondo in Valley Isle in 2000....and over the years so much beach front has been lost. Valley Isle coordinated with 8 other properties to study how to save the beach and the report was over 1000 pages. Its a big project that needs to be worked on as a group endeavor and a long term plan with help from the government. We hope you will vote yes to make this happen. We know its a big investment but the consequences are much worse and we need to gather together and find a solution before we have waited too long. We miss the beach, the turtles and worry that its existence is threatened with every day that passes and nothing constructive is done to prevent more erosion. We thank you in advance for voting yes, to work on this island wide problem with as many resources at your disposal. But it starts with a YES on this bill.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:55:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael kayem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Michael kayem, and I am the owner of a condo at Valley Isle resort in Kahana Bay since 2022.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- shoreline erosion is something which my family and I experience every day.

We are located in front of the beautiful ocean and over the years we have seen the ocean rise with a threat to our condo with the waves reaching closer to our building and lanai.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.
- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.
- This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan.
- Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and it's not working well. That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.

- We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year. • Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is

connected.

- We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.
- A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.
- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.
- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.
- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.
- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.
- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.
- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 5:11:15 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Carter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Maria Carter

Valley Isle Owner | Units 805 & 706

April 1, 2026

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Maria Carter, and I am an owner at Valley Isle, Units 805 and 706, in Kahana on Maui. My family and I have invested in this community because of its beauty, its shoreline, and the unique experience it offers both residents and visitors. Over time, however, we have watched that shoreline change in ways that are deeply concerning.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion is not an abstract issue for us—it is something we are experiencing firsthand. The beach that once defined this area has significantly diminished, and we are seeing the ocean move closer and closer to the building. With each passing season and storm event, there is growing concern about long-term structural impacts, safety, and the future viability of our property.

This is not an issue isolated to Valley Isle. The entire Kahana Bay area is facing similar challenges. Property owners and associations have been trying for years to address erosion, both

individually and collectively, but the current process makes it extremely difficult to achieve meaningful, coordinated progress. Each property is treated separately, even though the erosion issue is clearly regional and interconnected.

The lack of a clear, efficient pathway for planning and approvals has created confusion and delays. It discourages collaboration and makes it nearly impossible to implement long-term solutions. What we are facing is bigger than any single property—it requires a unified, regional approach.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it offers a more practical and structured path forward. It would allow shoreline communities to work together on coordinated solutions, rather than continuing with fragmented, short-term responses. It encourages collaboration between property owners and government agencies and provides a clearer framework for planning and implementation.

Most importantly, it helps communities like ours move from reactive emergency measures to thoughtful, long-term planning. It protects not only private property, but also public access and the natural shoreline for future generations.

I respectfully ask for your support of SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Maria Carter

Valley Isle Owner, Units 805 & 706

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:02:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Colleen Sutton	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Colleen Sutton, and I am the owner of a condominium in the Valley Isle Resort in Kahana on Maui. My parents bought this unit in 1993, when I was a child. We visited many times and Kahana is a very special place for me. My husband and I honeymooned there and we have brought our kids there many times. The last trip my kids had with my parents (before they passed away) was a visit to Maui. It is a very special place for my ohana.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion is something my family is very concerned about. In 2013 a hurricane washed away almost 100 yards of beautiful sandy beach in Kahana. My ohana hoped that things would be resolved and the beach returned. The loss of the beach is a concern for cultural reasons and for access by the public. The proximity of the shoreline means that waves are very close to the building. There is a serious risk of damage to the property during storms and seasonal variations in waves. The temporary sandbags that were meant to briefly mitigate the erosion have not been replaced or fortified because we cannot get a permit to do so. There is a considerable risk to the building. It has been much more than a decade, but I still hope to see that beach in Kahana again.

I joined the apartment owner association because the loss of the beach had gone on for so many years. The shoreline erosion affects all of the properties in the Kahana area. Many years ago the properties in Kahana started to work together to solve this complex issue. The group is called the Kahana Bay Steering Committee. They have tried for many years, but have not had much success in realizing any solution. Because this problem is bigger than any one property, we need a shared plan.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee hired capable engineers. These engineers assessed the way water flows around different types of structures. They have prepared appropriate plans and considered the potential impacts to the environment. The proposed plan will provide a balanced approach and restore some of the habitat that was lost when the hurricane washed away the Kahana beach.

Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and not working well. It is very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution, even though we have a proposed plan. The shoreline is getting smaller every year. It is very close to our buildings, and some outbuildings have already been lost.

Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is a common issue for our region. We need a clearer path so our community can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time. Repeating emergency actions is not helpful. We need a regional plan that addresses the shoreline erosion.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and with government agencies. This will offer solutions for regional shoreline communities to help protect our shoreline for future generations. It would give shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and costly delays. This bill will make it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan. It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes. This is so important because those repeated fixes are not permitted, either!

This bill encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process. It will help us move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way. Communities like ours want to plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event. This bill will help protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time. At a time when Lahaina and all of West Maui need as much available housing as we can get, it is crucial that we do not continue to leave these homes without protection.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Dr. Colleen Sutton

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:08:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven S Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Steven Reiss, and I am the owner of a Valley Isle Resort on Maui for the past 7 years.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because:

- shoreline erosion is very visible and something my family experiences every visit to Maui.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.
- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.
- This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan.
- Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and it's not working well. That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.
- We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year.

- Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is connected.
- We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.
- A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.
- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.
- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.
- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.
- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.

- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.
- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.
Mahalo,

Steven S. Reiss

Paso Robles, CA

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Chris Adams and my wife, Susan, and I own a condominium in Valley Isle. We have owned the condo since 2021 and live there part time, with the goal of retiring there in a year or two.

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion directly impacts Valley Isle, and the Kahana community. I am constantly back and forth from the mainland and every time we get back to Valley Isle I look down at the beach to reassess. The visual destruction of the shoreline is alarming, to say the least. Not only does this destruction directly impact Valley Isle and the other shoreline properties, it affects beach access, water safety, and general enjoyment of the shoreline. Additionally, the limited repairs that are authorized are escalating in expense.

Although I have not been a member of our community very long, my understanding from my neighbors and association is that Valley Isle, along with the broader Kahana Bay region, has made numerous attempts to tackle erosion—both individually and collectively. The erosion affecting our property is not an isolated problem; it is impacting every neighbor in our vicinity. I understand that we have spent years trying to collaborate on solutions, yet progress has been limited. This challenge is far too large for any single property owner to address alone—it demands a unified strategy.

At present, the process for developing and permitting solutions is unclear, drawn out, and ineffective. These obstacles make it extremely difficult for neighboring property owners to coordinate on meaningful, lasting fixes. Year after year, we watch our shoreline recede and the ocean draw nearer to our structures. Under current rules, each property is evaluated in isolation, even though the erosion itself does not respect property lines. What we truly need is a streamlined pathway that allows communities to engage in joint planning rather than fighting this battle one parcel at a time. A coordinated regional approach is far more sensible than a series of reactive emergency measures.

I urge you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would establish a clear framework enabling communities and property owners to collaborate with government agencies on regional shoreline strategies that protect our coasts for generations to come. This legislation offers shoreline communities a defined path forward rather than ongoing confusion and setbacks. It simplifies the process for neighbors to unite around a single comprehensive plan. It prioritizes sustainable, long-term solutions over repeated short-term emergency interventions. It fosters coordination among state and county agencies rather than a fragmented, case-by-case approach. It helps advance projects in a more systematic and predictable manner. It empowers communities like ours to plan proactively

instead of simply reacting to each new storm or erosion episode. And it safeguards homes, public beach access, and shoreline ecosystems simultaneously.

I respectfully urge your support for SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Chris & Susan Adams

Valley Isle #1108

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:44:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

Please vote **YES** on SB2401 SD1 HD1. I **strongly support** this legislation because I am a resident owner of a condominium unit located on Kahana Bay, West Maui. Over the years, I have seen first hand the results of constant and relentless coastal erosion, flooding, building loss, high maintenance costs, high insurance costs, sandy-beach loss, blocked access, and an increasing concern about the safety of my home.

All of the coastal properties in my neighborhood are affected by this constant threat, to one extent or another. Although we have identified a proven method to stop erosion that preserves beaches (NOT seawalls), we have not been able to get anything accomplished because the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is ill defined, confusing, slow, and it fails to match the speed of beach erosion. It is a broken process that is failing us in our time of need. We cannot do this alone. I and my neighbors need help from you so that we can work together on a long-term solution to this constantly growing problem.

We especially need to improve coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process in which officials from each level of government think that it is the kuleana of someone else to help us. SB2401 SD1 HD1 will go a long way to set the stage for much needed process improvements because it will provide a way forward to work to long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes. This bill will provide a more organized and predictable way of solving our coastal erosion problem so that property owners can plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations. It also will help improve and provide better public access to beaches for all to enjoy.

Please, kokua, vote YES on SB2401, SD1, HD1.

4/1/2026

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Jovanae Hauschild, and I am the Owner of Valley Isle Unit 130B. We bought this unit in 2021 with the hopes that our Family could enjoy this beautiful Island and spend time together.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because the shoreline erosion is something we care about. The loss of beach, safety of the shoreline and higher maintenance costs is of concern for our family. We are finding it more difficult for our Children and Grandchildren to play on the Beach and worried about the safety of the property as the erosion continues to creep towards the property.

Our dream was to give this property to our Children so that they can continue to have the experiences we have had and to hand it down for generations to come.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.
- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.
- This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan. • Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and it's not working well. That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.
- We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year.
- Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is connected.
- We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.
- A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

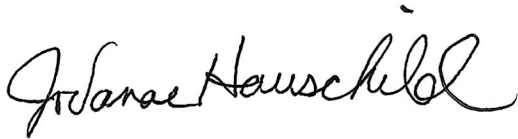
I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.

- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.
- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.
- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.
- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.
- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.
- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jovanae Hauschild". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jovanae Hauschild

Valley Isle, Unit 103B

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:04:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Serena Reiss and I am the owner of Valley Isle Resort on Maui.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because the shoreline erosion is something we all experience every day living here.

The loss of beach and the waves reaching closer to the building is very significant.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.

We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.

This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan.

Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and it's not working well.

That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.

As stated earlier, we all see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year.

Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is connected.

We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.

A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.

To summarize:

- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.
- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.
- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.
- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.
- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.
- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Serena Reiss

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 9:00 AM

State of Hawai‘i

State Capitol, Conference Room 411

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2401 SD1
RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS**

Dear Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water & Land:

I would like to express my **strong support** of Senate Bill 2401 SD1, Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts.

I have seen our beaches slowly erode over time. What used to be usable beach area has become waves threatening our beaches, homes, and roadways. We need actionable erosion and sediment management plans to protect our beaches, and those plans should be based on the specific needs of each beach.

Senate Bill 2401 SD1 would allow community stakeholders and homeowners to be directly involved in developing regional shoreline adaptation pathways plans, with oversight by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. As the people who are directly impacted by the erosion and sediment management efforts made along the shoreline, community stakeholders and homeowners should have a direct voice in how these plans are developed.

Once a regional plan is developed, the Department of Land and Natural Resources will need to consider it when reviewing conservation district use permit applications in the given region. This ensures that the plans that are developed are used in decision-making processes involving our shorelines.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2401 SD1.

Respectfully submitted,

William Trager

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:36:37 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard D Sterman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha From the North Shore,

I have been a resident of the North Shore for over 50 years.

I am a surfer and have watched the Sand Movement on our various beaches.

I highly recommend passing this Bill for many reasons, the most important being the following:

1. If NO plan and remediation is accomplished - and done quickly - data shows that the erosion will take numerous other beachfront homes and finally threaten the highway. If this happens, the State has shown their willingness to drop Vertical Rock Barriers that would 'assure' the loss of many iconic beaches.

I live on the beach half way between Pipeline and Rocky Point (Pupukea Beach). In 2018, we had 2 hurricanes pass north of us, causing 10 foot off-season waves to erode all of our shorelines. Hundreds of trees fell into the beaches, land was lost and the only thing that stopped the onslaught of these unusual waves were temporary 'skirts' that owners dropped all along my beach. This SAVED many square feet of shoreline land from falling into the ocean. This type of 'protection' MUST be allowed and sand replenishment must be considered as it is in almost every other shoreline municipality across our mainland.

2. If, as Chip Fletcher has stated, there will be "No beaches left on Oahu in 50 years", then why not TRY to save these shoreline homes and properties. Think about this scenario: No erosion mitigation is done, the fragile 'Sand Dunes' between Sunset Beach and Ke Iki Rocks are destroyed... The highway is, on average, 14 feet lower than these dunes... and will surely be threatened. The erosion mitigation efforts by the State would cost many many millions of dollars to save the highway. Why not STOP the erosion where it stands now!? Let the home-owners pay for the erosion mitigation (sand pushing, temporary structures or, probably best, Random Rock Revetments like the State has done in Kaaawa)? The OWNERS would pay to stop the erosion ... and, if Off the Wall is any indication of the effectiveness of Random Rock Revetments ... the White Sand Beach in front of their homes (700 lineal feet) has grown in width more than any other beach on the entire North Shore (see U.H. Sand movement study on their own website).

3. I believe, for Oceanfront Homes on Oahu alone, there has been \$4.6 Billion worth of Valuations lost due to Oahu's Ordinance 23-3 & 23-4. The State needs to amend their Act 10 and Act 16 so that the City can amend these two Ordinances. NOTE: Just those 2 Ordinances made 98% of ALL beachfront homes on Oahu "Legal Non-Conforming". If a house burns

down, or worse, a hurricane destroys many of these homes - the current rules would not allow those homes to be re-built!

A change must be made.
This Bill would help in moving that forward.

Thank You,
Richard D Sterman
North Shore Resident

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:57:18 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Sweatt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nancy, and I am writing in **strong support of SB2401.**

This bill represents an important step forward for Hawai‘i by addressing critical issues that directly impact the well-being of our communities, economy, and future sustainability. SB2401 reflects a thoughtful and necessary approach to improving systems that many residents rely on every day.

One of the most important reasons to support this measure is its potential to create **long-term positive impacts**. By strengthening policy in this area, Hawai‘i can better protect its residents, promote fairness, and ensure that resources are used efficiently and responsibly. This is especially important given the unique challenges our islands face, including cost of living, limited resources, and the need for sustainable growth.

Additionally, SB2401 demonstrates a commitment to **forward-thinking leadership**. It aligns with broader goals of accountability, transparency, and community-centered decision-making. Policies like this help build trust between the government and the people it serves.

From a practical standpoint, the bill also supports **economic and social stability**. Whether through improving access, reducing inefficiencies, or creating clearer guidelines, SB2401 helps ensure that systems operate more effectively for both residents and stakeholders.

I respectfully urge this committee to **pass SB2401**. Supporting this bill is a meaningful step toward a stronger, more resilient Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Nancy Sweatt

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:14:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori Colwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Lori Colwell, and I have lived in Kahana for many years.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because I have seen how much our shoreline has changed over time. The beach that used to be right outside is no longer there in the same way.

I have children, and we used to be able to walk down and spend time on the beach whenever we wanted. Now we have to drive somewhere else to find a place where they can play in the sand.

It may seem like a small change, but it has changed how we live day to day. Something that was part of our routine is now gone.

I also think about what this means going forward. If the shoreline continues to move inland, what happens next for the people who live here?

I know other families in our area are going through the same thing, and more of the shoreline is gone each year.

I support this bill because it gives communities a better way to come together and take care of the shoreline before more is lost.

Please support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Lori Colwell

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:14:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randolph Moore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Randy Moore, and I write in support of SB 2401 SD 1 HD 1 as the owner since 1969 of beachfront property on Ke Nui Road, Sunset Beach, O‘ahu.

SB 2401 SD 1 HD 1 would establish regional shoreline mitigation districts. These districts would allow a group of adjacent property owners to more appropriately address shoreline erosion affecting their properties by acting together than the present every-man-for-himself approach that is suboptimal, both for the property owners and for the general public.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:51:48 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
devon dailey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This legislation is much needed. The entire island needs to address this problem holistically, not on the property by property basis they have been. The logic is unassailable, if we are serious about managing our shorelines, protecting both public and private property, and adapting to modern conditions this must be the first step. Without the legal ability to view the problem from a wider perspective nothing constructive can be done.

aloha, Devon

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 9:08:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cedar Kehoe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2401 SD1 HD1 the Regional Shoreline Mitigation District planning so long as they do not allow rules for Waikiki that are different from rules for other areas zoned similarly. As an owner of a beach front property, all beachfront homes should be in zoned such that they allow current buildings and those building should be allowed to protect their property. No further building should be allowed to be built in floodplains or shorelines going forward. Shoreline is shoreline every owner of shoreline should be governed with the same rules. There should be something about grandfathered properties being allowed to protect the home.

Cedar Kehoe

68-003 Laau Paian place

Waiialua HI 96791

808 4250523

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:14:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rod larson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Rod larson and I am owner of a condo in kahana reef

We have owned there for many years

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- shoreline erosion is something we experience every day.

We all worry about the erosion and the higher association fees

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.

- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.

- This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan.

- Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow,

and it's not working well. That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on long-term solution.

- We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year. • Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is connected.

- We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.

- A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to

plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.

- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.

- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.

- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.

- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.

- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.

- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.

- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

Please help us help Maui thrive

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:15:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bob Alessandrelli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As owners of an oceanfront condo at Kahana Reef on Kahana Bsy, this and related bills are VERY important to us. We don't want our ground floor unit to literally slide into the ocean....like one in the Kahana Sunset complex just north of us did years ago.

This bill would assist on many levels. Please support it.

Bob & Mary Alessandrelli

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:36:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Gordon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 9:00 AM

State of Hawai'i

State Capitol, Conference Room 411

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2401 SD1

RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS

Dear Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water & Land:

I would like to express my **strong support** of Senate Bill 2401 SD1, Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts.

I have seen our beaches slowly erode over time. What used to be usable beach area has become waves threatening our beaches, homes, and roadways. We need actionable erosion and sediment management plans to protect our beaches, and those plans should be based on the specific needs of each beach.

Senate Bill 2401 SD1 would allow community stakeholders and homeowners to be directly involved in developing regional shoreline adaptation pathways plans, with oversight by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. As the people who are directly impacted by the erosion and sediment management efforts made along the shoreline, community stakeholders and homeowners should have a direct voice in how these plans are developed.

Once a regional plan is developed, the Department of Land and Natural Resources will need to consider it when reviewing conservation district use permit applications in the given region. This ensures that the plans that are developed are used in decision-making processes involving our shorelines.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2401 SD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Gordon

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:41:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have been a North Shore oceanfront resident since 2004. During this time I have seen my fellow neighbors have drastic Shoreline Héros issues which could have been quite simply mitigated, but for the incredibly difficult process or lack there of to get this done in a timely manner. We the oceanfront owners are not the enemy, we love and have sacrificed dearly to be able to own and live on this beautiful shoreline. I constantly clean up the shoreline, walk the shoreline and make sure others respect and keep our beaches clean. I pay large taxes and I have bought my property with a fee simple title, which should allow me the ability to use and enjoy my property while respecting The Publix use of the beach in front of my property. I sincerely hope that this committee can understand there is a need for balance in the approach to helping us secure our most valuable asset, both financially and emotionally. It is quite obvious to me that whenever the state or city Has a project such as a road that is along the ocean that has a problem. They are certainly allowed to fix this problem so why can't we fix ours? When anyone owns a property there is always environmental risk. Many people use retaining walls on their properties so that they are not earth slides Why can't we have a reasonable form of protection for our asset as well? I don't think this is an unreasonable request. I also agree, though it must be intelligently thought through, but it should be a process, not a penalty, not an argument, and not a case where someone loses their home and all of the value of their property because there is an erosion issue

Because there is an erosion issue

Thank you in advance For understanding? We are citizens who have paid good money for our properties. Love our properties and equally love the ocean in front of our homes to tell us we must just watch our homes fall in the ocean and tough luck because that's just the way it is is cruel unethical and inconsiderate, especially when the state always seems to find a solution for their assets don't you think?

unethical and inconsiderate, especially when the state always seems to find a solution for their assets don't you think?

Jason Seymour Janine Seymour and Julianna Seymour North Shore residence... And we vote as well

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 1:32:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gwen McNeilus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Gwen McNeilus, and my husband I are the current owners of a condo in the Valley Isle Resort in Kahana on Maui. We have been coming to the area for 30 years (since 1995) when my parents initially purchased the property.

We are writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because the erosion along the shoreline is extremely concerning to us. We have witnessed the loss of the beach year over year and in January 2026 when we were on island the proximity of the waves to the building was frightening and the sandbags which were to be a temporary solution, are within 18” of one corner of the building. In fact we were prepared to spend a significant amount of money updating the property but due to grave concerns about shoreline erosion we have placed those plans on hold.

For years we’ve watched the shoreline disappear. This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan. For many years we were hopeful that a regional solution would be put in place but nothing has been done and we are now at the 11th hour. We support SB2401 SD1, HD1 because we need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time. A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

We respectfully ask you to support SB2401 SD1, HD1 which helps to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.

Many mahalos,

Gwen McNeilus and Peter Mongroo

Owners, Valley Isle Resort, Unit 1007

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Brian Paul, and I own 4401 Lower HONOAPIILANI RD A101 on Maui. I care deeply about this property and about the community around it, because this is not just a piece of real estate to me — it is part of a place I want to see protected and managed responsibly for the long term.

I am writing in strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion is not an abstract issue for us. It is something we are dealing with now, and it continues to get worse.

- The shoreline is changing in ways that affect all of us in the area.
- Erosion creates real uncertainty for property owners and for the future of the community.
- We need a solution that is coordinated, practical, and designed to work across properties instead of forcing each owner to deal with the problem alone.

From what I have seen, this is a community-wide issue that cannot be solved property by property. The current process is slow and confusing, and it makes it very difficult to plan ahead or work toward a long-term solution. We have tried for years to deal with these issues, but we need a clearer and more effective path forward.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would help create a better framework for shoreline communities to work with the state and county on regional solutions. It would give property owners and communities a more organized way to address erosion, protect shoreline resources, and plan for the future.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Brian Paul

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 11:55:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lenore E Houston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

My name is Lenore Houston, and I reside at Hololani Resort at 4401 Lower Honoapiilani Road in Kahana.

I am writing to express urgent and strong support for HB2401 SD1. Coastal erosion along the West Coast of Maui — including Kahana Bay — is not a future threat; it is happening now. Our shoreline is actively receding, and with each season the risks grow more serious for residents, visitors, and critical infrastructure.

At Hololani, we are already witnessing beach loss and increased vulnerability to flooding along Lower Honoapiilani Road. Temporary measures such as sandbags are failing, deteriorating, and creating safety and environmental hazards for both people and marine life. These stopgap approaches are not sustainable and cannot continue to be our primary line of defense.

We need coordinated, statewide action and long-term planning now — not later — to address erosion, protect coastal communities, and implement durable solutions. HB2401 is an important step toward bringing agencies, experts, and communities together to act before more damage occurs and costs escalate further.

Please move this measure forward with urgency.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Lenore Houston

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 12:50:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesus Gonzales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Jesus Gonzales, and I am an owner of condominium unit in the Hololani in Kahana on Maui. I have come to love my island home dearly.

I am writing in strong support of **SB2401, SD1, HD1**. For those of us who live along the shoreline, erosion is not something we hear about in reports or meetings alone — it is something we witness ourselves. Year by year, we see the shoreline shrinking and the ocean moving closer to places where people live. The encroaching waters give me anxiety. It is difficult to watch these changes happen and to know that the risks are growing while the path to meaningful action remains unclear.

Our community has not ignored this problem. Property owners and associations in the Kahana Bay area have been trying for many years to address erosion and work together where possible. But this is a complicated regional issue, and it has become clear that it cannot be solved one parcel at a time. The current process is too confusing and too slow, and it does not give neighboring communities a practical way to develop a shared solution. As a result, people are left reacting to the same worsening problem again and again instead of moving forward with confidence and coordination.

What is needed is a framework that reflects the reality that shoreline erosion does not stop at property lines. **SB2401, SD1, HD1** would help create that framework by giving communities and agencies a clearer way to collaborate on regional planning and shoreline solutions. That matters because communities like ours need more than temporary fixes. We need an organized and realistic path toward long-term protection and stewardship.

I support this bill because it would help replace confusion with coordination and repeated emergency responses with thoughtful planning. It would allow communities to work together in a more effective way and help protect not only private property, but also shoreline access and the coastal resources that matter to all of us.

I respectfully urge you to support **SB2401, SD1, HD1**.

Mahalo.

Jesus Gonzales

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 1:06:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth A Martyn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Chair Chris Todd and Members of the Finance Committee

I strongly support passage of SB2401 SD1. I am a long-term resident of the Waialua area of the North Shore of Oahu.

This bill provides for a better ways to plan for shoreline adaptation, to be administered by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development in coordination with the Department of Land & Natural Resources. It is a positive step in the right direction, for science-based adaptation to coastal erosion and sea level rise.

Thank you,

Ken Martyn

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 1:27:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Co Le Vavul	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen and resident, I support this Bill for long-term safety

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 1:30:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Booth	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Ted Booth, and I am the owner of Kahana Reef 419 on Maui for almost 14 years.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because I have seen the damage to the shoreline increase year over year, and I believe without taking more steps the Kahana area along Lower Honoapi'ilani Road will suffer irreparable damage due to flooding and tidal overwash. For the sake of the people who live in this area, I respectfully ask you to take steps to safeguard this community please.

Thank you,

Ted Booth

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 1:58:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Fobes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Natalie Fobes and I'm an owner at Kahana Reef. I support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Over the years I've been alarmed at the erosion in Kahana Bay. It isn't just one or two properties but it is bay-wide. Every property has been impacted.

My concern is not only for the properties, but also for the impact continued erosion will have on the critical public utilities that run along the street behind the condos and homes. Electric, sewer and water will likely have to be moved if the erosion continues unchecked.

This legislation would implement an area-wide approach instead of a single property approach. There is already a plan that is ready to go to stop the erosion and actually restore the sandy beach that used to be there.

This mitigation project would provide a series of new public beaches for locals, and sand dunes with native plants. It would protect the public utilities, saving the Maui government the millions of dollars that moving the utilities would cost.

The Kahana Bay erosion control project would be paid for by the residents around the bay, and not by taxpayers outside of the immediate area.

Please vote yes on this legislation.

Mahalo,

Natalie Fobes

Support for SB2401 SD1 SHD1
Urgent Action on Kahana Bay Shoreline Erosion

Introduction

As a resident of B704 Hololani, located along the Kahana Bay shoreline, I am writing to express my strong support for SB2401. This resolution urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to provide assistance to condominiums in the Kahana Bay region as we seek an effective solution to address severe shoreline erosion. We are currently facing a critical and immediate challenge: the shoreline has experienced significant erosion, and only temporary sandbags—used for over a decade—remain as minimal protection.

Community Efforts and Need for Government Support

The properties represented by the Kahana Bay Steering Committee have invested substantial resources to develop a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and are prepared to commit further to any practical solution that will help preserve both our properties and the shoreline. However, the involvement of government agencies is vital to bring these efforts to fruition. The participation and support of DLNR, as outlined in SB2401, are crucial to safeguarding the Kahana Bay shoreline and ensuring the long-term sustainability of condominiums in this area, including those situated on Lower Honoapiilani Road.

Request for Immediate Action

We respectfully urge prompt action and collaboration to establish and implement effective, sustainable measures to address this urgent concern. Thank you for considering our appeal for assistance and support.

Sincerely,

William Cornthwaite, Owner

B704 Hololani

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 2:02:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Craig Bassin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Kimberly Schalla, and I [am the owner of Hololani 4401 Lower Halopiilani rd, unit 102 on Maui. We have owned this unit for 2 1/2 years and love the community and the island. Previously, we have vacationed 3 times per year in Maui for over 30 years.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- we are alarmed and concerned over the very rapid erosion we are experiencing every day. This past Kona storm dramatically increased the destruction of the sandbags protecting our entire complex. In addition, the little beach just north of our complex has disappeared and is now a rocky entrance precluding any swimming or kayak launch. Our monthly association fees have increased over \$500 due to erosion litigation but we have been blocked from being able to reinforce the existing sandbags creating a more permanent and effective protection for our complex.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where I live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.
- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.
- This problem is bigger than any one property and needs a shared plan.
- Currently, the process to plan and get approvals for solutions is confusing, slow, and it's not working well. That makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.
- We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings year after year and ESPECIALLY after this latest storm.
- Right now, every property is treated separately, even though the erosion problem is connected.

- We need a clearer path so communities can plan together instead of struggling one property at a time.
- A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.
- It gives shoreline communities a clearer path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It makes it easier for neighbors to work together on one shared plan.
- It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency fixes.
- It encourages coordination between state and county agencies instead of a piecemeal process.
- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way.
- It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.
- It helps protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo,

Kimberly Schalla

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 2:42:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa May	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am a practicing planner specializing in community resilience and climate adaptation and more than 20 years of experience working with communities across Hawaii. I also serve on the Honolulu Planning Commission and have served as the **lead consultant for two studies on managed retreat for the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (2019 and 2025)**. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify **in support of SB2401 (SD1 HD1), with amendments**.

This measure establishes a framework for **regional shoreline mitigation districts and adaptation pathways planning**, which is an important step toward proactive, place-based community resilience planning and coastal management in Hawai‘i. The bill reflects the direction recommended in the State's 2025 Managed Retreat Study, which calls for **coordinated regional planning** focused on shorelines vulnerable to coastal erosion and sea level rise and the use of **adaptation pathways with defined triggers** to guide decision-making over time.

SB2401 would help move Hawai‘i away from piecemeal and reactive shoreline hardening and toward more coordinated, long-term approaches that protect communities, beaches, shoreline processes, public access, and public trust resources. It would also fill a critical gap in the existing planning system by establishing a clear framework and assigning agency responsibilities for coastal adaptation planning.

At the same time, several provisions added in the HD1 raise concerns that may unintentionally expand opportunities for shoreline hardening or create implementation gaps. The following amendments would strengthen the bill and better align it with the policy goals it is intended to advance.

First, in **Section 205A-2(c)(6)(E)**, the language allowing adaptation pathways planning to include the **“protection of shoreline properties”** should be removed. That phrase may elevate private property protection within coastal hazards policy and could be interpreted to support private shoreline hardening in areas where the State should instead prioritize beach preservation, hazard reduction, and long-term adaptation.

Second, in **Section 205A-2(c)(9)(B)**, the provision authorizing counties to approve **temporary shoreline hardening beyond an emergency authorization** should be removed. This language

may create overlapping jurisdiction with existing State authority and may expand the use of shoreline armoring beyond emergency response. It also risks allowing temporary measures to continue without clear limits or public oversight.

Third, in **Section 183C-6(g)**, if the Legislature intends to allow continued temporary shoreline hardening through Board of Land and Natural Resources review, the bill should include **clear, time-bound criteria** for any extension beyond the emergency period. It should also require **public notice and an opportunity for comment** before extended authorization is granted. Without those standards, implementation may be inconsistent and difficult to oversee.

Fourth, the bill should include a clear **implementation timeline** for State action. As drafted, it does not require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to initiate shoreline district designation within a defined period. The measure would be stronger if it required designation of a small number of **pilot districts within two years**, or within another specified timeframe set by the Legislature.

Finally, the bill should require **measurable triggers** in adaptation pathways. Without defined thresholds, pathways risk remaining conceptual rather than operational. The 2025 Managed Retreat Study emphasizes the importance of establishing triggers, such as shoreline change, erosion rates, flooding exposure, infrastructure vulnerability, or other measurable conditions, to determine when specific strategies should be implemented.

These amendments would help ensure that SB2401 functions as an effective implementation tool while maintaining strong protections for beaches, natural shoreline processes, and public access.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of **SB2401 (SD1 HD1), with amendments**.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa May, AICP

Principal Resilience Lead, Haley & Aldrich

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 3:21:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reina Krueger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of this Committee

I support this bill because it takes a more proactive and science-based approach to managing shoreline erosion and sea level rise in Hawai‘i. Our beaches are not only important culturally and ecologically, but they also play a huge role in the state’s economy, so having a long-term plan to protect them is really important.

I especially like that this bill focuses on regional planning through shoreline mitigation districts, since coastal processes like erosion don’t follow property lines. Managing these areas at a larger, ecosystem-based scale makes a lot more sense from a scientific perspective. The emphasis on adaptation pathways also stands out to me, because it allows for both short-term solutions and long-term strategies like retreat, which is something we realistically need to consider as sea levels continue to rise.

I also appreciate that the bill includes community input and considers cultural and social impacts, not just environmental and economic ones. That kind of holistic approach is really important in Hawai‘i.

My main concern is making sure that these plans are actually implemented effectively and not just used for planning purposes without real action. It will also be important to ensure that funding mechanisms are fair and don’t place too much burden on local communities.

Overall, I think this bill is a strong step toward more sustainable and coordinated shoreline management in Hawai‘i, and I support it with the hope that it leads to meaningful, on-the-ground change.

Thanks!

Reina Krueger

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 3:39:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Tremble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am the HOA President for the Kahana Outrigger, located in West Maui. I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD. It is quite clear that ocean levels are rising, and properties such as ours are vulnerable. West Maui beaches used to be larger, longer and much more accessible for both residents and visitors.

For years now, we have tried to promote viable solutions, which we believe are within reach. However, we just can't seem to generate consensus, or more often, we cannot obtain approvals as the process to get approvals seems complicated and murky.

I support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because it would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline for future generations.

Please help us act now on solutions before the opportunity to apply them are now longer viable.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Tracy Tremble

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 3:41:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Cawley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TIME is critical - we must act fast, together! Please protect Kahana and West Maui before irreversible damage happens to our beaches.

Steve Cawley

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:18:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rey and Carla Munoz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

Our names are Rey and Carla Munoz and we are owners of two units at the Valley Isle Resort in Kahana on Maui. We have a studio unit (1207) that we purchased in 2017 and a one bedroom unit (1105) we purchased in 2019. Prior to our ownership of these two units, we rented units at the Valley Isle for over 20 years, directly from owners. Over the years, prior to the current beach erosion condition, we enjoyed the beautiful and deep beach area with plenty of room for families to enjoy a safe and fun place to recreate and relax. It is definitely not the case today, which is very sad.

We are writing in support of SB2401, SD1, HD1 because shoreline erosion at the VIR and the surrounding Kahana resorts is something we are deeply concerned about. Lack of a safe beach has directly affected our family (children and grandchildren) when visiting our units personally. On a visit about a year ago, we all played at the beach and had a great day. We planned to do the same the next day, but after a storm, we went to the beach to find it virtually gone and very unsafe for anyone to venture beyond the edge of the building. It also affects the guests who rent our unit. We are also very concerned with the potential damage to the grounds and potentially to the building when the King tides further erode the sand, currently protected by sandbags that are replaced on a regular basis. This constant replacement is expensive. The funds could be used to help support the restoration project, arm in arm with regional partners.

The Kahana Beach Restoration Committee has tried to work with local agencies to form a plan to move forward. We could very likely make much more progress if we work together to find a solution. This erosion issue affects over 1000 units/owners on Kahana Bay across the approx 10 separate properties. We as owners cannot fund the cost on our own. Progress does need to be made to protect our investment and the ability to use our units.

We have been advised that T-groins and replacement of the sand (from the bay/chanel). This would also benefit coastline marine life, local fishermen and local families who wish to share the beach for their families.

Keeping our units rented provides tax income for the county and employment for many in the industry, as well as the outreach to restaurants, attractions, property managers and maintenance folks, to name a few.

We would respectfully like to request any assistance available to help with the mitigation of the bay restoration. Progress has been slow, confusing and very difficult for the resorts to move forward with a plan while the shoreline continues to decrease each year. A regional plan makes more sense than repeated emergency actions for all involved.

We support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because we need to create a clear plan for communities and property owners to work together and with government agencies to help protect our shoreline for future generations. It supports long-term solutions instead of repeated short-term emergency repairs. It helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.

We respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rey and Carla Munoz

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 5:20:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katherine Larsen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Katherine Larsen, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - o Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - o Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - o Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Katherine Larsen
Puamana Owner
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 5:50:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Vadgama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Sara Vadgama and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sara Vadgama
28-3 Puapake Place
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:18:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brad Ammann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Brad Ammann, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- It has been 2 1/2 years since the fires, and we still don't have a permit just to rebuild our homes as they were.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Brad Ammann
Puamana Owner
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:21:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Plant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am Carl Stephen Plant, and I own a unit in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.

Like so much of Lahaina, Puamana was terribly affected by the 2023 wildfire. Almost half of the buildings were lost (not including mine, although I and others with surviving homes have had our financial situation very adversely affected by the fire). I understand that many of the destroyed units were full-time residences.

Needless to say, this was terrible for those whose places burned. But even for the rest of us Puamana does not seem like the wonderful place it was, with many missing buildings, especially the once-beautiful clubhouse.

The process of rebuilding Puamana is complex, with regulations that are often incomplete or in contradiction with other regulations. This is true in general, but especially the case for shoreline areas of Puamana. In addition to causing delays, it adds to the costs of rebuilding.

I think many of the owners of Puamana units bought them when they (the owners) were middle-aged or older. Lengthy delays may amount to a non-trivial portion of the remaining lifetime of the owners; It would seem uncharitable and lacking in aloha not to try very hard to remove any inessential obstacles!

This is why I respectfully urge your support for SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Mahalo for your consideration in this matter.

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Marie Sweetland and I am a resident owner of a destroyed home in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina. I am writing to you on behalf of my family and my neighbor. For the last 32 months, we have navigated through one obstacle after another in our pursuit to return to homes that were destroyed through no fault of our own. Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences. After 18 months in the County queue, our building permit applications remain NOT APPROVED.

Unfortunately, my neighbor could not also write to support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because she is still recovering from a critical health situation that is directly related to the trauma and injuries suffered from escaping and surviving the Lahaina fire. Receiving an approval to rebuild homes that previously existed will go a long way in helping her (and others) traumatized by the fire of August 2023.

Without passage of SB2401, SD1, HD1, many full-time residents like my neighbor and I will continue to suffer. Prior to the fire, I saw myself as a citizen. Today, I feel I am collateral damage. Do any of our elected officials care that lives continue to actively be destroyed? The fire was the first day of this ongoing nightmare. The best solution is allowing people to rebuild what was once their own stable housing.

My neighbors and I are doing our part. We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.

These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.

- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;

- Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Marie Sweetland
Puamana Owner, Unit 57-2
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 6:35:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Koller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Koller and I am a homeowner in Puamana. Like so many in our Lahaina community, my life was forever changed by the 2023 wildfires.

Puamana isn't just a "planned community" to us; it is our home. Seeing 40% of it reduced to ash—including the houses of my full-time neighbors—has been heartbreaking. But the struggle didn't end when the fires were out. For months, we have been stuck in a maze of overlapping regulations and shoreline complexities that make "moving home" feel like a disappearing dream.

Every day of delay means another day of displacement and rising costs that many of us simply cannot afford. **SB2401, SD1, HD1** offers us a glimmer of hope. By streamlining the permitting process and removing the bureaucratic duplication that currently stalls our progress, you are giving us a predictable path back to our land.

For those of us on the shoreline, we need the certainty that this bill provides to address future conditions responsibly. We aren't looking for shortcuts—we are looking for a way forward. I respectfully urge you to support this bill and help us bring Lahaina home.

Mahalo for your time and your compassion,

Elizabeth Koller, Homeowner, Puamana Lahaina

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Peter Ziebelman, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Peter Ziebelman
Puamana Owner
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:15:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jason, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.

Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.

We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations - especially in shoreline areas. These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:

- Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
- Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
- Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.

For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.

This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.

I respectfully urge your support, Mahalo for your consideration.

Jason, Puamana Owner, Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:56:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David W Medina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026 RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1 Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee, My name is David Medina, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina. Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences. We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas. These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement. SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by: Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways; Reducing delays and duplication across agencies; Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities. For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed. This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty. I respectfully urge your support. Mahalo for your consideration. David Medina

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:22:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Medina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Catherine Medina, and my husband and I are the owners of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina. My home was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, along with so many others in our community.

I am working to rebuild, but the process has been complex, uncertain, and often discouraging—particularly for those of us with shoreline properties. The level of bureaucracy surrounding the rebuilding process is preventing many homeowners from moving forward. Navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways has created significant and ongoing barriers.

These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners who are simply trying to return home. What is especially concerning is that many are becoming so discouraged that they are choosing not to rebuild at all.

These are not new developments—we are talking about the homes of fire victims and longtime members of the Lahaina community.

I deeply miss my community and my town, and it is heartbreaking to hear from neighbors about their continued struggles. Without meaningful change, the path to recovery will remain out of reach for too many.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 represents an important step forward. It would help create clearer and more predictable permitting pathways, reduce delays and duplication across agencies, and support a more timely recovery process. For shoreline homeowners, it also provides a more workable framework to address future shoreline conditions, so that what we rebuild can be sustained.

This bill is critical to helping Lahaina recover—not just physically, but as a community.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB2401, SD1, HD1. It is the right thing to do.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Catherine Medina

355 Front Street
Lahaina

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 8:27:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabrielle Longhi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gabrielle Longhi, and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina. My home was destroyed by the 2023 Maui wildfires. I am working to rebuild, but the process has been complex and uncertain, particularly for shoreline properties. Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways. This causes delays and increasing costs, and prolongs displacement for homeowners.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:

Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;

Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;

Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.

This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.

I respectfully urge your support!

Mahalo,

Gabrielle Longhi

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 9:08:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Committee on Finance,

My name is Murray Rosenberg, and I am the owner of Valley Isle 1103 along with my wife Maria Faylona. We have been proud owners there since 2016. We fell in love with Maui in 2001 when we got married there visiting this beautiful Island for the very 1st time.

I am writing in support of SB2401,SD1, HD1 because we notice worsening Shoreline erosion every time we visit our wonderful condo. We noticed the worsening of the erosion year by year. It saddens us tremendously. We see a significant loss of beach with waves reaching closer to buildings each time we visit there. There is tremendous uncertainty about the future.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together.

- Where we live, erosion is affecting all of our properties in the area.
- We are trying to work together to solve this complex issue, and have tried for many years, but have not had much success.
- This problem is bigger than any one property, and needs a shared plan.
- The current process and plan to get approvals has not been working well. It makes it very hard for neighbors to work together on a long-term solution.
- We see the Shoreline getting significantly smaller and closer to our buildings year after year.
- A regional plan makes much more sense than repeated emergency actions.

We support SB2401, SD1, HD1 because

- It gives Shoreline communities a clear path forward instead of confusion and delays.
- It would help create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan together and work with government agencies on regional Shoreline solutions.

- It helps move projects forward in a more organized and predictable way
- And finally, it helps communities like ours plan responsibly instead of reacting to each new storm or erosion event.

We respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1, HD1

Mahalo,

Murray Rosenberg MD

Maria Faylona MD

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 9:11:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sunny Marshall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Owner of unit in Puamana. I support this bill.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 9:13:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ouida Hemingway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you all for your time reading my heartfelt testimony. My name is Ouida Hemingway and I am third generation owner in Puamana. My grandchildren come here now and continue the traditions.

40% of our beautiful community was burnt in the 2023 Lahaina wildfire, and the greater loss of overall Lahaina is also felt by all who live in Puamana. We are wanting to move forward with healing and rebuilding but there is so much confusion and an appearance of lack of progress in getting homes and businesses rebuilt. My heart breaks on my morning bike rides seeing the historic Lahaina town now an abandoned ghost town.

i do believe SB2401, SD1, HD1 would be incredibly helpful to all people affected by the Lahaina fires by clarifying the building permitting process, and helping to move things forward to get people back into their homes and businesses.

I ask you to please support SB2401, SD1, HD1.

with much gratitude,

Ouida Hemingway

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 9:48:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Holly Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Mr. Holly D. Smith, my wife and I are owners in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences. These owners of homes lost in the fire deserve a quicker path to rebuild than is currently taking shape and I believe SB2401 SD1 and HD1 will go a long way in helping to move this process forward. Please help these neighbors get back in their homes, the stresses on their lives, living in temporary housing, is causing a substantial emotional toll on them and by extension on many of us.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - o Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - o Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - o Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future and current shoreline conditions that are already affecting our community. Since we are a "planned community" what happens with one shoreline owner affects us all as the community loses shoreline that in reality is common property. Therefore we are all affected by our neighbors'/friends' loss.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Mr. Holly Smith

Puamana Owner

Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:12:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dudley Millikin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dudley Millikin. I am a single-family homeowner on the makai side of Front Street in Shark Pit in Lahaina, and I respectfully ask for your support of SB2401, SD1, HD1. Since my neighbors lost their homes all around me in the August 2023 wildfire, they have faced never ending uncertainty with changing shoreline regulations, changing ocean setbacks, and arbitrary and conflicting rebuilding requirements. The constant revisions and ambiguity are making it extremely difficult to move forward. We want our neighbors and friends to come home. We don't want to be the only house.

We need clear and consistent guidance so our friends and families can plan and rebuild safely and responsibly. We support responsible coastal planning! But need a better program than the patchwork of rules we have right now. This bill will help by:

- Creating clearer and predictable permitting pathways
- Reducing delays and duplication across agencies
- Supporting timely recovery for our fire impacted communities

Please pass SB2401, SD1, HD1 and help provide a workable path forward for shoreline homeowners.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 10:23:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judy Sturgis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Judy Sturgis and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina.
- Like many others, my home was destroyed or significantly impacted by the 2023 wildfires.
- I am working to rebuild, but the process has been complex and uncertain, particularly for shoreline properties.
- Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways.
- These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - o Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - o Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - o Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- It is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed, so that what we rebuild can be sustained over time.
- This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Judy Sturgis and Family

April 1, 2026

Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State Legislature
State Capitol

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kammy Furtado, and I am a generational Maui resident and a member of the Furtado 'ohana. I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1.

Our family owned multiple properties along Front Street in Lahaina—homes and businesses that were not only our livelihood, but part of our family's history and identity. Like so many in our community, we lost everything in the 2023 wildfires.

Since that day, I have remained on the ground, helping to mālama our properties, ensuring they are safe, and doing everything I can to prepare for the day we are allowed to rebuild. But the reality we face today is incredibly difficult. The pathway to rebuild—especially for those of us along the shoreline—is unclear, complex, and filled with uncertainty.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 is critical because it provides a framework to help guide recovery in a way that is thoughtful, coordinated, and realistic. Without this type of legislation, many families like mine are left in limbo—wanting to rebuild, ready to rebuild, but unable to move forward.

This bill recognizes that:

- Our communities need a clear and consistent pathway to rebuild;
- Recovery cannot happen if property owners are stuck navigating overlapping and conflicting regulations;
- There must be a balance between environmental stewardship and the urgent need to restore homes, businesses, and livelihoods; and
- Local families—those who have generational ties to Lahaina—deserve the opportunity to come home.

For me, this is not just policy—it is personal. Every day that passes without progress is another day our community feels incomplete. Lahaina is not just a place—it is our home, our history, and our responsibility to restore for future generations.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB2401, SD1, HD1 and help provide families like mine a real pathway forward.

Mahalo for your time, your leadership, and your commitment to helping Lahaina rebuild.

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jason Sturgis and I am the owner of a single family home on the makai side of Front Street in Lahaina. I lost my home in the fire and I would like to respectfully ask you to lend your support to SB2401. The path forward for all shoreline owners affected by the fires has been convoluted at best. Uncertainly surrounds what you are able to build back and the timeline for doing so. SB2401 would be an important step forward in letting all of Lahaina homeowners rebuild and bring Lahaina back to a thriving town.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Jason Sturgis
Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 2:27:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Barr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Lynn Barr, and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina.
- Like many others, my home was destroyed or significantly impacted by the 2023 wildfires.
- I am working to rebuild, but the process has been complex and uncertain, particularly for shoreline properties.
- Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways.
- These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - o Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - o Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - o Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- It is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed, so that what we rebuild can be sustained over time.
- This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Lynn Barr
Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 2:29:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sanford Pearl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Sanford Pearl, and I am a current owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina. I have lived in Puamana for over 40 years. It is my part of my families legacy.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement for many of my family and friends.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sanford Pearl
Puamana Owner
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 3:01:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is John H. Peterson III, and my family are owners in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina. Our family has owned these homes for over 45 years - 38-2, 38-3 and 38-4 Pualoke Place, Lahaina
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners like us, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support. The time to rebuild Lahaina is now and all we want to do is replace what we had pre fire.

Mahalo for your consideration.

John H. Peterson III

Christina Peterson

Puamana Owners

38-2, 38-3, and 38-4 Pualoke Place
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 4:28:34 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jenni Bishop	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Jenni Bishop, and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina.
- Like many others, my home was destroyed or significantly impacted by the 2023 wildfires.
- I am working to rebuild, but the process has been complex and uncertain, particularly for shoreline properties.
- Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways.
- These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - o Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - o Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - o Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- It is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed, so that what we rebuild can be sustained over time.
- This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Nathan & Jenni Bishop
Lahaina Homeowner

April 2, 2026

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Committee Members,

We, Bruce & Sue Sakashita, own an oceanfront unit in the southernmost building of the Puamana townhome community in south Lahaina, Maui. We submit this testimony as homeowners in support of SB2401.

Nearly half of the 230 Puamana units were destroyed in the August 2023 wildfire. Many of the remaining homes face ongoing shoreline erosion that threatens personal safety and property. Since the fire, homeowners have struggled with inconsistent guidance regarding setbacks, erosion response, and property rebuilding standards. These issues are causing delays, higher costs and extended displacement of homeowners from their residences.

We support responsible coastal planning, but we urgently need a coordinated regional framework that provides clarity and predictability. SB2401, SD1, HD1 offers that structure and is critical to our community's recovery. As a shoreline property owner, it is especially critical that an effective, streamlined process be established to facilitate the future protection of shoreline residents and their properties.

We respectfully urge you to pass SB2401.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Bruce & Sue Sakashita

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 5:39:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deryk Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of this bill. I am an owner at Pomona over 40% of our properties were destroyed in the Lahaina wildfire. There's been a lot of confusion and delays in the rebuilding process. This bill would help clarify and streamline the rebuild process for those of us who are still displaced from this fire. Especially those along the shoreline area. I asked for your support in this.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 6:20:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sondra Haley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB2401, SD1, HD1.

I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina. Like many in our community, my home was destroyed or significantly impacted by the 2023 wildfires.

Currently, the rebuilding process has proven to be complex and uncertain, especially for shoreline properties. What should be a path toward recovery instead involves navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and often unclear permitting pathways. These barriers have led to significant delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement for homeowners who are simply trying to return home.

SB2401, SD1, and HD1 offer a much-needed path forward. The bill would create clearer and more predictable permitting processes, reduce delays and duplication across agencies, and support a timelier recovery for those still trying to rebuild and restore a sense of stability, community and home.

Mahalo for your consideration, and I respectfully urge your support.

Sondra Haley
Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 6:47:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
alan schulman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2, 2026

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB2401, SD1, HD1

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is [Alan Schulman, and I am an owner in Puamana, a planned community in Lahaina.
- Approximately 40% of our community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences.
- We are working to rebuild, but the process is complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas.
- These challenges are causing delays, increased costs, and prolonged displacement.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- For shoreline owners, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed.
- This bill is critical to helping us rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Alan Schulman
Puamana Owner
Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 6:59:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Carolan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Carol Carolan and I am the owner of a single family residential shoreline property on Baby Beach in Lahaina. Like so many others, my home was totally destroyed by the August 2023 wildfire. I am working to rebuild and wish the process wasn't so complex. Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations and unclear permitting pathways. These challenges not only cause delays but increase costs.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:

1. Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways
2. Reducing delays and expensive duplication across agencies
3. Supporting a timely recovery for fire-impacted communities

It is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions so that what we build can be sustained over time. This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.

I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Carol Carolan

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:03:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Baum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please continue to simplify the path for us in Puamana to rebuild our community thanks Bruce Baum 12-1 Puailima pl.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:11:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Boonstra-Barbier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sherry Boonstra Barbier, and I am a Lahaina homeowner. I lost my shoreline home in the 2023 wildfires.

Like so many others, I didn't just lose a house—I lost a lifetime of memories, a sense of place, and the stability my family depended on. Since then, I have been trying to rebuild, but the process has been overwhelming and uncertain, especially for shoreline properties.

Navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways has caused ongoing delays, rising costs, and continued displacement. It often feels like there is no clear path forward.

We are ready to rebuild. We want to come home. But we need a process that makes that possible.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would provide clearer, more predictable permitting, reduce duplication across agencies, and help families like mine move forward.

Just as importantly, we need a way to plan for future shoreline conditions, so that what we rebuild today will still be there tomorrow.

For me, this bill is not just about policy—it is about the ability to return home, to rebuild what was lost, and to restore a sense of normalcy after so much hardship.

I respectfully ask for your support so families like mine can finally move forward.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Sherry Boonstra Barbier

Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:16:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Srevens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

My name is Mark Stevens and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property located at 35 Kai Pali Pl Lahaina.

Regrettably, my residence was either destroyed by the wildfires of 2023. I am currently engaged in the rebuilding process, which has proven to be both intricate and fraught with uncertainty, particularly concerning shoreline properties.

The reconstruction endeavor necessitates navigating a multitude of agencies, overlapping regulations, and ambiguous permitting pathways. These obstacles are resulting in significant delays, escalating costs, and extending the displacement period for homeowners.

The proposed legislation, SB2401, SD1, HD1, would be instrumental in addressing these challenges by:

- Establishing clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
- Mitigating delays and redundancies across various agencies;
- Facilitating timely recovery for communities affected by the fires.

Furthermore, it is imperative to delineate a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, should they arise, to ensure the sustainability of our rebuilt structures over time.

This bill is of paramount importance in assisting homeowners to rebuild and advance with enhanced certainty. I respectfully solicit your support for this initiative.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Mark Stevens

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:18:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Hughes Kraszewski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 2,2026

I have been a homeowner in Lahaina since 1968. Our home has been in our family for generations, and over the years we have shared our unit—and our love of the island—with many friends, visitors, and neighbors who have come to participate in and care for the community as well.

After the devastating fire, the wind has been taken out of many of our sails. Even so, we want to move forward with the care, respect, and long-term commitment that Maui deserves. To do that, we need a clear, reliable path toward rebuilding—especially for properties affected by shoreline development rules.

Specifically, we are seeking:

- Clear rebuilding requirements and timelines for shoreline properties, including the steps and decision points in the process
- Guidance on permits, studies, and documentation that will be required (and what can be done in parallel)
- Transparent standards for when repairs qualify as rebuild/restore versus new development
- Consistency across agencies so homeowners receive the same direction and expectations
- A predictable process for appeals, variances, or exceptions, if applicable

We appreciate any direction you can provide on the appropriate next steps, points of contact, and available resources. Our goal is to rebuild responsibly and contribute to the recovery of Lahaina and the wider Maui community.

Sincerely,

Mary Kraszewski
9-4,9-3 Puamelia Place
mkraszewski1022@gmail.com

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:25:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
john stockham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and members of the Committee,

My name is John Stockham I am a owner in Pumanana a planned community in Lahaina . I have owned our condo in Puamana for over 20 years and am a full time resident of Maui. My condo along with 40 % of our community was destroyed in the Lahaina fire and we need your help to start our rebuild ASAP. There are so many delays due to the unclear and overlapping regulations , especially in shoreline areas. As a Maui resident we cannot afford these delays ,increased costs and the prolonged displacement. I ask you to please support SB2401,SD1 and HD1

Mahalo for your consideration

John Stockham ,Puamana owner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:26:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Craig Gay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Craig Gay, and I am the owner of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina. As was the case with to so many of our neighbours, our family home was destroyed in the 2023 Lahaina wildfire.

We have been working for several years now to secure a permit to rebuild our home, but the process has been long, complex, and uncertain, particularly for those of us along the shoreline. Permitting has required us to navigate multiple agencies with overlapping jurisdictions and regulations, and the permitting pathway has often been opaque.

The complexity of the process has caused long delays, increased costs, and lengthened the time we've had to go without a house.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways, reducing delays and duplication across agencies, and by supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.

It is also going to be important for us to have a clear path forward for addressing future shoreline conditions so that what we rebuild can be sustained and protected in the future.

This bill will help us to move forward with greater certainty. I respectfully urge your support for it.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Craig Gay
25 Kai Pali Place, Lahaina

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:36:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randolph Coon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of the Coon Family of Lahaina, Maui, we support SB2401, SD1, & HD1. We lost our family home at Puamana during the fires of 2023. Four generations of the Coon Family called Puamana home or their second home and each of us has been profoundly affected by this loss. Our one hope has been to rebuild as soon as possible, but we are now going on three years and progress to rebuild has been painfully slow. The passage of SB2401 will go a long way toward moving us forward to realizing that dream of having a home in Puamana again! Me Ke Aloha Pumehana to all those in this body who are working hard to get this legislation passed. Mahalo and Aloha from the Coon Family of Maui.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 7:44:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Johnston	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

- My name is Leah Johnston and I am the owner of a single-family residential property in Lahaina.
- Like many others, my home was destroyed by the 2023 wildfires.
- I am working to rebuild, but the process has been not been easy.
- Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, and unclear permitting pathways. There seems to be no consistency to helping people get back into their homes.
- These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners.
- SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:
 - Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
 - Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
 - Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.
- It is also important to have a **clear path to address future shoreline conditions**, if needed, so that what we rebuild can be sustained over time.
- This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.
- I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Leah Johnston
Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 8:10:41 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Nex	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cheryl Nex; myself and my husband Michael are owners of a single-family residential shoreline property in Lahaina.

Like many others, my home was completely destroyed by the 2023 wildfires.

I am working diligently to rebuild, but the process has been complex and uncertain - particularly for shoreline properties.

Rebuilding requires navigating multiple agencies, overlapping regulations, circular processes leading to significant stalls and unclear permitting pathways.

These challenges are causing delays, increasing costs, and prolonging displacement for homeowners.

SB2401, SD1, HD1 would help by:

- Creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways;
- Reducing delays and duplication across agencies;
- Supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities.

It is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions, if needed, so that what we rebuild can be sustained over time.

This bill is critical to helping homeowners rebuild and move forward with greater certainty.

I respectfully urge your support.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Cheryl (& Michael) Nex
Lahaina Homeowner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 10:04:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Camille Ala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My family lives in Alaska and due to my seasonal depressive disorder we used to live in Maui during the winter months. Sadly, our place in Puamana burnt out and we are anxious to rebuild with the hopes of coming back next winter.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 10:41:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maureen Brock	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Recommended amendments to the 4/2/2026 version:

- **§205A-2(c)(6)(E) – Property protection language:** The provision allowing adaptation pathways planning to include “protection of shoreline properties” may elevate property protection within coastal hazards policy and open the door to private shoreline hardening.
Recommendation: Remove this language.
- **§205A-2(c)(9)(B) – County authorization of temporary shoreline hardening:** This provision allows counties to approve temporary shoreline hardening beyond an emergency authorization, which may create overlapping jurisdiction with State authority and expand pathways for shoreline armoring. It may also allow temporary measures to extend beyond the emergency period without clear public oversight.
Recommendation: Remove this language.
- **§183C-6(g) – Extended temporary shoreline hardening:** While intended to improve oversight by routing continued temporary shoreline hardening to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, this provision lacks clear standards, timelines, and accountability.
Recommendation: Define clear, time-bound criteria for demonstrating progress toward long-term solutions and require public notice and opportunity for comment for any authorization extending beyond the emergency period.
- **Implementation – Timeline for OPSD action:** The bill does not require the State to initiate designation of shoreline districts within a defined timeframe.
Recommendation: Require designation of a small number of pilot districts within a set period (e.g., two years).
- **Implementation – Measurable triggers in adaptation pathways:** Without defined triggers, pathways may remain conceptual rather than actionable. The OPSD Managed Retreat Study emphasizes the need for thresholds to guide when strategies are implemented.
Recommendation: Require identification of thresholds (e.g., shoreline change or flooding exposure) that trigger implementation of specific strategies over time.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 10:43:26 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Oliver Lau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the Adaptation Pathways bill for Hawaii. The state needs a clear and replicable process to ensure that we proactively plan for the impacts of climate change and sea level rise that are already impacting our communities and will intensify in the future. Proactive planning saves the state money and ensures communities have a clear path forward.

I support this bill with some recommended amendments.

- **§205A-2(c)(6)(E) – Property protection language:** The provision allowing adaptation pathways planning to include “protection of shoreline properties” may elevate property protection within coastal hazards policy and open the door to private shoreline hardening.
Recommendation: Remove this language.
- **§205A-2(c)(9)(B) – County authorization of temporary shoreline hardening:** This provision allows counties to approve temporary shoreline hardening beyond an emergency authorization, which may create overlapping jurisdiction with State authority and expand pathways for shoreline armoring. It may also allow temporary measures to extend beyond the emergency period without clear public oversight.
Recommendation: Remove this language.
- **§183C-6(g) – Extended temporary shoreline hardening:** While intended to improve oversight by routing continued temporary shoreline hardening to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, this provision lacks clear standards, timelines, and accountability.
Recommendation: Define clear, time-bound criteria for demonstrating progress toward long-term solutions and require public notice and opportunity for comment for any authorization extending beyond the emergency period.
- **Implementation – Timeline for OPSD action:** The bill does not require the State to initiate designation of shoreline districts within a defined timeframe.
Recommendation: Require designation of a small number of pilot districts within a set period (e.g., two years).
- **Implementation – Measurable triggers in adaptation pathways:** Without defined triggers, pathways may remain conceptual rather than actionable. The OPSD Managed Retreat Study emphasizes the need for thresholds to guide when strategies are implemented.
Recommendation: Require identification of thresholds (e.g., shoreline change or flooding exposure) that trigger implementation of specific strategies over time.

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 10:47:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice McLean	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Committee on Finance:

I support SB2401, with amendments. As a planner I worked as a consultant on the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development’s Managed Retreat Study (2025). This bill aligns with our recommendations, specifically the need for regional planning focused on eroding sandy beaches and the use of adaptation pathways with defined triggers.

However, recent amendments in the HD1 version raise concerns that could unintentionally expand pathways for shoreline hardening and create implementation gaps. Therefore I support Surfrider Foundation’s recommended amendments below:

- **§205A-2(c)(6)(E) – Property protection language:** The provision allowing adaptation pathways planning to include “protection of shoreline properties” may elevate property protection within coastal hazards policy and open the door to private shoreline hardening. **Recommendation:** Remove this language.
- **§205A-2(c)(9)(B) – County authorization of temporary shoreline hardening:** This provision allows counties to approve temporary shoreline hardening beyond an emergency authorization, which may create overlapping jurisdiction with State authority and expand pathways for shoreline armoring. It may also allow temporary measures to extend beyond the emergency period without clear public oversight. **Recommendation:** Remove this language.
- **§183C-6(g) – Extended temporary shoreline hardening:** While intended to improve oversight by routing continued temporary shoreline hardening to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, this provision lacks clear standards, timelines, and accountability. **Recommendation:** Define clear, time-bound criteria for demonstrating progress toward long-term solutions and require public notice and opportunity for comment for any authorization extending beyond the emergency period.
- **Implementation – Timeline for OPSD action:** The bill does not require the State to initiate designation of shoreline districts within a defined timeframe. **Recommendation:** Require designation of a small number of pilot districts within a set period (e.g., two years).
- **Implementation – Measurable triggers in adaptation pathways:** Without defined triggers, pathways may remain conceptual rather than actionable. The OPSD Managed Retreat Study emphasizes the need for thresholds to guide when strategies are implemented.

Recommendation: Require identification of thresholds (e.g., shoreline change or flooding exposure) that trigger implementation of specific strategies over time.

Mahalo for your consideration of this important measure.

Thank you,

Alice McLean

Planner

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 12:03:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Whitehead	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Todd Whitehead, and I am an owner in Puamana, of Lahaina. Approximately 40% of our planned community was destroyed in the 2023 wildfires, including many full-time residences. We are working hard to rebuild, but the process has been incredibly complex, with unclear and overlapping regulations—especially in shoreline areas. These challenges are causing significant delays, driving up costs, and leaving many of us in a very difficult rebuild process.

I am writing to respectfully ask for your help in supporting SB2401, SD1, HD1. This bill would make a real difference for us by creating clearer and more predictable permitting pathways, reducing delays and duplication across agencies, and supporting timely recovery for fire-impacted communities like ours. For shoreline owners in particular, it is also important to have a clear path to address future shoreline conditions if needed. Without this kind of coordinated framework, the uncertainty continues to hold us back from moving forward.

This bill is critical to helping us rebuild with greater certainty and get our community back on its feet. If it were possible, we would take steps to move things forward and return to the way things were, but find ourselves at your mercy, and humbly request your support.

Mahalo for your consideration and for any help you can provide during this difficult recovery.

Todd Whitehead,

Puamana Owner

Lahaina, Maui

SB-2401-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 2:57:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/2/2026 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha my name is Isabel Riethbrock and I support SB2401.

I support this bill and its purpose to establish the integration of shoreline adaptation pathways planning as a policy under the Coastal Zone Management Program.

After the recent storms this is more imperative than ever, and shoreline mitigation is crucial moving forward to prevent future storm damage.