



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2401, S.D. 1, RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

DATE: Thursday, March 19, 2026 **TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 411

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Alison S. Kato or Christopher J.I. Leong, Deputy Attorneys General

Chair Hashem and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to require the State Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) to establish regional shoreline adaptation districts and to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for such districts. The bill authorizes OPSD to transmit such plans to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and authorizes BLNR to adopt shoreline adaptation pathways plans that meet specified requirements. The bill also appropriates funds for one full-time equivalent temporary planning analyst position.

Pursuant to article III, section 14, of the Hawaii State Constitution, "[e]ach law shall embrace but one subject, which shall be expressed in its title." The Hawaii Supreme Court has held that this provision is mandatory and that a violation thereof would invalidate legislation. *Schwab v. Ariyoshi*, 58 Haw. 25, 31, 564 P.2d 135, 139 (1977).

This bill may be subject to a potential challenge based on its title, "Relating to Regional Shoreline **Mitigation** Districts." While the prior version of the bill required creation of regional shoreline **mitigation** districts, as expressed in the title, the current S.D. 1 version of this bill primarily refers to "regional shoreline **adaptation** districts" and "shoreline adaptation pathways plans." In addition, the bill contains internal terminology

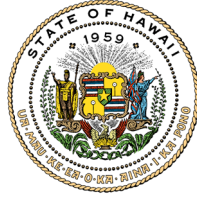
inconsistencies. For example, proposed section 225M- repeatedly uses the term "shoreline **adaptation** district," while section 225M- (j) defines "regional shoreline **mitigation** district" (page 8, lines 16-21). Sections 3 and 5 also refer to "regional shoreline **mitigation** district" (page 11, line 14; page 22, line 4).

It is unclear whether "shoreline mitigation" and "shoreline adaptation" are intended to describe distinct concepts, in which case the subject matter of the bill may extend beyond what is expressed in the title, or whether the difference reflects inconsistent or interchangeable terminology. If the terms are intended to be interchangeable, we recommend conforming the terminology throughout the bill, by replacing each instance of "regional shoreline adaptation district" and "shoreline adaptation district" with "regional shoreline mitigation district" so that it is clear that the bill's title clearly expresses the subject of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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

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DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

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
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ENFORCEMENT
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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
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, March 19, 2026
09:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 411**

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

Senate Bill 2401, Senate 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.**

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 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.

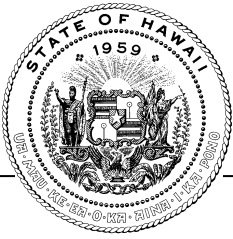
This measure also requires meaningful engagement with local businesses, community organizations, groups, and individuals within and surrounding the proposed district. Requiring culturally-informed, community-engaged planning strengthens the legitimacy and durability of

adaptation strategies and ensures that district-level planning is informed by local knowledge and community priorities.

Importantly, Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1 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.

For these reasons, the Department supports Senate Bill 2401, Senate Draft 1 and its framework for coordinated, forward-looking, and resource-protective shoreline adaptation planning.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Thursday, March 19, 2026 9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 411

in consideration of
SB 2401 SD 1
RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS.

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the House Committee on Water and Land, SB 2401 SD 1 establishes a statewide adaptation pathways planning framework to support the development of short- and long-term regional shoreline adaptation plans that address sea level rise and preserve the State's beaches. The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) would serve in a planning and coordination role to develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for designated regional shoreline adaptation districts.

OPSD concurs that regional shoreline management is an appropriate approach to address coastal hazards in order to protect beaches, dunes, and access to public resources, and to develop proactive and long-term strategies to reduce the risk of coastal hazards to shoreline properties and infrastructure. OPSD has completed multiple phases of its long-term Regional Shoreline Management Initiative, including developing a potential methodology for delineating shoreline regions for adaptation planning purposes, and consultations with relevant State, County and Federal agencies. Currently, OPSD is in the early stages of piloting the regional shoreline delineation methodology in three moku across the State (Wai'anae, O'ahu, Pū'ali Komohana, Maui, and Kona, Moloka'i).

OPSD, the lead agency of the Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program, offers the following **technical comments** on SB 2401 SD 1:

1. The proposed language uses both "shoreline adaptation district" and "shoreline mitigation district". OPSD suggests consistent terminology and recommends using the term "shoreline adaptation district", to reinforce alignment with "adaptation pathways plans" that would be developed for specified regional districts.
2. In 2023, OPSD completed a scoping study which identified a potential methodology for delineating shoreline regions for planning and management purposes. This delineation

methodology recommends the consideration of littoral cells, coastal geomorphology, traditional ahupua‘a boundaries, wave exposure and coastal processes to determine shoreline regions. The delineation methodology also outlines an iterative process that includes consultations with multi-disciplinary subject matter experts and community and cultural stakeholders. Therefore, OPSD suggests the following amended language:

Page 8, Lines 16 to 21: “Regional shoreline [~~mitigation~~] adaptation district” means a designated coastal area comprised primarily of shoreline and adjacent properties located within a contiguous geographic area connected by characteristics including but not limited to ahupuaa, coastal processes, and documented and predicated erosion rates, and functionally connected sediment cells or littoral subcells [~~the same functionally connected sediment cell or littoral subcell~~], established for purposes of coordinated shoreline protection and adaptation planning implementation.

3. OPSD concurs that the development and implementation of regional shoreline adaptation pathways plans will require coordination between OPSD and DLNR; however, under this framework, adaptation pathways plans will not have a regulatory element that would require approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Therefore, OPSD suggests the following amended language:

Page 7, Lines 9 to 21 and Page 8, Lines 1 to 7: (i) Upon finalization of a shoreline adaptation pathways plan, the office may transmit the shoreline adaptation pathways plan, together with any comments and recommendations, to the board of land and natural resources for [~~consideration and adoption pursuant to this section~~] reference and concurrence. The board of land and natural resources may [~~adopt~~] concur with a shoreline adaptation pathways plan upon a determination that the plan:

- (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsections (e) through (h);
- (2) Is consistent with applicable state and county land use policies; and
- (3) Provides coordinated, regionally appropriate shoreline adaptation pathways to best preserve public trust resources, public beaches, public access, and that may reduce risk, damage, or exposure from shoreline erosion, coastal flooding, or shoreline hazard conditions affecting shoreline properties.

~~[Approval of a shoreline adaptation pathways plan by the board of land and natural resources shall constitute approval of the plan for planning purposes only.]~~

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Wai a me ka ‘Āina
(House Committee on Water & Land)

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

Malaki 19, 2026

9:00 am

Lumi 411

Aloha e Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) provides **COMMENTS** on **SB2401 SD1**, 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.

OHA’s longstanding position is that shoreline hardening and armoring are environmentally harmful and contribute to beach loss and degradation of coastal ecosystems. Accelerated beach loss also restricts public access and negatively impacts 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.

While the current version of this bill is a meaningful improvement, OHA respectfully recommends two clarifying amendments to ensure that existing environmental and cultural protections remain fully operative.

First, OHA recommends inclusion of a clarifying provision explicitly affirming that Chapter 343 environmental review remains applicable. Inclusion of this provision may help avoid confusion and ensure that designation of an adaptation district, with its own impact disclosure

requirements, does not inadvertently function as a substitute for project-level environmental review. **OHA recommends the proper insertion of the following language:**

“Nothing in this section shall be construed to exempt any project or action undertaken pursuant to an adaptation pathway plan from compliance with Chapter 343, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes.”

Second, 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 6, line 13, as part of subsection (e), the following:**

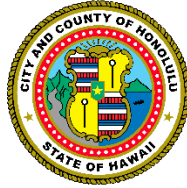
“The identification and assessment of the scope, nature, and extent of potential impacts to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and cultural resources that may be at risk within the proposed adaptation district.”

OHA appreciates the Legislature’s efforts to improve this measure and supports thoughtful, regionally coordinated adaptation planning. With the addition of the clarifying amendments described above, this bill would more clearly preserve existing environmental safeguards and strengthen protection for cultural and traditional resources as Hawai‘i navigates the complex challenges of sea level rise.

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

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY
KE KE'ENA LOLI ANIAU MĀLAMA 'ĀINA A ME KE OLA LOA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

KEALOHA FOX, Ph. D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
PO'O HO'OKŌ & KAHU OLA LOA

VACANT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR &
DEPUTY CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
HOPE PO'O & HOPE KAHU OLA LOA

TESTIMONY OF KEALOHA FOX, PH.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND
RESILIENCY AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
Thursday, March 19, 2026, 9:00 AM
Conference RM 411 and Via Videoconference

TO: Rep. Mark Hashem, Chair, Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair, and Members of the
Committee on Water & Land

RE: COMMENTS ON SENATE BILL 2041 SD1, RELATING TO REGIONAL
SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS

The City and County of Honolulu's ("City") Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency ("Resilience Office") offers **comments** on Senate Bill 2041 SD1, which establishes a statewide framework for shoreline adaptation pathways planning through regional shoreline mitigation districts led by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

The City recognizes the increasing urgency of planning for sea level rise, coastal erosion, and coastal flooding. *Climate Ready O'ahu*, the City's climate adaptation strategy, includes strategies to develop sea level rise adaptation pathways for high priority infrastructure assets. Adaptation pathways provide a structured, flexible approach to sequencing actions over time based on thresholds or "triggers," enabling agencies to plan for accommodation or retreat strategies as conditions change. This approach supports cost-effective, long-term decision-making for infrastructure and community resilience.

Sea level rise planning must also consider place-specific impacts and community engagement. Consistent with this approach, the City's Department of Planning and Permitting is currently leading the City's first "Area Adaptation Plan" in the Waikīkī Special District, called Adapt Waikīkī 2050. This effort will identify near-term guidance and long-term scenarios to enhance resilience in the area through 2050 and beyond, and is intended to be the first of many Area Adaptation Plans, as the City works to plan for vulnerable areas across the island.

Rep. Mark Hashem, Chair, Rep. Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair
and Members
SB2041 SD1
March 17, 2026
Page 2

The intent of this measure to support coordinated, regionally informed shoreline adaptation planning is aligned with the City's use of adaptation pathways as a planning tool and neighborhood-scale planning through the Area Adaptation Plan framework. The City notes the importance of clear coordination between state and county planning efforts. Counties must retain the ability to determine and advance their own area adaptation planning priorities based on local conditions, community needs, and available resources. A statewide framework should complement and not delay, preempt, or supersede county-led adaptation planning already underway or in development.

We additionally offer the following technical comments for consideration to ensure clarity and alignment with the stated purpose of adaptation pathways planning:

Given the proposed new section of Chapter 225M refers to "regional shoreline adaptation districts" in establishing the planning framework, references throughout should be amended from "regional shoreline mitigation district" to "regional shoreline adaptation district" for consistency with the adaptation pathways approach described in the bill.

In section (d)(3), the reference to "affected shoreline property owners within the shoreline mitigation district" may be broadened to "affected property owners within the shoreline adaptation district." Adaptation pathways planning may involve strategies such as retreat, infrastructure realignment, or utility relocation, which can affect inland as well as shoreline parcels.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these **comments** on SB2401 SD1.

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Mark J. Hashem, Chair

House Committee on Water & Land
State Capitol, Conference Room 411 & Videoconference

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

HEARING: Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, 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 the Office. Requires OPSD to coordinate shoreline adaptation pathways planning with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, applicable county planning department, 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 1/1/2065.

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



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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.



(no subject)

1 message

Valley Isle Resort Secretary <valleyisleresort.secretary@gmail.com>
To: Valley Isle Resort Secretary <valleyisleresort.secretary@gmail.com>

Tue,



Dear Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

On behalf of the Valley Isle Resort AOA, we write to express our strong support for Senate Bill 2401, relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts.

Our community in Kahana Bay is facing increasing and urgent challenges due to coastal erosion. Shoreline loss threatens not only the natural beauty of our coastline, but also the safety, structural integrity, and long-term viability of homes, infrastructure, and local businesses. For many of our owners and residents, this is not a distant concern—it is a present and escalating reality.

SB2401 represents a thoughtful and proactive approach to addressing these challenges. By enabling the creation of Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts, this legislation provides a framework for coordinated, science-based solutions that can be implemented at the scale necessary to be effective. Coastal erosion does not respect property boundaries, and meaningful mitigation requires coordination across communities, agencies, and stakeholders.

The Valley Isle Resort AOA strongly believes that this bill will:

- Support sustainable and coordinated shoreline management
- Provide resources and structure for long-term resilience planning
- Help protect property, infrastructure, and public access
- Preserve the environmental and cultural significance of Kahana Bay

We also want to emphasize that time is of the essence. The impacts of erosion are accelerating, and without decisive action, the costs—both financial and environmental—will only increase. This is an opportunity to act now with foresight and responsibility.

Our owners, residents, and neighbors are deeply committed to the preservation and restoration of Kahana Bay. We respectfully urge you to support and advance SB2401 as a critical step toward protecting Hawaii's coastal communities.

Thank you for your leadership and your dedication to the people and places that make Hawaii so special.

With aloha and appreciation,

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:53:34 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

My name is EJ, and I am the President of the AOA of Hololani in Kahana on Maui. I am writing on behalf of 63 units, many of which are owner-occupied or long-term residents who call this community home.

I support SB2401 because shoreline erosion is something we are dealing with right now. The shoreline continues to move inland, and the impacts are visible year after year.

This is not just affecting one property. It is happening across Kahana Bay. Our community and neighboring properties have been trying for years to work together on solutions, but the current process is slow, unclear, and makes coordination very difficult.

The reality is that this problem is regional, but the system treats it one property at a time. That approach is not working.

We need a clearer path that allows communities to plan together and move forward with long-term solutions instead of reacting to each new erosion event.

SB2401 provides that framework.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401.

Mahalo,

EJ
President, AOA of Hololani

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 1:40:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Tracy Tremble and I am the HOA President of the Kahana Outrigger Property in West Maui. We have been owners here since 2021, and previously were owners at Honua Kai. We have seen the impact of rising oceans on West Maui and are increasingly concerned with the ability of our beaches to survive the future.

Rising sea levels and how to mitigate it's effects on our property has been an agenda item at our quarterly meetings for the last several years. The Kahana Bay Restoration Committee (KBRC) has been working tirelessly for years for approval to restore our beaches for locals and visitors. Despite the best intentions of this group, they have had very little impact due to road block after road block.

This is why we need a regional group to work together to find reasonable solutions, and fast. I know individual properties and the KBRC have tried to maneuver the process without success. A regional solution, where we all work together on this pressing issue, is critical.

I support SB2401 because we need to work together, as owners, as properties, as communities and as an entire island to enact solutions before damage happens that cannot be fixed.

I ask that you support SB2401, SD1.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony,

Tracy Tremble MSc.PT, BSc.Kin

President, Kahana Outrigger

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:03:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
michael kayem	Valley Isle Resort Kahana Bay AOA board member	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Michael Kayem, and I am an OWNER/AOAO director at Valley Isle resort / Kahana Bay on Maui. We have now owned our condo for 4 years and plan to move to Maui within the next 5 years.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because

- shoreline erosion is something my family is experiencing every day.
- The Ocean swells are getting closer and bringing sand and water to our lanai, the situation is extremely stressful. We love spending our time here in Maui, unfortunately, we have not enjoyed our time as of late, as the situation has gotten worse. We understand that other properties are affected and would hope that the county of Maui does the right thing by being proactive with the Shoreline hardening.

Our association and the KBSC 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 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 ask you to support SB2401, SD1.

Thank you

STARN · O'TOOLE · MARCUS & FISHER

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

March 19, 2026

Representative Mark J. Hashem, Chair,
Representative Dee Morikawa, Vice Chair,
and Members of the Committee on Water & Land

Hearing: House Committee on Water & Land
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 411
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

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

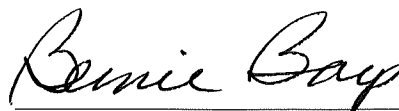
Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of
the Committee on Water & Land:

I represent the Shoreline Preservation Coalition (“SPC”), who offers this testimony in **strong support** of SB 2401 SD1. 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 will lead to plans that are truly responsive to the unique needs of each beach. For these reasons, SPC supports SB 2401 SD1.

Sincerely,



Bernie Bays



March 18, 2026

House Committee on Water and Land
Hawai'i State Legislature
Via Electronic Transmission

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2401, Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts
Hearing: Thursday, March 19, 2026, 9:00 AM 411 Via Videoconference

To: The Honorable Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee

Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region supports Senate Bill 2401 SD1 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 OPSD's Managed Retreat Study (2025), which recommends a regional planning approach focused on eroding sandy beaches identified as priority areas. It also emphasizes the use of adaptation pathways with defined triggers, where thresholds guide when specific actions are implemented over time. SB2401 SD1 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 direction of this measure, we respectfully offer the following amendments to strengthen its ability to move from planning to implementation:

- **Establish a timeline for OPSD to initiate the process.** 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. Establishing a requirement to designate a small number of pilot shoreline districts within a set period, such as two years, could help ensure early implementation.
- **Include measurable triggers in adaptation pathways.** Without triggers, plans may remain conceptual rather than functioning as decision-making tools. Identifying thresholds, such as shoreline change or coastal flooding exposure, that trigger implementation of specific strategies would make the framework more actionable.
- **Clarify coastal hazards policy language to prioritize public trust resources.** The clause stating that planning “may include the protection of shoreline properties” could be interpreted as elevating property protection within coastal hazard policy. Clarifying that any such measures prioritize preservation of public beaches, natural shoreline processes, and public access would help maintain alignment with the State's public trust responsibilities.

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: March 18, 2026

TO: Representative Mark Hashem
Chair, Committee on Water & Land

FROM: Chris Delaunay / Mihoko Ito

RE: **SB2401, SD1 – Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts**
Hearing Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 9:00 AM
Conference Room 411

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

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC) submits this testimony in **strong support of SB2401, SD1 with amendments reflected in the proposed 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 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.

We would ask for several amendments in the attached proposed HD1, specifically to:

- Make terminology consistent regarding regional shoreline mitigation districts throughout the bill, rather than adaptation districts;
- Provide a limited pathway with board oversight for temporary shoreline protection measures in situations where imminently dangerous shoreline conditions extend beyond the duration of an emergency authorization; and
- Add ownership and maintenance of infrastructure as part of the criteria for regional planning.

We believe these amendments will further strengthen the bill by allowing for responsible short-term solutions, while keeping the focus on long-term shoreline solutions through the regional planning framework.

For these reasons, KBSC respectfully urges the Committee to pass S.B. 2401, SD1 with the amendments reflected in the attached proposed HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REGIONAL SHORELINE MITIGATION DISTRICTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's beaches and
2 shorelines are some of the State's most critical public assets.
3 Public beaches often define their surrounding communities and
4 are invaluable assets at the center of Hawaii's economy and way
5 of life for local residents. However, accelerating shoreline
6 erosion, wave impacts, and coastal hazards are threatening
7 public beaches, shoreline properties, and infrastructure across
8 the State. Given these impacts, effective shoreline planning
9 for the short- and long-term will require collaboration among
10 communities, regional shoreline property owners, and interagency
11 coordination.

12 The legislature further finds that the office of planning
13 and sustainable development serves a statewide planning and
14 coordination role and is well-positioned to facilitate
15 interagency coordination and regional shoreline planning
16 efforts.

1 The legislature also finds that a statewide framework is
2 needed to support the development and adoption of short- and
3 long-term shoreline management plans and the use of collective
4 financing mechanisms for regional shoreline management property
5 acquisition and projects. Adaptation pathways planning to
6 address sea level rise and preserve the State's beaches provides
7 a mechanism to propose both short- and long-term solutions,
8 including beach management and erosion mitigation; retreat from
9 the coastline; and time for planning and implementation of these
10 solutions.

11 The purpose of this Act is to:

12 (1) Establish a statewide adaptation pathways planning
13 framework under chapter 225M, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
14 by creating regional shoreline mitigation districts
15 that can work together to develop adaptation pathways
16 plans; and

17 (2) Make conforming amendments to chapters 183C and 205A,
18 Hawaii Revised Statutes.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 225M, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
20 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
21 and to read as follows:

22 "§225M- Shoreline adaptation pathways planning. (a)

23 The office shall serve in a planning and coordination role to
24 develop shoreline adaptation pathways plans for designated

1 regional shoreline ~~adaptation-mitigation~~ districts. The office
2 shall:

3 (1) Identify potential regional shoreline ~~adaptation~~
4 ~~mitigation~~ districts on a regional scale, including
5 but not limited to ahupuaa, coastal processes, and
6 documented and predicted erosion rates, and
7 functionally connected sediment cells or littoral
8 subcells;

9 (2) Facilitate participation by community stakeholders,
10 shoreline property owners, and others as may be
11 appropriate; and

12 (3) Provide technical assistance and planning guidance for
13 the preparation of shoreline adaptation pathways
14 within a regional shoreline ~~adaptation-mitigation~~
15 district.

16 (b) The designation of a regional shoreline ~~adaptation~~
17 ~~mitigation~~ district shall be for planning purposes only and
18 shall not constitute approval of any specific shoreline
19 adaptation pathway or project.

20 (c) When designating a regional shoreline ~~adaptation~~
21 ~~mitigation~~ district and developing a shoreline adaptation
22 pathways plan, the office shall work with community
23 stakeholders, shoreline property owners, and other stakeholders
24 as may be appropriate within that regional shoreline ~~adaptation~~

1 mitigation district and surrounding community to collaboratively
2 develop a shoreline adaptation pathways plan.

3 (d) The office shall coordinate with:

4 (1) The department of land and natural resources;

5 (2) The applicable county planning department;

6 (3) Affected shoreline property owners within the
7 shoreline mitigation district; and

8 (4) Local businesses, community organizations, groups and
9 individuals in the proposed district and surrounding
10 community,

11 in the development of each shoreline adaptation pathways plan.

12 (e) Each shoreline adaptation pathways plan shall include
13 the elements and criteria required under this part, including
14 but not limited to:

15 (1) An analysis of the public trust resources that are at
16 risk within the regional shoreline mitigation
17 ~~adaptation~~ district, and their value to the
18 surrounding and broader community and economy;

19 (2) An assessment of structural risks to shoreline
20 properties within the regional shoreline mitigation
21 district, and their value;

22 (3) A characterization of sediment transport and erosion
23 conditions within the regional shoreline mitigation
24 district;

1 (4) An analysis of potential short-term shoreline
2 adaptation pathways appropriate to the regional
3 shoreline mitigation district;

4 (5) An analysis of potential long-term shoreline
5 adaptation pathways appropriate to the regional
6 shoreline mitigation district;

7 (6) An analysis of the social, cultural, environmental,
8 and economic impact for each potential short- and
9 long-term shoreline adaptation pathway;

10 ~~(7) An analysis of financing options for property owners;~~

11 ~~(78) A proposed implementation schedule for short- and~~
12 ~~long-term shoreline adaptation pathways; and~~

13 ~~(89) The identification of any federal authorizations,~~
14 ~~permits, or approvals required to implement the~~
15 ~~shoreline adaptation pathways plan, including~~
16 ~~consultation with the United States Army Corps of~~
17 ~~Engineers, if projects may affect navigable waters,~~
18 ~~shorelines, or federally regulated waters.~~

19 ~~(9) Identification and coordination among the state,~~
20 ~~counties, and affected shoreline property owners to~~
21 ~~address ownership, maintenance, and other~~
22 ~~jurisdictional issues necessary to implement shoreline~~
23 ~~adaptation pathways within the regional shoreline~~
24 ~~mitigation district.~~

1 (10) Viable financing ~~tools~~ options for each shoreline
2 adaptation pathways plan, including:

3 (A) Special assessment districts;

4 (B) Community facilities districts;

5 (C) Tax increment financing;

6 (D) Issuance of bonds by the county at the request of
7 private property owners; and

8 (E) Any other available public or private financing
9 tool.

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

15 (g) Any shoreline adaptation plan shall engage in
16 culturally informed, community-engaged planning to determine the
17 appropriate shoreline adaptation pathway when considering the
18 impacts to public trust resources, impacts to private property,
19 and the social, cultural, environmental, and economic impacts of
20 each potential shoreline adaptation pathway considered;

21 (h) The office shall coordinate its review of the
22 shoreline adaptation pathways plan with the department of land
23 and natural resources, applicable county agencies, and relevant
24 federal agencies, including the United States Army Corps of

1 Engineers, if federal authorization, permitting, technical
2 review, approval, or funding may be required.

3 (i) Upon finalization of a shoreline adaptation pathways
4 plan, the office may transmit the shoreline adaptation pathways
5 plan, together with any comments and recommendations, to the
6 board of land and natural resources for consideration and
7 adoption pursuant to this section. The board of land and natural
8 resources may adopt a shoreline adaptation pathways plan upon a
9 determination that the plan:

10 (1) Satisfies the requirements of subsections (e) through
11 (h);

12 (2) Is consistent with applicable state and county land
13 use policies; and

14 (3) Provides coordinated, regionally appropriate shoreline
15 adaptation pathways to best preserve public trust
16 resources, public beaches, public access, and that may
17 reduce risk, damage, or exposure from shoreline
18 erosion, coastal flooding, or shoreline hazard
19 conditions affecting shoreline properties.

20 Approval of a shoreline adaptation pathways plan by the
21 board of land and natural resources shall constitute approval of
22 the plan for planning purposes only.

23 (j) For the purposes of this section:

1 "Functionally connected sediment cell or littoral subcell"
2 means a shoreline reach in which sediment transport processes
3 operate as a unified system such that erosion or shoreline
4 modification within one portion measurably influences conditions
5 elsewhere within the reach.

6 "Office" means the office of planning and sustainable
7 development.

8 "Regional shoreline mitigation district" means a designated
9 coastal area comprised primarily of shoreline and adjacent
10 properties located within the same functionally connected
11 sediment cell or littoral subcell, established for purposes of
12 coordinated shoreline protection and adaptation planning and
13 implementation.

14 "Shoreline adaptation pathways" means structural, non-
15 structural, nature-based, hybrid, temporary, or permanent
16 measures, including beach and dune restoration, armoring,
17 elevating and floodproofing infrastructure, relocation, or
18 retreat, needed to preserve public beaches, lower the risk of
19 flooding and loss due to shoreline erosion, coastal flooding or
20 shoreline hazard conditions over time.

21 "Shoreline adaptation pathways plan" means a coordinated
22 regional shoreline management plan outlining the adaptation
23 pathways appropriate for a specific regional shoreline
24 mitigation district."

1 SECTION 3. Section 183C-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§183C-6 Permits and site plan approvals.** (a) The
4 department shall regulate land use in the conservation district
5 by the issuance of permits.

6 (b) The department shall render a decision on a completed
7 application for a permit within one hundred eighty days of its
8 acceptance by the department. If within one hundred eighty days
9 after acceptance of a completed application for a permit, the
10 department [~~shall fail~~] fails to give notice, hold a hearing,
11 and render a decision, the owner may automatically put the
12 owner's land to the use or uses requested in the owner's
13 application. When an environmental impact statement is required
14 pursuant to chapter 343, or when a contested case hearing is
15 requested pursuant to chapter 91, the one hundred eighty days
16 shall be extended an additional ninety days beyond the time
17 necessary to complete the requirements of chapter 343 or chapter
18 91. Any request for additional extensions by the applicant
19 shall be subject to the approval of the board.

20 (c) The department shall hold a public hearing in every
21 case involving the proposed use of land for commercial purposes,
22 at which hearing interested persons shall be afforded a
23 reasonable opportunity to be heard. Public notice of the time
24 and place of the hearing shall be given at least once statewide

1 and in the county in which the property is located. The notice
2 shall be given [~~not less~~] no later than twenty days [~~prior to~~]
3 before the date set for the hearing. The hearing shall be held
4 in the county in which the land is located and may be delegated
5 to an agent or representative of the board as may otherwise be
6 provided by law and in accordance with rules adopted by the
7 board. For the purposes of its public hearing or hearings, the
8 department shall have the power to summon witnesses, administer
9 oaths, and require the giving of testimony. [~~As used in~~] For
10 the purposes of this subsection, the term "commercial purposes"
11 shall not include the use of land for utility purposes.

12 (d) The department shall regulate the construction,
13 reconstruction, demolition, or alteration of any structure,
14 building, or facility by the issuance of site plan approvals.

15 (e) Any permit for the reconstruction, restoration,
16 repair, or use of any Hawaiian fishpond exempted from the
17 requirements of chapter 343 under section 183B-2 shall provide
18 for compliance with the conditions of section 183B-2.

19 (f) Where a conservation district use permit application
20 involves shoreline adaptation pathways within a designated
21 regional shoreline mitigation district pursuant to section 225M-
22 , the applicant shall submit a ~~shoreline~~ adaptation pathways
23 plan to the board as part of the application. The ~~department~~
24 board may approve shoreline adaptation pathways consistent with

1 the shoreline adaptation pathways plan. shall consider the plan
2 as part of the record in its review. Nothing in this subsection
3 shall limit the ~~department's board's~~ authority or discretion to
4 approve, impose conditions on, or deny the application."

5 (g) The board may authorize a permit for temporary
6 shoreline hardening structures when an imminently dangerous
7 shoreline condition affecting a structure has extended beyond
8 the period authorized under an emergency permit. The applicant
9 shall demonstrate a concerted effort to develop or implement a
10 long-term shoreline adaptation solution that will allow the
11 temporary erosion control measures to be removed. For purposes
12 of this subsection, "concerted effort" means a bona fide
13 planning effort to develop and implement a shoreline adaptation
14 pathways plan using shoreline adaptation pathways within a
15 regional shoreline mitigation district pursuant to section 225M-
16 _____.

17 SECTION 4. Section 205A-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

19 "(c) Policies.

20 (1) Recreational resources;

21 (A) Improve coordination and funding of coastal
22 recreational planning and management; and

1 (B) Provide adequate, accessible, and diverse
2 recreational opportunities in the coastal zone
3 management area by:

4 (i) Protecting coastal resources uniquely suited
5 for recreational activities that cannot be
6 provided in other areas;

7 (ii) Requiring restoration of coastal resources
8 that have significant recreational and
9 ecosystem value, including but not limited
10 to coral reefs, surfing sites, fishponds,
11 sand beaches, and coastal dunes, when these
12 resources will be unavoidably damaged by
13 development; or requiring monetary
14 compensation to the State for recreation
15 when restoration is not feasible or
16 desirable;

17 (iii) Providing and managing adequate public
18 access, consistent with conservation of
19 natural resources, to and along shorelines
20 with recreational value;

21 (iv) Providing an adequate supply of shoreline
22 parks and other recreational facilities
23 suitable for public recreation;

- 1 (v) Ensuring public recreational uses of county,
2 state, and federally owned or controlled
3 shoreline lands and waters having
4 recreational value consistent with public
5 safety standards and conservation of natural
6 resources;
- 7 (vi) Adopting water quality standards and
8 regulating point and nonpoint sources of
9 pollution to protect[~~r~~] andl where feasible,
10 restore the recreational value of coastal
11 waters;
- 12 (vii) Developing new shoreline recreational
13 opportunities[~~r~~] where appropriate, [~~such~~
14 ~~as~~] including artificial lagoons, artificial
15 beaches, and artificial reefs for surfing
16 and fishing; and
- 17 (viii) Encouraging reasonable dedication of
18 shoreline areas with recreational value for
19 public use as part of discretionary
20 approvals or permits by the land use
21 commission, board of land and natural
22 resources, and county authorities; and
23 crediting that dedication against the
24 requirements of section 46-6;

- 1 (2) Historic resources;
- 2 (A) Identify and analyze significant archaeological
- 3 resources;
- 4 (B) Maximize information retention through
- 5 preservation of remains and artifacts or salvage
- 6 operations; and
- 7 (C) Support state goals for protection, restoration,
- 8 interpretation, and display of historic
- 9 resources;
- 10 (3) Scenic and open space resources;
- 11 (A) Identify valued scenic resources in the coastal
- 12 zone management area;
- 13 (B) Ensure that new developments are compatible with
- 14 their visual environment by designing and
- 15 locating those developments to minimize the
- 16 alteration of natural landforms and existing
- 17 public views to and along the shoreline;
- 18 (C) Preserve, maintain, and, where desirable, improve
- 19 and restore shoreline open space and scenic
- 20 resources; and
- 21 (D) Encourage [~~these~~] developments that are not
- 22 coastal dependent to locate in inland areas;
- 23 (4) Coastal ecosystems;

- 1 (A) Exercise an overall conservation ethic[7] and
2 practice stewardship in the protection, use, and
3 development of marine and coastal resources;
- 4 (B) Improve the technical basis for natural resource
5 management;
- 6 (C) Preserve valuable coastal ecosystems of
7 significant biological or economic importance,
8 including reefs, beaches, and dunes;
- 9 (D) Minimize disruption or degradation of coastal
10 water ecosystems by effective regulation of
11 stream diversions, channelization, and similar
12 land and water uses, recognizing competing water
13 needs; and
- 14 (E) Promote water quantity and quality planning and
15 management practices that reflect the tolerance
16 of fresh water and marine ecosystems and maintain
17 and enhance water quality through the development
18 and implementation of point and nonpoint source
19 water pollution control measures;
- 20 (5) Economic uses;
- 21 (A) Concentrate coastal dependent development in
22 appropriate areas;
- 23 (B) Ensure that coastal dependent development and
24 coastal related development are located,

1 designed, and constructed to minimize exposure to
2 coastal hazards and adverse social, visual, and
3 environmental impacts in the coastal zone
4 management area; and

5 (C) Direct the location and expansion of coastal
6 development to areas designated and used for
7 [~~that~~] development and permit reasonable long-
8 term growth at [~~these~~] designated areas, and
9 permit coastal development outside of designated
10 areas when:

11 (i) Use of designated locations is not feasible;

12 (ii) Adverse environmental effects and risks from
13 coastal hazards are minimized; and

14 (iii) The development is important to the State's
15 economy;

16 (6) Coastal hazards;

17 (A) Develop and communicate adequate information
18 about the risks of coastal hazards;

19 (B) Control development, including planning and
20 zoning control, in areas subject to coastal
21 hazards;

22 (C) Ensure that developments comply with requirements
23 of the National Flood Insurance Program; [~~and~~]

1 (D) Prevent coastal flooding from inland projects;
2 and

3 (E) Support and integrate shoreline adaptation
4 pathways planning for the preservation of public
5 beaches and public trust resources, which may
6 include the protection of shoreline properties,
7 into county special management area planning and
8 permitting processes, to the extent feasible and
9 consistent with this chapter;

10 (7) Managing development;

11 (A) Use, implement, and enforce existing law
12 effectively to the maximum extent possible in
13 managing present and future coastal zone
14 development;

15 (B) Facilitate timely processing of applications for
16 development permits and resolve overlapping or
17 conflicting permit requirements; and

18 (C) Communicate the potential short and long-term
19 impacts of proposed significant coastal
20 developments early in their life cycle and in
21 terms understandable to the public to facilitate
22 public participation in the planning and review
23 process;

24 (8) Public participation;

- 1 (A) Promote public involvement in coastal zone
2 management processes;
- 3 (B) Disseminate information on coastal management
4 issues by means of educational materials,
5 published reports, staff contact, and public
6 workshops for persons and organizations concerned
7 with coastal issues, developments, and government
8 activities; and
- 9 (C) Organize workshops, policy dialogues, and
10 site-specific mediations to respond to coastal
11 issues and conflicts;
- 12 (9) Beach protection;
- 13 (A) Locate new structures inland from the shoreline
14 setback to conserve open space, minimize
15 interference with natural shoreline processes,
16 and minimize loss of improvements due to erosion;
- 17 (B) Prohibit construction of private shoreline
18 hardening structures, including seawalls and
19 revetments, at sites having sand beaches and at
20 sites where shoreline hardening structures
21 interfere with existing recreational and
22 waterline activities~~+~~, provided that counties may
23 approve temporary shoreline hardening structures
24 where an imminently dangerous shoreline condition

1 has extended beyond an emergency authorization
2 pursuant to HRS 183C-6(g);

3 (C) Minimize the construction of public shoreline
4 hardening structures, including seawalls and
5 revetments, at sites having sand beaches and at
6 sites where shoreline hardening structures
7 interfere with existing recreational and
8 waterline activities;

9 (D) Minimize grading of and damage to coastal dunes;

10 (E) Prohibit private property owners from creating a
11 public nuisance by inducing or cultivating the
12 private property owner's vegetation in a beach
13 transit corridor; and

14 (F) Prohibit private property owners from creating a
15 public nuisance by allowing the private property
16 owner's unmaintained vegetation to interfere or
17 encroach upon a beach transit corridor; and

18 (10) Marine and coastal resources;

19 (A) Ensure that the use and development of marine and
20 coastal resources are ecologically and
21 environmentally sound and economically
22 beneficial;

1 (B) Coordinate the management of marine and coastal
2 resources and activities to improve effectiveness
3 and efficiency;

4 (C) Assert and articulate the interests of the State
5 as a partner with federal agencies in the sound
6 management of ocean resources within the United
7 States exclusive economic zone;

8 (D) Promote research, study, and understanding of
9 ocean and coastal processes, impacts of climate
10 change and sea level rise, marine life, and other
11 ocean resources to acquire and inventory
12 information necessary to understand how coastal
13 development activities relate to and impact ocean
14 and coastal resources; and

15 (E) Encourage research and development of new,
16 innovative technologies for exploring, using, or
17 protecting marine and coastal resources."

18 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
21 the purposes of this Act, including:

22 (1) Facilitating the identification and establishment of
23 regional shoreline mitigation districts;

- 1 (2) Coordinating interagency review of regional coastal
2 erosion and sediment management plans with the
3 department of land and natural resources, county
4 agencies, and relevant federal agencies, including the
5 United States Army Corps of Engineers;
- 6 (3) Reviewing, evaluating, and approving regional coastal
7 erosion and sediment management plans; and
- 8 (4) Providing technical assistance, guidance, and
9 coordination to support the implementation of approved
10 regional coastal erosion and sediment management
11 plans.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
13 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this
14 Act.

15 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 to
18 hire one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary planning
19 analyst to carry out the purposes of this Act; provided that
20 this position shall be exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
21 Statutes.

22 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
23 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this
24 Act.

1 SECTION 7. If any provision of this Act, or the
2 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held
3 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
4 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the
5 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
6 of this Act are severable.

7 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2065;
10 provided that sections 5 and 6 shall take effect on July 1,
11 2026.

Report Title:

OPSD; Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts; Coastal Erosion; Adaptation Pathways Planning; Permits; Appropriation

Description:

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 the Office. Requires OPSD to coordinate shoreline adaptation pathways planning with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, applicable county planning department, 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 1/1/2065.
(SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:50:30 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Copley	Royal Kahana AOA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and the members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Richard Copley. I am the AOA President of Royal Kahana located in the Kahana-Napili area of Lahaina. I spend many months of the year dedicated to the work I do in my position at Royal Kahana and have owned at Royal Kahana for fourteen years. As Board President, I have control over a number of changes meant to improve our property. One change that I have no control over however, is the is the unrelenting beach erosion and resultant beach loss that appears to be on an accelerated trajectory.

Royal Kahana has lost real property and a large pool-side structure all due to beach erosion. Over-topping of waves into our landscaping continues to damage and kill several trees and other plantings. During large wave events, the erosion escarpment becomes exposed dragging soil out to the reefs, damaging the reef in the process.

Beach access to our guests and our local community is unavailable due to the poor condition of the sandbags currently in place and the lack of a beach.

A regional approach to the shoreline erosion problem offers the opportunity to focus on a smaller scale, the issues we face at Royal Kahana and our neighbors in a way that would be more cost-efficient, more effective, and more solution driven.

Speaking on behalf of Royal Kahana and our neighbors, I respectfully ask that you support SB2401, SD1.

Mahalo,

Richard Copley, President

Royal Kahana AOA

3/18/2026

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 4:51:37 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aloha McGuffie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2401 SD1
Relating to Shoreline Mitigation Planning

Position: Support

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2401 SD1.

My name is Aloha McGuffie. I am a resident of Kāhala Beach Apartments and serve as an At-Large Member of the Wai‘alae–Kāhala Neighborhood Board No. 3. I also facilitate the Community Climate Mandate for East O‘ahu (CCM-EO), a regional initiative that brings together residents, educators, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies to advance climate resilience across six East O‘ahu communities: Pālolo, Kaimukī, Wai‘alae–Kāhala, Kuli‘ou‘ou–Kalani Iki, Hawai‘i Kai, and Waimānalo.

I appreciate the efforts of Senator Stanley Chang, who represents Hawai‘i Kai, Kuli‘ou‘ou, Niu, ‘Āina Haina, Wai‘alae–Kāhala, Diamond Head, Kaimukī, and Kapahulu, for introducing this measure addressing the complex shoreline challenges facing this region.

Our communities are actively working to address climate risks through a mauka-to-makai resilience framework grounded in the Hawaiian stewardship ethic of *mālama*. Through the 2025 Symposium for Climate Resilience held at The Kāhala Hotel & Resort and the resulting Community Climate Mandate for East O‘ahu, community participants identified priorities including watershed restoration, green infrastructure, resilience hubs, coral reef protection, and nature-based shoreline solutions for Maunalua Bay. As sea level rise and coastal erosion increasingly affect parts of East O‘ahu, residents recognize that shoreline responses must be considered at a regional scale rather than on a parcel-by-parcel basis. This regional approach is particularly important in Maunalua Bay, where shoreline conditions, reef health, and sediment movement are closely interconnected across the coastline.

At the local governance level, the Wai‘alae–Kāhala Neighborhood Board recently established a Community Advisory Committee to review the City and County of Honolulu’s Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP) and East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan (EHSCP)

using ahupua‘a resource management principles. This process is intended to ensure that community input helps update these plans with the intent of guiding future land-use planning, infrastructure investments, and coastal resilience strategies across our district.

The work occurring in East O‘ahu reflects a growing understanding that shoreline change, watershed health, and community resilience are interconnected regional challenges. SB2401 SD1 recognizes this reality by encouraging shoreline mitigation planning and the use of nature-based solutions, along with collaboration among communities, agencies, and stakeholders.

As East O‘ahu residents and Neighborhood Board members work to align community priorities with City planning frameworks and emerging State tools and funding opportunities that support regional resilience, tools that enable science-based shoreline planning will be increasingly important.

For these reasons, I respectfully support SB2401 SD1 as a step toward more coordinated and proactive coastal resilience planning in Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Aloha McGuffie
Resident, Kāhala Beach Apartments
At-Large Member, Wai‘alae–Kāhala Neighborhood Board No. 3
Facilitator, Community Climate Mandate – East O‘ahu

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:08:24 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

To Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Jason Wilson, and I am the owner of B401 Hololani, in Kahana. We have owned our condo at Hololani since 2019 and love the Kahana neighborhood. I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because we see the shoreline eroding and want to save the Kahana coastline and properties residing on the Kahan coast.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, and as you know, Lower Honoapiilani road has been affected by the erosion.

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

We see the shoreline getting smaller and closer to our buildings each yar and need a clear path to the erosion problems so the communities can plan together.

I support SB2401, SD1 because it would help to create a clearer path 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. We intend to spend many years living at Hololani and this would help protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1.

Sincerely

Jason Wilson

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:26:18 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a voting Maui resident living on the coast, every day I see the results of beach erosion and loss of land. No longer can we walk on the beach from one public access point to another because our beach has disappeared to scouring wave action, while the prevailing currents carry the sand away. Therefore, I **strongly support SB2401 SD1.**

In fact, everyone should support this bill without poison-pill amendments, such requirements that coastal land owners:

1. Donate to the public a portion of their remaining property to provide public parking, especially in areas where significant public parking already is available. Such a requirement would place undue pressure on boards of directors to violate their associations' bylaws and undermine their fiduciary responsibility.
2. Provide additional beach-access corridors from the road to the shoreline, especially in areas where beach footpaths already exist within the required 1,500 feet of each other.

Instead of imposing legally questionable or impossible requirements, this bill should continue to emphasize realistic science-based regional planning with a view toward making substantial regional progress in the face of relentless erosion, which continues while the issues are debated. Moreover, we need to streamline permits for projects consistent with approved regional plans.

Significantly, this bill provides financing tools for each shoreline adaptation pathways plan, such as: special assessment districts; community facilities districts; tax increment financing; and the issuance of bonds by the county at the request of private property owners.

This bill will facilitate participation by community stakeholders, including but not limited to shoreline property owners. Together, we can do more than individual property owners can do working separately.

Please, kokua, vote YES on SB2401 SD1.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:32:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia M. Keen	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and the esteemed Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Virginia Keen, I have lived here in the Kahana Region at Hololani Resort for 27 years. I am 83 years old and for 25 years I have been a substitute teacher at Lahainaluna High School on a daily basis, I devoted 19 years to the after school tutoring program in Lahaina. I am a year-round resident whose children and grandchildren visit often, but I truly cherish being a part of my Maui island family.

My condominium is less than 20 feet from the retaining wall and the corroding, aging and failing sandbags that separate my building from the ocean is a constant source of worry and anxiety. When I first arrived here, there was 50 feet of property next to my unit and a substantial beach. I have seen first hand the shifting and eroding sands over all these years.

I am in support of SB2401, SD1 because of my years of watching the beach disappear and the ocean creeping closer to my ground-floor unit and my neighbor's units. There is no excuse in the world for not doing what we know is right.

Hololani Resort and all of the West Maui communities have worked tirelessly together to find solutions. Let's keep protecting our properties because we can. We have spent many years and many dollars working within our community to ameliorate the issue.

I feel that we are not supported because we can't get approved for rock revetement nor have we been able to get approval for more sandbags which have been a line of defense for 19 years.

Every extreme high-tide, every heavy rain event threatens our community on Honoapiilani Road and just doing nothing is no longer an option.

We have a coherent and cohesive group of intelligent leaders in government. Why isn't there a clearer path or a regional plan in place that supports a solution?

Please create a forward plan to bring our neighbors and our community together to work together to create a long-term solution.

As someone who has spent her lifetime teaching and caring for others, I beseech you to help care for us.

Please support the completion of these projects that will move us forward fearlessly into the future.

We have wasted so much time!

Mahalo for your time...

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:26:50 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

I support SB2401 because I have seen how much our shoreline has changed. The beach that used to be right in front of us is now mostly gone.

I have children, and we used to just walk down and spend time on the beach. Now, we have to get in the car and drive somewhere else to find sand. This is something many families in our area are dealing with.

It may sound like a small thing, but it changes how we live. What used to be part of our everyday life is no longer there.

And I worry about what comes next. If the shoreline keeps moving, what happens to the buildings, and to the people who live here?

This is happening all along Kahana, not just one place. We need a better way to work together and take care of this shoreline before more is lost.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:27:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danny Cox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2401, SD1
Relating to Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts**

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB 2401, SD1.**

I support this measure because Maui’s shoreline erosion challenges, especially along the **Kahana shoreline**, require a coordinated, regional, and community-based response. SB 2401, SD1 would require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to coordinate the development of **shoreline adaptation pathways plans** for designated regional shoreline mitigation districts, in collaboration with DLNR, county planning departments, and the community. It also requires culturally informed, community-engaged planning and review by the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

That framework is exactly what is needed in places like **Kahana**, where coastal erosion has been an ongoing and serious problem for years. The issue is bigger than any one parcel or property owner. Shoreline change affects neighboring properties, beach access, public trust resources, habitat, infrastructure, and the long-term resilience of the entire coastline. A piecemeal approach cannot solve a regional sediment and erosion problem.

The need for a regional approach in Kahana has already been recognized in shoreline planning and environmental review work. The Kahana Bay erosion mitigation effort has described the goal of developing a **cost-effective regional erosion mitigation solution** that protects shoreline resources while also preserving beach and nearshore uses.

More broadly, Hawai‘i’s own coastal hazard planning recognizes the need for integrated shoreline management in the face of erosion and sea level rise, and Maui has long been identified as one of the islands most affected by shoreline erosion.

SB 2401, SD1 is important because it moves the State toward:

- **regional planning instead of parcel-by-parcel reactions,**
- **community participation instead of top-down decisions,** and
- **long-term adaptation pathways instead of repeated short-term emergency measures.**

For Kahana, this kind of planning can help create a more balanced process that considers:

- protection of homes and infrastructure,
- preservation of beaches and public access,
- impacts to natural shoreline processes,
- cultural and environmental resources, and
- fair coordination among all affected stakeholders.

I especially support the bill's emphasis on collaboration with communities and on evaluating social, cultural, environmental, and economic impacts when determining the appropriate shoreline adaptation pathway. That is critical in West Maui, where the shoreline is not only an environmental resource, but also part of the community's identity, access, and daily life.

Kahana should not be left to continue facing erosion through fragmented responses. This bill provides a path for the State to help communities plan proactively, transparently, and regionally.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **pass SB 2401, SD1**.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Danny Cox & Cheryl Novak
41 Poinciana Road, Lahaina

March 17, 2026

“JUST LET IT FALL INTO THE OCEAN!”

Said the man who doesn't pay taxes.

My name I Larry Kapchinsky. My wife, Janice, and I are owners and residents at Valley Isle Resort. This is the Second home that we have owned in Kahana Bay. We love this area and chose to live here because we find this specific location to provide a sense of peace, health and security.

As State of Hawaii and Maui County taxpayers we are very concerned about the inaction to save the shoreline of our Kahana Bay. We strongly encourage those in elected government positions and staff positions who represent local taxpayers to support the commonsense bill SB2401 which provides for protection of our beaches.

As we see the degeneration of sandbags that were originally placed as barriers to stop beach erosion and sand, washing up on our lawns and in some cases washing onto the lanai's of some ground level homes, it causes us to wonder, “who is in charge here?” These sandbags were placed on the shoreline to provide short-term protection until a long-term solution could be put into place. And now the AOAOs are not allowed to move, strengthen or repair this temporary line of protection and it appears there is no long-term solution by the county and state except “just let it fall into the ocean”. Like many of our fellow owners we amazed that elected officials and hired staff are not fighting to protect the shoreline of Kahana Bay.

As taxpayers and property owners it is urgent that we see SB2401 supported by our representatives. This bill provides short-term protection for our shoreline while long term protection is being properly and logically developed and installed.

This destruction, if left unchecked, will absolutely destroy homes, places of business, beautiful beaches and will create a disastrous loss of jobs. The tax dollars that presently come into our community will stop.

The loss of millions and millions of tax dollars from property tax, sales tax, income tax will most likely harm or even require major cut in places like our schools and maybe even closure of some. Cuts to the community services will also be a factor. The list will go on and on. If the tax dollars do not come in, services cannot be provided. That is a fact.

We all remember the destruction of 2020 covid. At first it was nice to have beaches that were not crowded and roads with few cars on them. We were able to walk into a restaurant and be seated immediately because there no other customers there. The waiters and waitresses were very chatty and just wanted to talk because there were no other

customers. Plus, they were being friendly for a larger tip because there were very few tips. I know this for a fact.

After a while we realized that our financial base was gone. The tourist who came to experience our beaches were not allowed to come. We also saw that many of our Hawaiian residents found it necessary to move to the mainland because there were no jobs for them. They couldn't provide for their families. I know this for a fact.

Some were able to return while others lost their island paradise forever. Their children will not know the sandy beaches and the breezes of paradise. Many of you know that for a fact.

If the elected leaders who are entrusted with protecting this community continue to avoid the crisis at hand, we will see major destruction of homes, resorts, businesses and people's lives. Our elected officials need to join the commonsense approach of SB2401. It offers a much-needed temporary fix to the problem while the long term, logical, workable, scientific solutions are being put into place.

Like some of you I had to literally run from the Lahaina fires. It now appears that disaster could have been avoided or at least greatly lessened with preplanning and aggressive action. Our losses were huge, our losses were unbearable and our losses are still embarrassing as we look back and see what could have been done to prepare. Now, as we and our guests enter Lahaina we are greeted with flags and pictures of lost lives, bare lots and a gigantic reminder of what was lost that didn't need to be lost...if only those in charge would have been aggressive in taking charge.

Along with many any others I don't want our island to be an eyesore like the disaster in the Palisades of Los Angles, Malibu and Alta Dena. That disaster didn't need to happen. The decisions makers and those in authority were asleep at the wheel.

Maui cannot have three disasters back-to-back.

At present the confusion and uncertainty about the future of our shoreline can be rectified by the approval of SB2401.

The working groups like KBSC Oceanit and others that have labored so diligently to keep our shores are to be commended. These groups have a well thought-out and scientific plan that will work. It cannot and must not be dismissed. I want to say "Mahalo" to all of them and encourage them to keep fighting, pushing and expecting. We are behind you.

We strongly and respectfully ask those in our government agencies who represent us to aggressively support SB2401.

I urge you to please listen to the residents who own property, which is the financial base of a properly working government, and not the loud and careless voices of those who do not value preservation and protection of Maui's financial future.

Respectfully,

Larry and Janice Kapchinsky, Valley Isle #510

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 1:18:17 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa and members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Steve Cawley and I am an owner at Kahana Outrigger. We have been owners here since 2021, and previously were owners at Honua Kai. We have seen the impact of rising oceans on West Maui and are increasingly concerned with the ability of our beaches to survive the future.

Kahana seems to be the area most at risk - our neighbors are worried about their homes and their properties. It feels like real property damage, which will environmentally negatively affect all of Maui, is close.

We need to work together to find solutions, and fast. I know individual properties/groups have tried to maneuver the process without success. A regional solution, where we all work together on this pressing issue, is critical.

I support SB2401 because we need to work together, as owners, as properties, as communities and as an entire island to enact solutions before damage happens that cannot be fixed.

I ask that you support SB2401, SD1.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 1:41:28 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and the Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Lenore Houston, I am the manager of Hololani Resort in West Maui, in the Kahana region. I have lived here and go to church here for the last 3.5 years and consider myself to be a part of this community.

Of course I support SB 2401, SD1. It promotes communities working with government to find necessary long-term solutions for the erosion issues here in West Maui.

It is long past time for a clear path to finding expedited, long-term solutions for the erosion issues that we are all experiencing.

Please consent to rock revetement or sandbag replenishment for our shoreline. ASAP!

It is painful for me to explain to visitors why nothing has been done when I would rather extoll the virtues and the long range vision of our local goverment!

PLEASE STOP WASTING TIME!

We house FEMA surviors and employ locals here. Please help protect my community by finding positive, progressive solutions! We can do it, together!

We are generating money in our economy and keeping life humming along.

Will you help us?

I respectfully and sincerely ask that you support SB2401, SD1

Lenore Houston

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:07:19 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2401 SD1 because of its importance in addressing shoreline management and protecting our coastal communities

Shoreline regulations have created significant uncertainty and hardship for communities who are trying to responsibly maintain and protect their homes and land from erosion and storm damage. SB2401 SD1 takes a more practical and balanced approach by recognizing the real and immediate threats facing shoreline communities while allowing reasonable solutions to safeguard existing structures.

Without action, continued erosion and restrictive policies will lead to loss of homes, reduced property values, and broader economic impacts on coastal communities. This bill helps provide clarity, fairness, and the ability for residents to take responsible steps to protect their investments and safety.

I respectfully urge you to support SB2401 SD1 and move this measure forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:15:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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 as the owner since 1969 of beachfront property on Ke Nui Road, Sunset Beach, O'ahu.

SB 2401 SD 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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:16:02 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Frank Schultz and I am an owner at Hololani. I live at Hololani 50% of the year and moving forward, I will

be there more of the year .I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1, because the shoreline is something I care deeply about. Where there used to be sand directly in front of our home, now there is none. The waves get higher and more intense every year. Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together but to date little has been done. When we first moved into our condo in 2023 there was an intermittent beach right in front. I have not seen any beach in front in the last several years. The sandbags are a mess and continue to erode and fall apart. This creates havoc for the turtles and other marine life. I support HB 2401, SD1, because it allows emergency action while still requiring full review for permanent solutions later, while also recognizing that real shoreline emergencies sometimes require immediate protective action.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:16:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am in full support of SB2401 SDI.

Mahalo,

Serena Reiss

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:23:42 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Hello!

As an owner of a condo unit at Valley Isle Resort in Kahana, I am in full support of SB2401 that will protect Kahana Bay.

Thank you!

Steven S.Reiss

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:35:23 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for having a hearing on SB2401. I am in favor of passing the bill.

As an owner at Kahana Reef, I've seen the ongoing erosion on Kahana Bay for years. We used to have a 70 foot wide, sand beach in front of the complex!

For the past four or five years, the owners of condo complexes around the Bay, and one private property owner, have worked with Oceanit to come up with a viable plan to restore Kahana Bay.

The Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project (KBMP) would halt erosion and restore historic beaches.

The cost would be TOTALLY paid by the coalition of Kahana Bay owners. Other taxpayers WOULD NOT pay for this plan to be implemented.

The plan has been stalled due to lack of action of the County and state: the second draft Environmental Impact Statement was published in 2021.

The public benefit of implementing this plan are 1. new public beaches 2. protection of critical infrastructure, roads, electricity, water and sewer, that next to or behind the condos around the Bay.

This bill would force the State and County governments to work with us to find a solution to the erosion.

It CAN be done. We just need the governmental agencies to work with us.

We will also remember who votes for this bill and who votes against this bill. Kahana Bay is not the only area with erosion concerns.

Mahalo,

Natalie

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:53:23 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanne Epstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm an owner at the Hololani on Kahana Bay. We have lost almost 30 ft of sand since I bought our condo. We need to be allowed to add the rocks in front of the seawall we put in. We were told we could of the sand didn't come back after 5yrs. The sand hasn't returned and the sandbags are falling apart. This can't be good for the sea life below. Please follow through with what you said would be allowed.

Mahalo

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:55:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Jesus Gonzales, and I am an owner in Hololani in the Kahana area on Maui. I've been connected to this property for almost 20 years and cherish it every day.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because shoreline erosion is not just an environmental issue to us — it is part of our daily reality.

We are watching the shoreline change before our eyes. Each year, the beach seems smaller, the water feels closer, and the uncertainty grows. Every day, the anxiety for what may happen to my home grows. For those of us who live in these coastal communities, this is not something happening somewhere else or sometime in the future. It is happening now, and it affects our homes, our safety, our access, and our sense of stability.

In our region, property owners and associations have tried for years to respond to these challenges, both on our own and in coordination with others nearby. But erosion does not respect property lines, and it does not make sense to keep treating it as if each parcel exists in isolation. The current system is complicated, fragmented, and too slow to support the kind of regional planning this problem requires.

SB2401, SD1 offers a more practical and responsible approach. It would create a clearer pathway for shoreline communities to work together, alongside state and county agencies, on coordinated regional solutions. That kind of structure is badly needed. It would help reduce confusion, improve collaboration, and encourage long-term planning instead of repeated short-term responses.

Communities like ours need a process that helps us prepare, not just react. We need solutions that recognize how connected these shoreline issues really are. This bill is an important step in that direction.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1. Please, please hear our cries...I am feeling like this is a desperate situation...

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 3:19:22 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Spencer Schmerling	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Spencer, and I am an owner in Kahana on Maui. I have been part of this community for over a decade, and it is not only an investment for me, but a place where my family spends meaningful time together.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because shoreline erosion is something we experience firsthand. Over the years, I have watched the beach in front of our property steadily disappear. Areas that were once safe for walking and recreation are now regularly impacted by waves, especially during high surf. At times, the ocean comes dangerously close to structures, raising real concerns about long-term safety and property stability.

Our association, along with others in the Kahana area, has made efforts to address erosion, but the current system makes it extremely difficult to implement meaningful solutions. The permitting process is complex, slow, and fragmented, and it often forces each property to act independently, even though the erosion problem clearly affects the entire shoreline.

This is not an issue that any one property can solve alone. Without a coordinated, regional approach, we are left reacting to emergencies rather than planning effectively for the future.

I support SB2401, SD1 because it would provide a clearer framework for communities like ours to collaborate on shoreline management. It encourages long-term planning, improves coordination between agencies, and allows for more efficient and unified solutions. This bill represents a practical step toward protecting our homes, our shoreline, and public access for future generations.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 3:21:45 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Schmerling	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am a resident of Kahana on Maui. I have lived here for several years, and I deeply value the sense of community and the natural beauty that makes this area so special.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because shoreline erosion is directly affecting our daily lives. In recent years, I have seen increased flooding during high tides and storm events, with water reaching areas that were once well inland. This has led to concerns about safety, rising maintenance costs, and uncertainty about the future of our homes and infrastructure.

Despite ongoing efforts by our association and neighboring properties, we have struggled to make meaningful progress. The current process for planning and approving shoreline solutions is difficult to navigate and often discourages collaboration. Each property is treated separately, even though the impacts of erosion are shared across the entire region.

This lack of coordination makes it harder to develop effective, long-term solutions. Instead, we are often forced into short-term fixes that do not address the root of the problem.

I support SB2401, SD1 because it would create a more structured and collaborative approach to shoreline management. It would allow communities like ours to work together with government agencies to develop regional solutions that are more sustainable and effective.

This bill offers a path forward that prioritizes planning, cooperation, and the protection of both private property and public shoreline access.

I respectfully urge you to support SB2401, SD1.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 3:58:08 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelly Turfler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The residents of this costal community needs support to move forward in a meaningful and productive manner to address on costal erosion concerns. Please provide your support.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 4:34:05 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renae Steichen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a homeowner at a property that is at serious risk of shoreline erosion, I write to respectfully request a hearing on SB 2401, SD1.

Kahana Bay in Maui experiences serious and ongoing shoreline erosion. We currently are forced to rely on emergency sandbags as the only protection against further erosion, leaving buildings and infrastructure vulnerable to additional and potentially catastrophic shoreline loss.

This bill can put us on a path to a constructive solution, by creating a framework for property owners to work collaboratively with state and county agencies. By working together, we can develop a more comprehensive shoreline protection and adaptation solution to protect our land, including the public access beaches and properties.

Thank you for your consideration,

Renae Steichen

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 4:56:58 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Fox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Christopher Fox, and I am the owner of condo A502 in the Hololani complex on Maui. **My wife and I have owned this condo for the past 3 years.**

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because

- shoreline erosion is something we experience every day.

Hololani has implemented a sea wall and large sandbags to protect our shoreline but I have seen the beach disappear over the past 3 years from our property. This is sad as we have lost some of the beauty that Maui has provided in the past.

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 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.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:12:11 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

We'll make this brief.

As owners of an oceanfront condo on Kahana Bay, Maui, we're in support of this bill....and anything that will mitigate our home from falling into the ocean! Mahalo for your support.

Bob & Mary Alessandrelli

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:16:43 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Committee members:

We wish to respectfully submit support for SB2401 in support of assistance for the shoreline erosion of Kahana Bay. We are owners of two units at the Valley Isle Resort. Restoration of the beach will not only personally benefit our family but the many guests who rent our units and enjoy Maui as a whole, but also the lovely beach right in front of the resort. When using our units, we often see local Hawaiian families as well as fisherman using the beach.

We and our two adult daughters and their families were visiting in October of 2024. We all played at the beach the second day after we arrived and had a wonderful time. The next morning we came out to enjoy the beach and most of it had washed out during a storm overnight. Needless to say we were all disappointed and we were unable to use the beach area due to safety. This is how volatile the current beach conditions are. Studies have suggested installation of T-groins and then relocated our sand from the bay back to the beach area. This style of repair has been successful in many areas on the islands. It also supports natural habitats for the marine life.

Please help us with measures to restore Kahana Bay so that families can continue to use and appreciate the beautiful ocean views and safe beaches.

Thank you.

Rey and Carla Munoz

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:37:46 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim and Mitzi Fant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our names are Tim & Mitzi Fant, and we are the owners of Hololani B603 on Maui, where we have owned for 4 years.

We strongly support **SB2401, SD1** because shoreline erosion is already affecting our daily lives. Over the past several years, the beach in front of our property has significantly narrowed. During high tides and storms, waves now reach areas that were once dry, and saltwater has flooded common areas and threatened building foundations.

Access has become more limited, safety concerns have increased, and maintenance and emergency repair costs continue to rise. These short-term fixes do not address the root problem, and each storm brings new damage.

Our association and neighboring properties have tried for years to work together, but erosion does not stop at property lines. The current process treats each property separately, making coordinated, long-term solutions difficult and slow.

SB2401, SD1 would provide a clearer, regional framework so communities can plan together, reduce repeated emergency actions, and work more effectively with state and county agencies. This bill offers a practical path forward to protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources.

We respectfully urge you to support **SB2401, SD1**.

Mahalo,

Tim & Mitzi Fant

Hololani B603

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:45:38 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SB2401

Aloha,

My name is Cheryl West, and I am a senior citizen who has called the North Shore of O‘ahu home for many years. I am writing today to express my strong support for SB2401.

Living on the North Shore, I see the reality of sea level rise every single day. I have watched our iconic beaches narrow and our coastal roads crumble. For those of us in our "kūpuna years," this isn't just an environmental concern—it is a matter of safety, legacy, and community stability.

I support SB2401 for three primary reasons:

- **Proactive Planning vs. Crisis Management:** For too long, we have dealt with erosion house-by-house, sandbag-by-sandbag. This bill’s focus on Regional Shoreline Mitigation Districts allows for a "big picture" approach. As a senior, I want to know that the state has a coordinated plan for our shoreline that looks 20 or 50 years into the future, rather than just reacting to the next big swell.
- **Protection of Public Assets:** Our North Shore beaches are the heart of our community and our economy. This bill prioritizes the preservation of public trust resources and public access. For many of us living on fixed incomes, these beaches are our primary source of recreation and connection to nature.
- **Clarity and Community Engagement:** SB2401 emphasizes community-engaged planning. It is vital that those of us who have lived here for decades—and who understand the rhythms of this coastline—have a seat at the table. This bill provides a framework for that collaboration so that "adaptation pathways" (like beach restoration or managed retreat) are done *with* us, not *to* us.

We owe it to the next generation to stop the "band-aid" approach to coastal management. I urge you to pass SB2401 to ensure that the North Shore remains a vibrant, accessible, and safe place for all of Hawai‘i’s people.

Mahalo for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Cheryl West

Haleiwa

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:49:57 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

My name is Joshua West, and I am a long-time resident of Haleiwa. I am writing to express my strong support for SB2401.

As someone who grew up on these beaches and now watches the next generation play in the same sand, I am deeply concerned about the accelerating rate of coastal erosion and the loss of public beach access. Our beaches are not just a "resource" for the tourism industry; they are our community's backyard, our place of healing, and a fundamental part of our cultural identity.

I support this bill for several key reasons:

- **Preserving Public Access:** Without proactive management and stricter guidelines on shoreline hardening, we risk losing the "public" part of our public beaches. Once the sand is gone due to poorly planned seawalls, it doesn't come back.
- **Climate Resilience:** We are seeing more frequent king tides and sea-level rise impacts. This bill provides the necessary framework to move toward nature-based solutions rather than temporary fixes that ultimately damage the coastline.
- **Intergenerational Equity:** I want to ensure that my children and their children can walk along a sandy shore, not a concrete wall. We have a kuleana (responsibility) to protect these ecosystems before they are irreversibly degraded.

The passing of SB2401 is a critical step in ensuring that Hawai'i's coastlines remain healthy, accessible, and beautiful for decades to come. I urge the committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and for your dedication to protecting our islands.

Sincerely,

Joshua West

Haleiwa

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 8:08:35 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Kawanami	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I am Karen Kawanami and I am an owner at Hololani in Kahana on Maui. **I purchased my condo 3 years ago and absolutely love my home**

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because the shoreline erosion is something we have dramatically experienced since being there.

The loss of the beach has been significant. To see the water levels continue to rise is frightening and continues to have a negative impact on the community.

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.

I truly ask your help. 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 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. Also, 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 protect homes, public access, and shoreline resources at the same time.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1.

Mahalo,

Karen Kawanam

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 8:43:13 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Emanuel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Frank Emanuel. I am an owner, resident, and AOA Vice President at Royal Kahana in Kahana on Maui. My parents have owned a condominium in this building since 1986, and have been full-time residents for 11 years. I have owned my condominium here since 1993, and have lived here full-time for 16 years. My parents retired here, and I am employed in the community. I also represent Royal Kahana AOA on the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, a hui of property owners trying to implement a regional shoreline erosion mitigation project to restore the sandy beach that used to be here as a community resource.

I am writing in support of SB2401 because shoreline erosion is something we and our neighbors experience every day. When I moved and began living here full-time, the sandy beach was the same height as our lawn. People could step off the grass directly onto the sand. It is now a 12' drop, and there is no safe access to the water. We were forced to remove a pool cabana building when part of the pool deck was undermined. High waves in the past six weeks have begun to erode our lawn again, causing plumes of sediment in the ocean, loss of another tree, and more property. It also creates a safety hazard for people attempting to access the water.

After seeking a solution on our own, our association and others in the Kahana Bay region created a hui to address our common erosion issues. We believe that a regional solution will be a stronger, more lasting one, that will benefit the community, residents, and property owners. All of the properties along our shoreline are affected by erosion. We have worked very hard on a collective solution for over 10 years, but have not had success. It seems as though we are presented with another obstacle at every turn.

The complexity and cost of planning and permitting is prohibitive for single properties or homeowners. That is one of the reasons we have joined to work toward a solution that addresses a much larger area. A solution for one property benefits that property, but a regional solution benefits all in the community. Turning our plans into reality has been a confusing, slow, and frustrating process, even with the dedicated volunteers and collective resources of our group.

I support SB2401 because groups like ours, neighbors working together to solve their common problem, need a structure to plan together and work with government agencies to implement regional shoreline solutions. The complexity and scale of long-term regional solutions make it

difficult to plan and implement, even for well-established groups. SB2401 would help create a framework and guidelines for communities to work together to implement those solutions, rather than having to rely on expensive, repeated, short-term emergency measures. Short-term emergency measures are just that. They are reactions to current conditions that do little to address the long-term goals of protecting homes, infrastructure, and public access. The time and money spent on the emergency measures are much better spent implementing a long-term, regional solution.

SB2401 promotes coordination between state and county agencies to help groups move their long-term projects forward. A unified, coordinated process will help groups avoid the one-step-forward-two-steps-back our group has struggled with for the last 10 years. If communities have a clear path forward for collective action to a common problem, they will be less likely to waste their own and the state and local government's resources on a piecemeal approach that does not move Hawaii closer to long-term solutions.

I respectfully ask you to support SB2401.

Mahalo,

Frank Emanuel
Lahaina

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:15:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean George	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sean George. I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in support of SB2401 SD1.

We are closing in on 3 years since the Lahaina wildfire. And yet, in many ways, it feels as though our community has made little progress in recovering and rebuilding. Rather than government offering help and a clear path to recovery, affected property owners are facing confusion, conflicting answers and delay from authorities, and red tape.

Many of Puamana's remaining shoreline homes are ensnared in unclear rules that prevent even the simplest of repairs.

I support SB 2401 SD1 because it is practical, promises much-needed clarity, consistent rules and streamlining for repairs and rebuilding in shoreline areas.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1.

Mahalo for considering this testimony.

Sean

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:23:11 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Catherine Medina, and I am a shoreline homeowner at 355 Front Street in Lahaina. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

This bill is deeply personal to me. I live directly along the shoreline and have been navigating the difficult recovery process since the August 8, 2023, wildfires. It has now been over two and a half years since the fire, and my family remains in a state of regulatory limbo. We are still waiting for our hearing with the Maui Planning Commission for our SM1 permit, a process that has become extremely expensive and exhausting due to ongoing uncertainty.

I am not seeking to expand development on my property. My only goal is to rebuild what we had the day before the fire. We are outside the EHL and the Flood Zone and yet have still faced an arduous SM1 process. SB 2401 SD1 is critical because it provides the clarity we need for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding. By reducing delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements, it will improve safety and allow homeowners like myself to address structural and erosion-related risks more effectively.

Currently, the lack of clear rules has created significant financial and safety risks for residents who are simply trying to stabilize their lives and rebuild their homes. Delays in permitting do more than just stall individual projects; they slow down the entire community's recovery. This bill acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and offers the practical, timely solutions we need.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so that shoreline homeowners like ourselves can move forward with rebuilding their homes and contribute to the recovery of Lahaina.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Catherine Medina

355 Front Street, Lahaina

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:54:36 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ronaldo Macedo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa and members of the Water and Land Committee,

My name is Ronaldo Macedo and I am a homeowner and full time resident in Puamana. I have been an owner and full time resident for 27 years. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community. Some of my Kupuna neighbors are still dislocated and awaiting permitting to rebuild their primary residence here at Puamana. Many away from the ocean, by the highway. Some, closer to the shoreline.

Closer to the shoreline, many of the existing homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety related repairs.

Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Some of the biggest reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1 is that it provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding. It reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements. It improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks. It supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives. It acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Without this bill, homeowners currently remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs. Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks. The current delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage. Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Ronaldo Macedo.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 3:01:20 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helene Kayem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Helene Kayem, I am writing in support of this bill. I am a condo owner at Valley Isle Resort. This is an extremely urgent issue, an emergency issue, unless the objective is for the buildings in Kahana Bay to fall in the ocean. As simple as that, a black and white kind of matter.

Mahalo,

Helene Kayem

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 3:08:11 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is John H. Peterson III, and my family and I have been homeowners in Puamana for over 45 years. I am writing on behalf of our properties at 38-2, 38-3 and 38-4 Pualoke Place, Lahaina which were all destroyed in the devastating Lahaina fires.

I am writing you today to express my strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

John H. Peterson III

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

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:10:21 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian McCollum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Brian McCollum, and I am the owner of a condo at the Hololani on Maui. I have owned and lived part-time here for 5 years as I am retiring. It is a special place for my wife and I and want to see it protected. Both for ourselves but also Hawaii.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because

- Shoreline erosion is something we experience every day.
- We have lost our beach and now threatening our building. We are in risk of flooding, damage to property, and blocked access. It is already resulting in higher maitance costs and uncertanty of the future.

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 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.

Brian McCollum

Hololani B503

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:20:26 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Alan Schulman, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks.
- Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:25:07 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dana Keen, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:43:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sara Vadgama, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules creates financial and safety risks.
- Permitting delays slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners cannot protect existing structures

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sara Vadgama

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:09:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is [Name], and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safetyrelated repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shorelinearea repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosionrelated risks.
- Supports wildfireimpacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.

- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:15:47 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jan SCHLESINGER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jan Schlesinger, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safetyrelated repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shorelinearea repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosionrelated risks.
- Supports wildfireimpacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.

- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:17:23 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline Marcus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jacqueline Marcus, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Marcus

To: Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

March 17, 2026

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Trish Morelli, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing to show our strong support for SB 2401 SD1.

It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.

Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.

Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

We need SB 2401 SD1 to move forward and to provide clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.

Other Key Reasons to support SB 2401 SD1:

- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Without this Bill homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs creating increased financial and safety risks.

Respectfully, I ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.



Trish Morelli

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:19:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
stewart marshall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stewart Marshall and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safetyrelated repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shorelinearea repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosionrelated risks.
- Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.

- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Stewart Marshall

As a resident of B704 Hololani, located along the Kahana Bay shoreline, I am writing to express my strong support for SCR 76. This resolution requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to assist the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region in finding a real solution to the severe shoreline erosion issues. Currently, we face a catastrophic problem that requires immediate attention. The shoreline has significantly eroded, and the only protection these condominiums have are temporary sandbags. These sandbags have been in place for over a decade, offering minimal defense against the advancing erosion. The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested much time and funds to produce a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Moreover, we are prepared to fund any viable solution to protect our properties and the shoreline. However, the assistance of government agencies is crucial to make this project a reality. DLNR's involvement and support through SCR 76 will be instrumental in safeguarding the Kahana Bay shoreline and ensuring the long-term survival of the condominiums in the region. We urge you to take action and work with us to implement effective and sustainable measures to address this urgent issue. Thank you for considering our plea for help and support. Sincerely, Diana Cornthwaite B704 Hololani

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:09:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leigh Neumayer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting testimony for SB2401 in support of this bill. My husband and I are owners in Puamana in Lahaina

- Our shoreline properties which includes the Clubhouse that were destroyed in the fire over 21/2 years ago, still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding.
- The standing shoreline units are experiencing erosion, some severe, yet current regulations do not allow even basic safety-related repairs.

SB 2401 provides the clarity and predictability we need to rebuild what was lost and protect the homes that remain.

Thank you

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:10:48 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Stauss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Eric Stauss, and I am a homeowner and in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

Homeowners are only seeking the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

SB 2401 SD1 Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives, while acknowledging the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your consideration.

- Eric Stauss

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:38:14 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Hartman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in support of SB2401. My family has owned a condo at Valley Isle Resort for over 30 years. I remember the large sandy beach, the thick hedge of naupaka, then expansive lawn with palm trees--all are gone now and now the surf beats against the sandbags right below the lanai. This is a good community of people who respect and appreciate Hawai'i. I've handled many a reservation for our condo getting to know the guests who work hard to save up to come to Maui and enjoy the beauty, support the local businesses, and peacefully appreciate this incredible place on earth. Most of them count themselves lucky to return annually.

I remember watching out the window one day in the 1990's as my uncle and father were working after a storm to replace a coral wall at the entry to the sand near where an old outrigger was placed as a bench. As you know, the area is all underwater now, and the building in jeopardy.

Since shoreline mitigation has proven to be a positive thing for the underwater environment and structures on land, I see every reason for Kahana Bay to have the green light and ability to solve the coast-creep problem before it is too late. This group of united communities is not a mega-corporation with money to restructure the coastline, as many have done, which would be invasive. Kahana Bay associations watch their budgets, pay local businesses for repairs and maintenance, pay taxes--and honestly do really need the help of the State to help fund preservation of this special area of coastline.

Mahalo for reading this testimony.

Respectfully,

Amy Hartman
Valley Isle Resort #210

Support for SB2401 and 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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:59:47 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Ceis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 18, 2026

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tim Ceis, and I am a homeowner in Puamana at 272-1 Pualei Drive. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes including mine, face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

March 18, 2026

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tim Ceis, and I am a homeowner in Puamana at 272-1 Pualei Drive. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes including mine, face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

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

My name is Tim Cox, and my wife Joy and I the owners of Unit A503 of the Hololani Resort in West Maui. We acquired our condominium in June 2024 – not long before the devastating Lahaina fires of August 2024. Naturally, the aftermath of the fires occupied our attention in those first few months, but before long we were made aware of the situation involving the shoreline erosion at our property. From our perspective, uncertainty about the future is probably the most significant impact erosion has on us and our property. As remote owners (we live full-time in the mountains of Colorado), knowing that this problem persists (and gets worse) while we are hundreds of miles away is a source of helplessness and frustration for us.

I understand that the Hololani association and the Kahana Bay Steering Committee have worked for years to identify and address the issues, which are of course not unique to Hololani. It seems obvious to me that a shared plan including all properties in the area is the only way to proceed forward; repeated emergency actions are not appropriate or effective.

We support SB2401, SD1 because it would help to create a clear framework for communities and property owners to plan and work together with government agencies to help protect our shoreline for future generations. The bill would encourage coordination between state and county agencies rather than the current piecemeal process, as well as encouraging long-term solutions over short-term emergency measures. Ultimately, I believe that SB2401 represents the best way to protect homes, public access and shoreline resources.

We respectfully ask you to support SB2401, SD1.

Tim and Joy Cox

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:13:59 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

To: The Chair and Members of the Water and Land 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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:14:21 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Mulvihill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Thomas Mulvihill and I am one of the homeowners in Puamana. It has been over 2 1/2 YEARS since the fire and **nothing** has been rebuilt. WE JUST WANT OUR HOMES BACK! If you wont support this bill, which may FINALLY allow us to rebuild, then what in the world would you support?

Pass this Bill!

Committee on Water and Land

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

My name is Catharine Esson. I am a homeowner at Puamana in Lahaina. I am writing to express my strong support for SB 2401 and providing some certainty to owners of shoreline homes.

Our home was not lost in the wildfires 2 ½ years ago, but it is very distressing that the owners of the shoreline properties and the community as a whole still do not know the status or future of the shoreline homes that were lost in the fire.

It is also distressing to me as the owner of a standing shoreline property that it not clear what would happen if my home was lost in a future disaster and that the existing rules do not seem to allow for any steps to be taken to protect my home and my neighbors homes from erosion.

This seems particularly unfair given that none of the homeowners are trying to expand their homes or do anything other than replace and protect their homes from damage that they have not caused.

I understand that SB4201 would provide much needed clarity about shoreline area repairs and rebuilding. This would reduce the delay and unnecessary cost associated with unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements, improve safety, support victims of the fire in rebuilding their lives.

There is no benefit to ignoring the realities of the changing coastline or preventing homeowners from restoring and protecting their homes. It leaves those homeowners, but also the wider community in limbo, with significant financial costs, safety concerns and stress. The community and homeowners cannot properly heal from the fire until there is a clear path forward for all its victims.

I respectfully request that the Committee support SB 2401 SD1 so that shoreline homeowners can move forward to rebuild and repair their homes and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Catharine Esson

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:16:21 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear County of Maui Committee of Water and Land,

Please pass SB2401, my wife and I own a home in Lahaina that was not affected by the fire but now our home and many others in our community is threatened by encroaching erosion. We need a clear path forward to address these property threatening changes to the shoreline and believe SB2401 will go a long way in providing that clarity.

Thank you,

Holly Smith

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:16:21 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a part-time resident of Valley Isle Resort, with the goal of being a full-time resident upon retiring. I love Maui and my community and want to see it continue to survive and thrive. I believe that protecting the shoreline is not optional and permanent solutions are available and should be implemented. While I understand that future buildings and structures will not be allowed to be built next to the coastline, buildings in and around Kahana Bay have been built and are an important part of the Kahana community. I believe we all have a duty to protect these buildings, communities and citizens, as well as the beautiful shoreline. Please understand that this plea comes from the hearts of the residents of Kahana Bay with the best intentions for the community, Maui, and the beautiful Hawaiian Islands.

Chris and Susan Adams

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:16:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Ouida Hemingway and I am third generation owner at Puamana, I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

My family along with many of our community members are facing concerning erosion issues of our beloved Puamana property and I believe SB 2401 will help bring us clarity and direction.

As a retired license mental health counselor who specialized in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder it deeply concerns me that there is such a delay for people receiving new building permits for families who remain displaced after the Lahaina fire that occurred over 2 1/2 years ago. This time of waiting and especially not moving forward in building permits does not help, in fact it hurts the people recovering from the deep emotional and psychology damage done by the loss of their homes in the fire.

i respect there are many variables to consider and I respectfully ask you to support SB 2401 SD1 which I believe will help both shoreline homeowners better protect their property from erosion as well as getting people back in their homes that they love and enjoy which in turn helps Lahaina to thrive as a community. We all want our beautiful Lahaina to prosper and to serve our community.

Mahalo for your time.

With Gratitude,

Ouida Hemingway- Puamana resident for 53 years

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:17:12 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Leah Johnston, and I am a homeowner on the Makai side of Front Street . I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

Why This Bill Matters to Me

- I live very close to the shoreline and have been affected by coastal erosion, storm impacts, and ongoing regulatory uncertainty. The storm this past week, Kona storm, brought big waves and lots of rain yet almost all of the residential area close to the ocean remained unharmed unlike Kihei, Kahului, Kula, Hana and many of the other areas.
- Since the August 8, 2023 wildfires, recovery has been extremely challenging, and unclear shoreline rules have made it even harder to move forward.
- I am not suggesting expanding development—only to repair, maintain, or restore the homes lost in the fire safely and responsibly.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

1. Provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding.
2. Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
3. Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks.
4. Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
5. Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely

Current Challenges Without This Bill

1. Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
2. Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
3. Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.
4. Many residents are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Leah Johnston

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Carrie Rolfes, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1. The uncertainty surrounding whether and when the Puamana shoreline properties and our historic clubhouse can be rebuilt affects our entire community. In addition, the remaining shoreline properties face erosion, yet basic safety related repairs can't be made, because the rules that govern these necessary repairs remain unclear. This lack of clarity weighs heavily on the community, is preventing us from moving forward, and causing so much additional stress and anxiety. We are not seeking to expand our properties, just advocating for our right to restore what was lost in the fire and protect what remains. And to do so in a timely manner.

SB 2401 SD1 would support wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to rebuild their homes and lives, by reducing the delays caused by unclear and inconsistent permitting requirements. Additionally, it would provide clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding, while improving safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks. The bill acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical and timely solutions.

It has been over 2 and ½ years since the fire, and the uncertainty regarding rebuilding our community has taken a tremendous toll on all of us, both financially and emotionally. Without clear guidance on a path forward, we continue to be stuck in limbo and are prevented from what we all want – to rebuild what we lost in the fire and regain our community.

I respectfully ask the Committee to please support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs in a timely manner.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carrie Rolfes

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:45:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Betty R Bewak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

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

My name is Betty R Bewak, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1. Our family has been coming to Puamana for over 49 years.

It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.

Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety related repairs.

Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1:

1. Provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding.
2. Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
3. Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks.
4. Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
5. Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical,

timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill:

1. Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
2. Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
3. Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long term damage.
4. Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking:

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Betty R. Bewak

46-3 Pualoke Place

58-3 Pualoke Place, 50% owner

March 18, 2026

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land, My name is Robert & Sherrie Kovach and we are the owners of a unit in the Hololani Resort on Maui. We have been the owners since 2019 and 30 year visitors to the island prior.

We are writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because

- Shoreline erosion is something we experience every day.
- The shoreline erosion has caused waves to reach closer to the buildings, especially in the adjoining complexes where there is a safety concern for the structures.
- 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.
- 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 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 and 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.

/s/ Robert & Sherrie Kovach

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:59:07 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacy Rusher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stacy Rusher, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been close to 3 years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.
- We have a love for the island and wish to see it heal.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo and Aloha for your time-

March 18, 2026

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Georgia Krause, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:13:08 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David M Volk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is David Volk and we own a home at 205-1 Front Street, Lahaina that is part of Puamana. Our home was destroyed in the 2023 Lahaina wildfire two and half years ago.

We want to rebuild our home and passing this bill is necessary for us as well as other homeowners in our community to rebuild.

Thank you for your consideration.

David and Sandy Volk

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:16:41 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel White Skousen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dan Skousen, and I am a homeowner in Puamana and have lived here for 17 years. I am raising 4 young kids with my wife.

I have served the community of Maui as a teacher and coach for 20 years. I have given a lot of my life for this community and my family suffered greatly from the Lahaina fires.

My good friend is a retired us attorney and believes we have a federally guaranteed right to rebuild as was in the designation of a federal disaster area.

the county is just stringing us along and victimizing us all over again.

I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safetyrelated repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shorelinearea repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.

- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:20:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and members of the Committee on Water and Land, My name is Dr. Gordon W. Langston, President of the Kahana Reef Condo Association. I have been coming to Hawaii and Maui for over 60 years and have owned my place here at Kahana Reef for over 16 years. I have been on the Board of Directors for most of that time and have had the honor of being President for a good part of that time. Over that period of time I have personally seen the changes in the shoreline and its' effect on the areas in question. I know how busy you are so I will make this short and sweet (we all know this is a complex politically driven problem but I am going to take a very strait forward approach) The sea level rise that is causing the destruction and damage is a man made problem (probably global warming). To me it makes sence for us to address and handle the problem ourselves. We have many examples of the solutions we have proposed that already exist here on Maui and on Oahu from the 1940s that are still fuctioning and sucessful today. Man created the problem let Man fix it (first restore Kahana Bay then address to long term problem global warming) Don't depend on Mother Nature to fix the problem, the results will be catastrophic. (Short Version) Thanks for your time and consideration.

Gordon Langston, President Kahana Reef AOA

March 18, 2026

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Grant Parthemer, and I am an owner of Hololani Condominium Unit B303 in Kahana Maui. The unit is owned by several friends through a corporation, and we have owned the unit and visited since 1997. We do not rent the unit, it is for our continual use by the individual owners and their families; my wife and I have been in our ownership group since 2013, and we have visited and stayed in the Kahana area since 1984.

I am writing in support of SB2401, SD1 because over the past 20 years we have watched our beachfront erode. We had a 30-foot beach in front of Hololani in the early 2000's and now not only has the ocean encroached, but there is also no longer any beach frontage.

Our association and the Kahana Bay region have tried to address the erosion issues, both separately and together. A regional solution is needed so it can apply to and assist all affected properties. The erosion is not getting better, nor do I expect it to without intervention.

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.

I support SB2401, SD1 because we need a clear framework to allow all properties to plan together and work with government agencies on regional shoreline solutions to help protect our shoreline.

The time is at an end for 'emergency' solutions. These are appropriate when the cause is sudden and unexpected. To keep a temporary solution in place year after year makes no sense, and is the worst solution for the shoreline, the property owners, the county, the state and all regional organizations, as it addresses the impact of the issue, not the cause.

To achieve a regional shoreline solution, we need a unified clear framework, with state and county agencies closely coordinating with communities, allowing progress towards a solution in a predictable, timely manner.

It's time we come together and plan responsibly, instead of reacting to each storm or erosion event. It's time to protect homes, public access and shoreline resources at the same time.

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

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:46:19 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Brockman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem and Committee on Water and Land

My name is Julie Adcock Brockman I have lived in Maui for 20 years. I am an owner and BOD President at Pohailani Maui. I have been active in our community and for the preservation and erosion mitigation solutions of Kahana Bay We face many challenges as do all of our neighbors with erosion and damagies to our properties and areas of our road and beach access.

I am in support of SB2401.

I believe it would help our communities and angencies move forward in and cohesive and streamlined way to protect our shoreline now and for future generations. It would allow for a organized framework to address issues in prevention as opposed to reaction. We need a long term solution not emergency short term fixes and the ability to work together for the good of all. Protecting our precious shoreline, access, and property.

Mahalo for your kokua on SB2401

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:51:01 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Marchello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kristen and Mark Marchello III, and we are homeowners in Puamana. We are writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

It has been more than two and a half years since the Lahaina wildfire, yet shoreline properties in Puamana still lack a clear path forward for rebuilding. Many of the remaining homes face ongoing erosion, and unclear regulations continue to prevent even basic safety-related repairs. Homeowners are not seeking to expand—only to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

SB 2401 SD1 is critically important because it would provide clarity for shoreline repairs and rebuilding, reduce delays caused by inconsistent permitting requirements, and improve safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks. It also supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still working to stabilize their homes and lives, while recognizing the realities of Maui’s changing coastline.

Without this bill, homeowners remain in limbo—unable to complete essential repairs, facing ongoing financial and safety risks, and experiencing delays that slow community recovery and increase long-term damage. Puamana residents are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

We respectfully urge the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kristen and Mark

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 9:11:50 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

My name is Todd Whitehead, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing to express strong support for SB 2401 SD1.

More than two and a half years have passed since the Lahaina wildfire, yet shoreline properties in Puamana still lack a clear pathway for rebuilding; this ongoing uncertainty continues to impact our entire community. Many of the remaining shoreline homes are facing erosion issues, but unclear regulations currently prevent even basic safety repairs from proceeding. Homeowners are not requesting expansions of their properties, but seek only the ability to restore what was lost in the disaster and to protect the structures that remain.

I support SB 2401 SD1 for several reasons:

- The bill would provide much-needed clarity regarding repairs and rebuilding in shoreline areas.
- It would reduce delays stemming from unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- By enabling homeowners to address structural vulnerabilities and erosion-related risks, and reduce safety risk of affected residents.
- It also offers meaningful support to those still working to stabilize their homes and rebuild their lives in the wake of the wildfire.
- Acknowledges the practical realities of Maui's evolving coastline and promotes timely, responsible solutions.

Without this legislation, homeowners remain in limbo, unable to perform essential repairs. The uncertainty surrounding shoreline regulations has created significant financial and safety challenges, while permitting delays continue to hinder broader community recovery and further degradation.

To reiterate, Puamana residents are focused on protecting existing structures, not expanding them.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1. Approving this bill would allow shoreline homeowners to proceed with necessary and responsible repairs, thereby contributing to the ongoing recovery of Lahaina and surrounding areas.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and very important work regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Todd Whitehead

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 9:13:32 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)
Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cheryl Nex and I am a shoreline owner in Lahaina.

I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

Why This Bill Matters to Me:

- I live directly along the shoreline and have been affected by coastal erosion, storm impacts, and ongoing regulatory uncertainty.
- Since the August 8, 2023 wildfires, recovery has been extremely challenging, and unclear shoreline rules have made it even harder to move forward.
- I am not seeking to expand development—only to repair, maintain, or restore my home safely and responsibly.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1:

- Provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.

- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical and timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill:

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Many residents are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Cheryl (and Michael) Nex
25 Kamaka Circle
cnex@shaw.ca / (604) 671-5445

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 9:22:32 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adrian Utsch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Adrian Utsch, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks.
- Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Adrian Utsch Psy.D. 808 344 0435

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 9:40:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing today to express my **strong support for SB 2401 SD1.**

It has been over two and a half years since the Lahaina wildfire changed our lives forever. While much of the world has moved on, many of us in Puamana are still stuck in a state of "permitted limbo." We aren't looking to build massive new developments or expand our footprints; we simply want to restore the homes we lost and protect the ones that remain.

The current regulatory environment has made it nearly impossible to address the unique challenges of our shoreline. Here is why SB 2401 SD1 is the solution we need:

- **Replacing Uncertainty with Clarity:** Currently, inconsistent permitting requirements make even basic safety repairs a marathon of red tape. This bill provides the clear "road map" we've been missing.
- **Safety Cannot Wait:** Many of our remaining homes are facing active erosion. Every day that passes without a clear path for structural repairs is a day that our safety—and the integrity of the coastline—is at risk.
- **Practicality Over Red Tape:** This bill acknowledges the reality of Maui's changing coastline. It allows for responsible, timely solutions that reflect the actual conditions on the ground in Lahaina.
- **Community Stability:** Recovering from a wildfire is as much about emotional stability as it is about physical structures. Being unable to repair our homes prevents us from truly moving forward and healing as a community.

Without this bill, homeowners remain in a precarious position. We are facing mounting financial risks and physical damage to our properties simply because the rules aren't designed for a post-disaster scenario. We are asking for the right to be responsible stewards of our land and our homes.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 2401 SD1. Help us take this essential step toward stabilizing our lives and contributing to the broader recovery of Lahaina.

Mahalo for your time, your leadership, and your consideration of our community's future.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Koller

March 18, 2026

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

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

My name is Joanna Stockham, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community. We have been happy homeowners, taxpayers, and community contributors for the past 24 years, but this financial set back caused by the fires and the delays in our rebuild have nearly broken us financially. We'd like to stay. We'd like to rebuild.

PLEASE HELP US MOVE FORWARD BY SUPPORTING THIS BILL!

Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety related repairs.

Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD

- Provides clarity for shore line area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks.
- Supports wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives. (thats me!)
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration

Joanna Stockham

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 10:24:15 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M Bradford Henley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice-Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Brad Henley, and I am a homeowner in Puamana. I am writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

- It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.
- Most of the remaining shoreline homes face erosion, yet unclear rules prevent even basic safety-related repairs.
- Homeowners are not seeking expansion—only the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

Key Reasons I Support SB 2401 SD1

- Provides clarity for shoreline-area repairs and rebuilding.
- Reduces delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements.
- Improves safety by allowing homeowners to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- Supports wildfire-impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives.
- Acknowledges the realities of Maui’s changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Current Challenges Without This Bill

- Homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs.
- Uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks.
- Delays in permitting slow down community recovery and increase long-term damage.
- Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not expand them.

What I Am Asking

I respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina’s recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Thursday, March 19, 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.

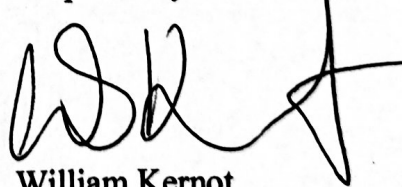
I have seen our beaches slowly erode over time. What used to be usable beach area has become waves threatening our beaches, homes, and roadways. We need actionable erosion and sediment management plans to protect our beaches, and those plans should be based on the specific needs of each beach.

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 Kernot

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 12:32:12 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Fessler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Jeff Fessler and I am an owner at Kahana Reef on Maui.

I have been coming to Maui and Kauai since I was three years old. My parents brought us here every year since we were little kids, to now spending months on Maui every year.

The Hawaiian Islands are in my soul and their importance to me and my family cannot be understated. I swim in the waters every day, mainly at DT Fleming and at the adjoining beaches, where I have helped locals and tourists alike safely exit the Ocean during big days. I practice Aloha every day and love everything about Maui.

I am writing in support of SB240 SD1 because I want the beaches to be there for future generations. I have seen the erosion in Kahana Bay first hand since I was a little kid. When I was a little kid, we used to play on the beach right out in front of Kahana Reef and it hurts me to see it in its current state.

This beach erosion affects everyone, not just me, but all who live here.

We need to gather together to implement a plan to save Kahana Bay for all generations. This could serve as a model to help other areas throughout the Hawaiian Islands that are also facing this same crisis.

I am asking you to support SB2401 SD1 for your kids and all future generations.

Mahalo,

Jeff Fessler

Owner, Kahana Reef

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 3:33:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beryl Mitton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am writing in support of Bill 2401 because we need to be able to repair our shoreline in situations with erosion. Currently, there are no clear guidelines for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding which is causing delays for rebuilding our community and the town of Lahaina.

Please pass this bill so that we can move forward in our recovery.

Mahalo

Beryl Mitton

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 3:41:09 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Strockbine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Aloha Chair Hashem, ViceChair Morikawa, and Members of the Committee,

We are homeowners in the Puamana Community Association and are writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

It has been over 2½ years since the Lahaina wildfire, and the shoreline properties in Puamana still do not have a clear path forward for rebuilding. This affects our entire community.

Most of the remaining shoreline homes will be managing erosion in the coming years, but the poorly clarified regulations prevent even **basic safety** related repairs for these residences.

These homeowners are not seeking to expand their residences, they only desire the ability to restore what was lost and protect what remains.

We support SB 2401 SD1 which will provide clarity for shoreline area repairs and rebuilding, reduce delays caused by unclear or inconsistent permitting requirements and allow homeowners to address structural and erosion related risks for improved safety. It is the committee's duty to support these wildfire impacted residents who are still trying to stabilize their homes and lives, while acknowledging the realities of Maui's changing coastline and the need for practical, timely solutions.

Without this bill, homeowners remain in limbo, unable to complete essential repairs. The uncertainty around shoreline rules has created financial and safety risks. Continued delays in permitting will slow down community recovery and increase longterm damage. These Puamana homeowners are simply trying to protect existing structures, not enlarge them.

We respectfully ask the Committee to support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with necessary, responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Stephen and Laura Strockbine

SB-2401-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:12:00 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/19/2026 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

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

I was a full time homeowner in Puamana till we lost out home in the fire, I'm writing in strong support of SB 2401 SD1.

More than 2.5 years after the Lahaina wildfire, shoreline properties in Puamana still have no clear path to rebuild. This uncertainty is holding back the entire community.

Many remaining shoreline homes are exposed to ongoing erosion, yet current rules are unclear and prevent even basic safety repairs. Homeowners are not trying to expand, only to restore what was lost and stabilize what remains.

Why SB 2401 SD1 matters

- Establishes clear rules for shoreline repair and rebuilding
- Reduces delays from inconsistent permitting
- Allows critical safety and erosion mitigation work
- Supports wildfire-impacted homeowners still in recovery
- Reflects the reality of Maui's changing shoreline

Current situation without this bill

- Homeowners remain stuck, unable to complete necessary repairs
- Ongoing uncertainty creates financial and safety risk
- Permitting delays increase long-term damage
- The goal is preservation, not expansion

Request

Support SB 2401 SD1 so shoreline homeowners can move forward with responsible repairs and contribute to Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your consideration, Jason

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Measure: SB2401 SD1 – March 19, 2026 -**STRONG SUPPORT**

Testifier: Cynthia Ziebelman, Puamana Homeowner

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee Members,

My name is **Cynthia Ziebelman**, and as a homeowner in **Puamana**, I am writing in strong support of **SB2401 SD1**. More than 2½ years after the Lahaina wildfire, shoreline residents in Puamana still lack a clear, predictable path to rebuild. While we are committed to Lahaina’s recovery, we are currently stuck in regulatory limbo. Many of our remaining homes face immediate erosion threats, yet current rules are so ambiguous they prevent even basic, essential safety repairs. We are not seeking to expand our footprints; we simply want to restore what was lost and protect our remaining homes from further damage.

Why I Support SB2401 SD1:

- **Provides Clarity:** Establishes clear guidelines for shoreline repairs and rebuilding.
- **Reduces Red Tape:** Minimizes delays caused by inconsistent permitting requirements.
- **Enhances Safety:** Allows us to address structural and erosion-related risks.
- **Wildfire Recovery:** It provides much-needed support for displaced residents.
- **Practical Solutions:** Acknowledges the reality of Maui’s changing coastline with timely, sensible fixes.

The Consequences of Inaction: These permitting delays do more than hurt individuals—they stall the overall recovery of the Lahaina community.

I respectfully urge the Committee to **pass SB2401 SD1** to allow responsible, necessary repairs that will help us move forward.

Mahalo for your time and your commitment to Maui’s future.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Ziebelman

Puamana Homeowner

2cindy@gmail.com

Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Measure: SB2401 SD1 – March 19, 2026 -**STRONG SUPPORT**

Testifier: Peter Ziebelman, Puamana Homeowner

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Morikawa, and Committee Members,

My name is **Peter Ziebelman**, and as a homeowner in **Puamana**, I am writing in strong support of **SB2401 SD1**. More than 2½ years after the Lahaina wildfire, shoreline residents in Puamana still lack a clear, predictable path to rebuild. While we are committed to Lahaina’s recovery, we are currently stuck in regulatory limbo. Many of our remaining homes face immediate erosion threats, yet current rules are so ambiguous they prevent even basic, essential safety repairs. We are not seeking to expand our footprints; we simply want to restore what was lost and protect our remaining homes from further damage.

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Mahalo for your time and your commitment to Maui’s future.

Sincerely,

Peter Ziebelman

Puamana Homeowner

peterzz@yahoo.com