

**PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
AND RECREATION ON
Testimony**

MISC. COMM. 142

PARKS, ENTERPRISE SERVICES AND CULTURE & THE ARTS (PESCA)

**PARKS, ENTERPRISE SERVICES AND CULTURE &
THE ARTS (PESCA) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Apr 5, 2023 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 2

Oppose: 99

I wish to comment: 16

Name: Mialisa Otis	Email: mialisa808@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 31, 2023 @ 02:56 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I would like to testify in person on April 5 in opposition to Bill 19. I will continue to oppose it until the laws from Bill 38/ Ordinance 22-3 (that prohibit all commercial activity in Waimanalo) are kept in place. I am open to supporting this bill thereafter. I will give my oral testimony in person to elaborate.</p>		
Name: laura safranski	Email: musicmind75@yahoo.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2023 @ 05:09 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please restore the existing/original prohibitions</p> <p>action items:</p> <p>1.amend Section 10-1.3(a)(13), which is on the top of page 14, to read as follows:</p> <p>(13) Recreational stops of any length of time at any beach park or beach support park; except that no permits may be issued for recreational stops prohibited by §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i).</p> <p>2. undo the repeal of ROH, §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i).</p>		
Name: Neil Frazer	Email: neilfrazer@icloud.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Frazer-Frantz Ohana	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 2, 2023 @ 12:09 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Chair and Committee Members,</p> <p>With regard to Bill 19, my family supports the CD1 introduced by Council Member Esther Kia'ina, which</p> <p>(a) deletes the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimnalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way, on pages 7-9, and 13 of the original bill, and</p> <p>(b) would exempt specific City-owned beach parks, including Waimnalo and Kailua beach parks, from allowing commercial activities and recreational stops via permit.</p> <p>In other words, please amend Bill 19 (2023) to retain the existing ROH 10-1.2(h) prohibition of commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks.</p> <p>Mahalo for your unselfish service to the people of O'ahu.</p>		
Name: Janet Stern	Email: janetrstern@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 2, 2023 @ 04:14 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I strongly support Council member Kia'ina's proposed CD1 which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delete the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimnalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way, on pages 7-9, and 13 of the original bill, and 		

· Exempts specific City-owned beach parks, including Waimnalo and Kailua beach parks, from allowing commercial activities and recreational stops via permit.

Mahalo for your hard work!

Name: Elizabeth Kawanakoa	Email: lizkawanakoa@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 2, 2023 @ 04:27 PM

Testimony:

I wish to comment

Representing: Self

I wish to provide: Written testimony

Testimony Text: I strongly support Council member Kia'ina's proposed CD1 which would: · Delete the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimnalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way, on pages 7-9, and 13 of the original bill, and · Exempts specific City-owned beach parks, including Waimnalo and Kailua beach parks, from allowing commercial activities and recreational stops via permit. Mahalo for your hard work!

Name: Kathleen M Pahinui	Email: pahinuik001@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 2, 2023 @ 05:39 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Committee Chair Tulba and Committee Members:

I strongly oppose Bill 19.

The North Shore fought long and hard to put limits on commercial activities in our parks. Our community was being pushed out by commercial vendors - parking was being taken up, families told they couldnt stay in a specific area due to a vendor wanting to set up for customers, unlicensed businesses giving surf and other ocean activity lessons.

When the bill was approved and signed into ordinance, residents finally had a tool to take back beaches for their families. In close cooperation with HPD, we have been able to keep those restricted beaches mostly free of commercial activity. We still have a lot of work to do to educate the vendors on where they can operate but we have a tool.

If Bill 19 is approved, we lose this tool and it once again becomes a free for all. Even opening the window a little means it will be harder to enforce the rules and who will do that? HPD cant be the park patrol.

Bill 19 is a worthy effort but we need to keep our parks free of rampant commercial activity. Please do not support this bill and allow our communities (Waimanalo through the North Shore) to continue to work with the current ordinances to ensure our residents can enjoy our beaches unmolested by commercial vendors. Our beaches are a public trust not a venue for making money.

Mlama ina,

Kathleen M Pahinui
Waialua Resident

Name: Tina Gray	Email: tinagray808@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 09:44 AM

Testimony:

Please keep Kailua's parks and beaches free from commercial activities

Our community has worked tirelessly for over 15 years to keep our parks and beaches for the families and visitors of Oahu. No one wants our community resources commercialized except for those businesses that want to exploit and profit from this legislation. Auwe! Leave someplace for the folks that live here and pay the taxes that support the parks. Not everything should be about tourists and money.

One blanket set of regulations for the whole island will not work. The Kailua Beach/Lanikai beach is an already overcrowded area within a bottleneck situation. It is primarily a residential neighborhood with a beach.

I am sickened that this administration would attempt to breach this issue again.

One size will not fit all in this unique community. Please exempt any commercialization of this beach park.

Enough is enough! Please don't throw Kailua under the tour bus!

Sincerely,

Tina Gray

Name: Chuck Gray	Email: chuckla808@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 11:18 AM

Testimony:

I oppose Bill 19 2023

Bill 19 should be put on the very back burner and needs a complete rewrite.

I doubt any Honolulu residents have requested the update to commercialize our parks, other than the vendors who will over run our parks open spaces, and cause even more traffic and congestion to our parks.

Thank you

Chuck Gray

Name: Carmen Guzman-Simpliciano	Email: Carmzz84@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 11:22 AM

Testimony:

I am a Wai'anae resident and we are seeing more commercial activities in our parks, illegal yours and swimming with dolphin through access of shoreline! We need clear policies and regulations and designated areas to be established!

Also, a means of enforcement in public spaces when communities call with concerns! For instance, is it HPD that we call, or is it DOCARE or some other agencies?!

We have K'ioloa Heiau located in a Pka' Bay City Beach Park, and an organization continues to do illegal tours for monetary gains even after being reported and asked from multiple communities members to stop!

Name: Bill Hicks	Email: billhickskn@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Kailua Neighborhood Board	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 02:29 PM

Testimony:

I oppose the portion of Bill 19 (2023) that would eliminate the current protections of ROH 10-1.2(h) which prohibit commercial activities at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks in Kailua.

On April 5, 2012 the Kailua Neighborhood Board passed a Resolution that "The Kailua Neighborhood Board No. 31 supports a version of City Council Bill 11 (2012) that includes prohibitions of commercial vendors and commercial buses in Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks".

City Council Bill 11 (2012) was subsequently passed in 2012 which added the following language to ROH 10-1.2(h):

"(h) Commercial activities prohibited at parks.

(1) Commercial activities, including recreational stops by commercial tour companies, but excluding commercial filming activities that take place from 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays through 6:30 a.m. on Mondays, are not allowed at any time at the following parks:

- (A) Kailua Beach Park; and
- (B) Kalama Beach Park.”

Prior to the implementation of Bill 11 (2012) Kailua Beach Park was being overrun with commercial kayak and tour bus activity.

The wisdom of Bill 11 (2012) banning commercial activity at Kailua Beach Park was borne out by the Windward Oahu Tourism Assessment conducted by the University of Hawaii's Center for Sustainable Coastal Tourism under a Sea Grant program initiated by former Councilman Ikaika Anderson. This assessment found that Kailua Beach Park was about 50% more crowded in 2019 than it was in 2007. Their large sample surveys in 2019 found that Kailua Beach Park is at the cusp of reaching >50% dissatisfaction with the amount of overcrowding. Complete information on this project can be found at <https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/sustainable-coastal-tourism/windward-tourism-assessment/>

Our infrastructure at Kailua Beach Park is that of a small residential town which is not geared for commercial activity. The University of Hawaii study puts crowding at Kailua Beach Park at a tipping point. The doubling of the number of people on the beach from 2007 to 2019 puts us at an effective maximum ceiling – as more people or activity would measurably degrade the experience for residents and visitors alike. Clearly a resumption of commercial activity that would take up parking and beach space and compete with family recreational activity would put us past the tipping point.

Unfortunately, City Council Bill 19 (2023) threatens to do just that. Bill 19 (2023) would eliminate the current protections of ROH 10-1.2(h) and replace it with provisions that would allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue permits to authorize commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks in Kailua.

Bill 19 (2023) must be amended to retain the existing ROH 10-1.2(h) prohibition of commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks.

Name: issei watanabe	Email: isseiwa@gmail.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Japan Hawaii Wedding Association	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 06:39 PM

Name: Richard Ames	Email: kamaainaaudio@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 3, 2023 @ 11:09 PM

Name: Brenda Wong	Email: ihilanijowong@yahoo.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:19 AM

Testimony:
I oppose bill 19. I am a waimanalo home owner and have been fighting to stop large tour buses taking over our Waimnalo beaches. Bill 19 destroys what we have fought for in bill 38. If you have to pass this bill, please continue to make it a law to stop commerical tour buses and their businesses to overtake our beaches. There are many other places for those tour buses to go besides waimanalo! Respect the Hawaiian people and respect the aina and iwi (bones) of the first Hawaiians that arrived on oahu.

Name: Choon James	Email: ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: CountryTalkStory.com	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:28 AM

Testimony:
Aloha to all,

OPPOSE Bill 19 . The City and County of Honolulu needs to be practical, pragmatic, and realistic about creating policies that it

cannot implement. Put Residents First. Providing permits may sound like a good idea but residents and tourist operators themselves have said that enforcement is always questionable. Besides, there are many operators who now use unmarked vehicles even when they know that commercial activities are not allowed.

Oahu has already lost many public recreational areas like the Waikiki Beach, Hanauma Bay, Waimea Bay, and so forth to uncontrolled density and visitors. Traffic congestion, noise, safety and health impacts and others are real. It's time to focus on our Residents first. The quality of life for our residents must be paramount. Communities like Waimanalo, Ko'olauloa, and Kailua have suffered intrusions on all levels for a very long time and have fought back to retain some semblance of peace and tranquility for local folks. Bill 19 would cancel these efforts.

Tourists and commercial activities do not need to occupy every inch of our public parks. Give the people a break. Give the local residents some space. Please respect the need for local residents to enjoy some peace and tranquility in local public places.

Mahalo,
Choon James

Name: Liz Jackson	Email: liz96734@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:57 AM

Testimony:
I do NOT support allowing commercial activity at Kaikua Beach, and therefore support the Amendment that would exempt Kaikua Beach from further commercial activity. Our small neighborhood cannot handle more traffic both vehicular and pedestrian. In addition, there are many safety concerns that would be exacerbated by commercial activity.

Name: Kevin Butterbaugh	Email: kevinbkailua@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 06:59 AM

Testimony:
Our Kailua and Waimanalo residential beaches, parks, and rights-of-way are not the right locations for commercial services and activities on a wholesale basis. These commercial services and activities should be kept to locations more appropriate to handle the associated infrastructure and outside of residential communities (e.g., Waikiki, and other hotel/resort zoned areas).

Name: Sharon Kershner	Email: slkwrm@hotmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:13 AM

Testimony:
Aloha, I am a resident of Waimanalo and 100% in opposition to allowing commercial activities along our shorelines and in the parks. Commercial activity only abuses and sucks from the location and people. Not only should bill 19 not allow this it should deepen and clarify the restrictions already in place.
We need CLEARER AND STRICTER LAWS and ENFORCEMENT WITH TEETH, not more confusion and cracks that allow abuse. This council and governing bodies continually IGNORE the voices of Locational Voters and interests, and are wrongly attentive to loud monied interests that drown out the Cultural and Local Needs & desires.
Please Do Right by our Community and strengthen the laws that protect, and not those that run over our precious Limited spaces and resources.
Mahalo.
Sharon Kershner

Name: Abraham Aiona	Email: uncleabeswaimanalo@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:34 AM

Testimony:

All of Waimanalo has been and still is a hot spot for locals and tourist. We are being overcrowded with so much cars, vans and people. They come to the "Beach Lots" and park where ever they want to. Ever since Lanikai has put much parking restrictions in their area we are getting the left overs. Visitors that come to Waimanalo leave our beaches and access right of ways in a mess. Maybe it's because they think that we are a homestead community that they don't give a damn how they treat us. If you are going to pass Bill 2023 you can at least give us speed bumps and police to give out illegal parking citations. Yes speeders are a big problem also. 15 MPH signs don't pertain to drivers in this area. Do not make Waimanalo Beach Area an unfriendly place to visit. We should be treated the same as other neighborhoods, (LaniKai, Kahala and Waikiki).

Mahalo

Name: Robert Bachini	Email: bachini@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:42 AM

Testimony:
I have been a resident/owner in Ko'olaupoko for over 34 years. Over this time period, I have witnessed and experienced Kailua's transformation into "Waikiki's #2" and ownership by large property owners. I am in support of Bill 19 and oppose any amendments to this ban.

Mahalo.

Name: antony ellman	Email: jamesellman@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:44 AM

Testimony:
I am a resident of Oahu and very much oppose additional commercial activities at Kailua and Waimanalo Beach Parks.

These parks are already very busy, often overused by those who abuse the facilities to the detriment of the majority of our islanders and are an important resource for our community. These public spaces, maintained with taxpayer dollars, should not be an opportunity for a small number of opportunists to generate profits. Commercial activities on or adjacent to our beach parks will generate negative externalities not charged to those creating them.

Please do not allow this proposal to move forward.

Thank you for your time.

Name: Ann Alisa	Email: annzalisa55479@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:47 AM

Testimony:
Let the voices of the communities stand! We have spoken, we do not want commercial activity at our beach parks! We have asked, and our requests were answered with Bill 48. Protect our beach parks. If you want to come up with an island wide plan for permitted activity, please figure that out first before you blatantly reverse Bill 48, which prohibits commercial activity at Oahu beaches. Bill 19 does not take into consideration the voices of the local people. Come up with a plan first.

Too many buses, too many people. We invite people to enjoy our beaches but NOT this way! There is not enough infrastructure ready. The restrooms are dirty and old. The tourists do not respect the aina, the history of these special beaches. They do not respect the local people, who are using these parks for family activities. They walk through parties, celebrations of life, family gatherings. Please help us protect our sacred and family time.

Name: Malia Marquez	Email: maliamarquez71@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:59 AM

Testimony:
Aloha Kkou,
My name is Malia Marquez, I am from Maunaloa, O'ahu. I strongly OPPOSE Bill 19. This bill is another way to deter and ignore all of the hard work and efforts that community members worked diligently to STOP irresponsible commercial activities and OVER tourism. Just last year laws were set IN place to protect our community and 'ina. Now just months later the city wants to wipe away these laws and all of the hard work by community members? How does this even make sense? We cannot keep allowing hoards of tourists, huge busses and commercial activities into our communities. Tourists are able to rent cars, use a ride share or hop on our public transit to enjoy our beaches in a NON commercial way? Enough is ENOUGH. OPPOSE BILL 19 for the sake of community over commercialism. Mahalo for your time on this very important manner.

Name: Alberto Ricordi	Email: albertoricordi@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:06 AM

Testimony:
I oppose Bill 19. Commercial activities in Beach Parks are a nuisance to residents that enjoy beach park users. Parking is already a challenge and will be worst with commercial activity allowed. There are already several vendors soliciting food and beverages in Waikiki and Kailua. In fact, on 03/31, I was in the beach with my family and was interrupted by three different vendors selling alcohol home made drinks, banana bread, and baked goods. I have seen these vendors becoming more popular in beaches all around Oahu. Wedding companies also often take their clients to Kahala Beach Park and other parks around the island for pictures and filming, often disrespecting beach goes privacy and smoking near families. Tour buses will worsen parking situation and large tourist groups can be a nuisance to resident beach park goers. They often do not understand that they are being disrespectful, smoke near children and families, and disrupt the enjoyment of local residents. I understand that these activities proposed by Bill 19 have the potential to bring revenue to the City, but there should be other means to generate income without compromising the peace and privacy of residents. Aloha, Alberto

Name: Susan Salm	Email: suzeandrod@hawaiiantel.net	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:27 AM

Testimony:
After supporting the efforts to stop commercial activity in our parks, I don't understand why we are talking about this again.

Name: S Ludan	Email: seludan@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:29 AM

Testimony:
My family and I strongly oppose the permitting of commercial activities at Kailua Beach park and Lanikai beach. Kailua is a small residential town that is already being overwhelmed by excessive tourism. The town and beach area cannot accommodate even larger crowds, tours, wedding groups, etc., that threaten to destroy the natural beauty and peaceful environment of this small community.
Please help us preserve the beauty and character of our small town!

Name: Lewis Glenn	Email: lewis@lewisglenn.org	Zip: 96734-4254
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:33 AM

Testimony:
Allowing commercial activity on Kailua and Waimanalo Beaches will detract from the home-town nature of these beaches, moving us toward a Coney Island vibe. We locals do not want this, and other visitors to our beaches come for the local atmosphere. Please disallow vendors from plying our beaches.

Name: Brandon Deal	Email: mrdeal702@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:37 AM
Testimony: Opposed		
Name: David Fell	Email: davidfell60@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:37 AM
Testimony: I am a frequent user of Makapuu Beach Park, for the last 50 years. Commercial activities would speed up the degradation of that beach park and others. Unrestricted commercial activities reduce the ability of our residents to utilize the facilities and puts additional stress on the infrastructure. Preservation of resources for the enjoyment of residents should be the primary focus.		
Name: John Stahl	Email: jstahl249@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:40 AM
Testimony: I firmly oppose any weakening of the bans on commercial activity in Oahu parks and on beaches that are currently in place. Our parks are there for the well being and enjoyment of local people and families. They are an essential part of our lives. Monetizing them for the benefit of entrepreneurs is short-sighted and wrong. We need to start moving away from a tourist based economy, and this is one way to begin. The hardworking people of Oahu and their keiki need our parks and beaches free from businesses and unspoiled by money. Anyone who votes for lifting commercial bans in our places of recreation is suspect of poor judgement and ulterior motives. Thank you for supporting our families. John Stahl		
Name: Michael Hoebelheinrich	Email: hoebel83@yahoo.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:40 AM
Testimony: I oppose this		
Name: Kurt Stevens	Email: kstevens870@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:07 AM
Testimony: One tour van takes multiple cars off the roads at the same time and if the tour company has an employee that has an education and proper enthusiasm for their work then they can inform tourists how to be better guests and visitors. Solo travel is busy but proper information is power. Don't let this bill go thru and stifle the smaller tour companies that bring value to a proper experience and uplifting of the educational floor of a visit to Oahu		
Name: Hidenori Yui	Email: hidenoriyui@watabe.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:09 AM
Name: James Peters	Email: jamesjpeters@mac.com	Zip: 96734

Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:15 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Honorable council members,</p> <p>I am writing today to voice my strong opposition in removing the ban of all commercial activity in Kailua and Waimanalo.</p> <p>I lived here when we used to have commercial activity and it was an abomination. Please put the residents of Kailua and Waimanalo, ahead of the business interest.</p> <p>Thank you for your kind consideration,</p> <p>James Peters</p>		
Name: KEVIN LOCKETTE	Email: kevin@ohanapacificrehab.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:28 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am a 30 year Kailua resident. Kailua and Waimanalo beach parks are in residential areas away from hotels and other commercial / tourist activities. That is why we live here and why tourist want to visit to experience undeveloped beauty. Adding / Allowing commercial activity in these residential parks would be a disservice to the residents and to the visitors who come. There is a reason why there is limitations to building heights and no hotels etc. It would ruin these areas. We are already and have been fighting illegal B & Bs and tour buses. Please consider the residents and preserve these areas so visitors still have a piece of Hawaii to visit that is the natural beauty they come to see. I strongly oppose commercial activity in these areas!</p>		
Name: Christian Mosher	Email: cpmosher@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:33 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I have enjoyed our beach parks as a Kailua resident since the 1980s. When I was in college and looking for part-time work, I worked out of a truck parked within Kailua Beach Park and offered kayak, windsurfing, and kiteboarding experiences. Years later, my community and I expressed our concerns about the commercialization of our beach parks. We were successful in prohibiting all commercial activities. Since then, members of our community have been seen participating in a variety of beach and ocean activities. There are times when tourists appear to dominate the parking, beach, and even ocean areas, but for the most part, residents and tourists coexist. A bill repealing the bans on commercial activities in beach parks would be detrimental to this balance. As a father who raised his children in these beach parks, I want my grandchildren to have the same experience. Please do not allow Kailua and Waimanalo Beach Parks to be commercialized. They already attract a large number of tourists as it is, and a change like this will have a negative impact on the local residents.</p>		
Name: Lisa L	Email: ltvl@earthlink.net	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:36 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>We worked so hard to ban commercial activities from Kailua & Waimanalo beaches. Both towns are not meant to be like Waikiki. I oppose the commercial activity. Mahalo Lisa</p>		
Name: Larry McElheny	Email: lkmcelheny@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:41 AM
<p>Testimony:</p>		

<p>Aloha Council Members</p> <p>I strongly oppose the commercialization of our public lands.</p> <p>Mahalo</p> <p>Larry McElheny</p>		
Name: Anna Grills	Email: annagrills@gmail.com	Zip: 96734-4360
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:49 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Banning commercial activity at beach parks in Kailua and Waimanalo is an essential measure to protect quality of life for local people and local way of life. We have other areas on this island devoted to and zoned for tourism in which these activities are appropriate. Commercial activities at beaches should be limited to these areas and banned in others so that there is a reprieve from tourism for those of us who call this island home.</p>		
Name: BIANCA ISAKI	Email: bianca@kahea.org	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:03 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Councilmembers,</p> <p>There is far too much commercial activity in the Citys parks, especially its beach parks. The States Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation has not been able to control commercial operations trampling on reefs and monopolizing public space for tour and surf instruction activities. Its painful to see.</p> <p>1) Bill 19 should not remove protections for Waimanalo, Kailua, Kokolio, and North Shore beaches. Those prohibitions can be complimentary to the permitting system.</p> <p>2) Bill 19 lacks a limit on the number of commercial operations under its permit system and specific means of permitting. Without firm limits, there is no meaningful regulation of commercial activity.</p> <p>If Bill 19 were repaired to address these issues, I would support it.</p> <p>Yours, Bianca Isaki</p>		
Name: TOM DIGRAZIA	Email: digraziat001@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:03 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please adopt the amendments to Bill 19 found in CD1.</p> <p>Our Kailua and Waimanalo for long and hard to ban commercial activities at our beaches, which were being overrun with commercial activities. We do not want to see over-commercialization happen to us again.</p> <p>Mahalo!</p> <p>Tom</p>		
Name: Mabby Porter	Email: porterm001@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:04 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Before the ban on business at Kailua Beach large tour buses would pull up to the park bathroom and take up at least 10 stalls of car parking stalls to wait for the visitors to look at the beach, use the bathroom and enjoy time taking photos. We hardly had anywhere to park our own cars and we are paying the taxes to maintain the parks. At the same time there were big trucks with kayaks and windsurfing equipment in them that also took up the car stalls and sold their items out of the trucks to visitors inquiring at the beach. T-Shirt tables etc have also been at the beach and various parks. I have been to Mexico and it is ANNOYING being asked to buy something from vendors who are after your money. Kailua and Waimanalo need to remain peaceful and clean, not trashed. As a visitor, they also want to enjoy the unusual feeling of peace and tranquility which seems to be disappearing around the world due to the internet spoiling the various places by the encouragement of people to tromp on our</p>		

shores and treat our beaches like ABC stores, bars and water parks all in the desire to get a selfie. Kailua has always been a quieter community all my 70 years of living here. It was getting really crazy with bike rentals besides the vendors and especially a bad bike lane transition at the intersection of Wanaao and Kailua Road as visitors took selfies while riding their bikes along the busy roads almost getting hit. Add buses back to those same roads and the vendors coming and going with their trucks and we are going to lose the value of Kailua and Waimanalo's souls. PLEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEASE do NOT NOT NOT open up any vendors on our beaches! We need the parks and the beaches to be used in a balanced manner. Continue the buses dropping off in the CVS parking lot, but limit how many please. (The parking lot is also filling up these days, so we have been using the stalls marked "For bus parking only" to park our cars to go to Down To Earth to pick up a quick salad because the Japanese haven't come back yet. Wait till they return...YIPE! The kayaks and wind surfers continuing to transport their equipment to the beaches on their own and the wedding limos not coming all day every day works well! Fix the transition for the bike lanes (make the bike renters ride along the fence between Kailua Intermediate and the ball park instead of Wanaao and Kailua Road. With Covid, our beaches, parks improved for THE BETTER!!!!!! The environment improved too and so did the wildlife! Why go backwards? There are stores in Kailua, use them to sell things. The visitors will continue to WANT to come to Kailua and Waimanalo because of the tranquility and NOT the T-Shirt guy annoying us and pedaling hats and pareos like Mexico! HELP US PLEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEASE! Mahalo! Mabby Porter

Name: Denise Lindo	Email: deniselindo77@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:04 AM

Testimony:
Bill 19 is an irresponsible idea for the Council to consider. If the Parks Department is unable to police the beaches now due to lack of personnel how are they going to police the permits that people may or may not be holding. Kailua and Waimanalo were able to protect their own beaches by bringing these restrictions and because of that the community is able to help police the beach because we know that no one has a permit. It is the taxpayers of each beach community that pays for the beach parks and it is these individuals who should be allowed to enjoy them. No beach should be a revenue stream for new arrivals and outsiders. My belief is that all parks should ban commercial activities but if the council moves this forward they should look at CD 1 and exempt Kailua And Waimanalo from these ridiculous permits as we have already fought and won that fight. Please think first about your constituents and not the ever growing tourist needs. They are ruining our way of life.

Name: De-Jay Hanssen	Email: dejayhanssen@yahoo.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: O'ahu Photography Tours	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:07 AM

Testimony:
This would be a bad call for anyone visiting the islands and taking tours. You would be killing severely your companies. Instead you should be focusing on enforcement towards the people that rent big busses and run illegal tours and allowing the tourists to touch the wildlife and all that. Your primary focus is pointing in the wrong direction. Pass this and you will cost hundreds or even thousands of local jobs. Horrible idea.

Name: Nadine Sefronio	Email: nadinesefronio@yahoo.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:11 AM

Testimony:
I oppose trill 19, as we have been fighting to keep our shorelines & parks free from commercial & tourism use. Theses places are a value to the locals. We need our shorelines to live off of. By bringing tourists @ commercial use to our shorelines & parks will destroy everything. This is just another way of government taking away from us Hawaiians. I am 100% against bill 19 & all the damage & heart ace it will bring with it.
Mahalo
Nadine Sefronio

Name: Sara McKay	Email: smckay1420@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:13 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose the commercialization of our public parks, which adversely affects the ability of people who live in these communities to enjoy access to nature and negatively impacts the quality of life for those in the neighborhood surrounding the parks.</p>		
Name: Andrew Berkowitz	Email: berko.andrewitz@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:15 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose this measure</p>		
Name: Laurie Freed	Email: lfreed@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:17 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please reconsider and listen to the people who live in these neighborhoods. We choose to be away from the hectic dense populations on the island and live with as much peace and quiet as possible. We saw what it was like when there were no restrictions. No room for us to even have our friends over for dinner and park their cars. People not caring about what they leave behind. Large commercial vehicles taking space and creating loud sounds and smells. This is not too much to ask for. We are not a one size fits all community. Our community is unique, and we need to keep it that way for our health and sanity. PLEASE.</p>		
Name: Rick Nelson	Email: rcknelson@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:18 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I live in Lanikai and spend a lot of time at Kailua Beach park. Both beach areas are already overcrowded on most days. Allowing recreational companies to operate on the beaches would further crowd the beaches and cause more traffic problems. We already have plenty of traffic problems currently. On Lanikai beach alone one can count over 1000 people at the beach on a working weekday. Too many tourists already, do not need tourist vehicles bringing more people and water sports equipment.</p>		
Name: Michael and Lea Anderson	Email: mdander@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:22 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>We have been living in Kailua for 5 years - we have owned for 4 years - and live here all year round. We selected Kailua because it was a wonderful place to live, free from the high commercialization of Honolulu. We have volunteered at the Hamakua Marsh, helping weed out invasive plants, we periodically pick trash and plastic at Kailua Beach. We appreciate the natural beauty of our beaches here. People are able to come, have family outings and celebrations, barbecue's , enjoy the beauty of waves, the sunrise/sunset, go for a walks, etc. - all so peaceful.</p> <p>We oppose the removal of the restrictions to commercial activity in these locations. In our opinion it would ruin the beauty of this area. If people want food there are local markets and restaurants very close by. There are kayak rentals for those who want to get out on the ocean. We request that you keep it this way.</p> <p>Thank you, Sincerely Mike and Lea Anderson</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Doug Borton	hichristyborton@gmail.com	96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:26 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Kailua Beach is NOT FOR SALE. It's for local people. There already is NOT enough parking space. Keep tourists in Waikiki.</p>		
Name: Malcolm Strickland	Email: malcolmmmods@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:26 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>For a state that makes most of its income on tourism this is a shot in the foot to the island. A lot of locals make money offering experiences around the island, passing This bill is blatant disrespect to the people working here in the island. First it was Airbnb now it's this. Shame on you.</p>		
Name: Chris James	Email: coui@me.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:26 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>This is horrible.</p> <p>I've been a tour guide my entire life. My children will starve.</p>		
Name: Michelle Pillen	Email: michellepillen@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:34 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Committee Members,</p> <p>I urge this body to do everything in its power to maintain the bans on commercial activities in the beach parks that the communities of Waimanalo and Kailua fought so hard for. Allowing permits at all parks in a one-size-fits-all way is a lazy and harmful move backward. My Councilmember Kia'aina's proposed CD1, which exempts Waimanalo and Kailua beach parks and rights of way from this rule, fits with keeping our communities safe and not overrun with commercial vehicles and consumers. Please be pono and put kamaina and knaka maoli, local people, of the communities in Waimanalo and Kailua first — not commercial interests.</p> <p>Thank you, Michelle Pillen Kailua, Oahu</p>		
Name: Desirree Madison-Biggs	Email: Desirree@gmail.com	Zip: 96717
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:42 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I could have never imagined that I would be back in council chambers so soon since it's only been four months since we were celebrating the passage of bill 48. It will come as no surprise that I strongly oppose Bill 19 as it is currently written - specifically as it relates to recreational stops by tour buses.</p> <p>Bill 48 was passed late last year providing a sense of balance between the needs of local residents against the increasing incursion of tourism in all of our communities. Last year you allowed our voices to be heard and our needs considered as</p>		

residents living in neighborhoods where beach parks exist. You enabled us the chance to protect our essential park and beach while keeping it accessible to the many residents, locals and other visitors that enjoy it. Bill 19 undoes that progress.

First, it's a one size fits all approach that does not account for the uniqueness of local communities and once again opens up a free for all for commercial tour buses to come and go as they please. If you think they won't, you will be mistaken.

Second, the complicated and detailed rules set forth, while commendable, are unenforceable. Right now at Kokololio there is no enforcement of any rules, ever. Signs are ignored by tourists and locals alike. We already deal with rules being broken every day: illegal camping, smoking, vaping, loud music on the beach, litter, dogs off leash, motorcycles, atvs in the park and on the beach, never mind actual crimes of drug use, assault and other crimes. We only have 4 police up here on the north shore and they are already quite busy. When they are called for issues at Kokololio, they frequently don't show, don't cite when they do, or show up too late. To expect the police to know all the rules of this bill, then show up for too many buses or too many people is a waste of scarce and valuable resources. Furthermore, it is unreasonable and unfair that residents should be responsible to monitor everyone's behavior and contact the police for infractions. Honestly, it would be a part time job!

Finally, the relatively low fines will not deter bad actors and would disproportionately affect the smaller operators. The larger businesses can more easily violate the rules and just bake citation costs into their prices.

Bill 19 in its current form is a free pass for commercial tour operators to visit any and all 61 beach parks five days a week (the idea of no weekends and holidays is a good one in general, btw). We would ask that the beaches that were offered protection through bills 38 and 48 be given an exception in your new plan. Mahalo nui loa.

Name: Carey Johnson	Email: quarkcsj@hotmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Custom Island Tours, LLC	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:43 AM

Testimony:

I am somewhat in favor of this bill in that we need an island-wide policy instead of the cascade of bills that have banned all of the beaches in Kailua, and then Waimanalo, then the North Shore, then Kokololio. Remember those photos during Covid of all those rental cars parked at Aloha Stadium. Tour companies help to alleviate traffic by having less cars on the roads. Tour companies provide local jobs for drivers and tour guides. Tour guides keep the visitors safe, and educate them on the history and culture of Hawaii, and prevent them from doing things that they shouldn't do like climbing on cultural sensitive sites, and leaving trash behind. These are things that they don't get when they take a rental car out on their own. These laws have actually made the problems that we are trying to solve, worse. Besides all of these beaches that tour companies are banned from, they are also banned from all of the state parks, including state beach parks, and also 2 of the botanical gardens, and all but 7 hiking trails managed by DLNR. When tourists find out that they can't go to these places with a tour guide, they'll just get rental cars and go there on their own, usually 2 people per car, and when the rental cars run out, they'll just get one on the Turo app, and then we have no idea how many rental cars are on the road. Most people look at this as banning the tour companies, like they're the bad guys, but these laws are actually discriminating against a certain kind of visitor. A lot of my guests are elderly and don't feel comfortable driving in a strange place. These laws discriminate against them, preventing them from going to certain places that any other person without a tour guide can go. We also get a lot of visitors from countries that drive on the other side of the road, like Australia and Japan, and would rather have a tour guide drive them, than risk driving a rental car. These laws discriminate against these people as well. We do need Rules, but these rules are too restrictive, and make the problem that we are trying to solve, even worse. Most tour companies have an itinerary that they are trying to keep to on their 8 hour, 120 mile Circle Island Tour, so when they do stop at a beach park, it's usually not for very long, because they have a schedule that they're trying to keep to. However, when a tourist with a rental car goes to the beach, they're going to pack a lunch, lay out a towel, and stay for hours, taking up a parking space for a rental car that had just 2 people per car. There have been some bad actors that have caused the community to be upset at the tour companies, but if the City would have been enforcing the rules that are already in place, then we wouldn't be where we are now. In the 12 year history of my company, and going down the Parks Department every month to get permits, not once has an official asked to see my permit. I maintain on our webpage, a list of all the places that tour companies are banned from, it's ridiculous, and the list just keeps getting longer.

<http://quarkcsj.com/OffLimits.txt>

Name: Jodi Endicott	Email: jodiendicott@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Apr 4, 2023 @ 10:49 AM
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Testimony:
Opposing Bill 19

Please keep Kailua's parks and beaches free from commercial activities...

In 1990 I was living across the street from Kailua beach and witnessed the first tour buses empty visitors. These buses grew from a few to many while the visitors numbered a several hundred to thousands. Neighbors testified at neighborhood and city council meetings asking that these commercial activities be banned as we were being inundated with strangers asking to use our household bathrooms, or leave their trash on our beaches and yards. Used diapers were often left along with plastic food and water containers, straws and other debris. As a neighborhood caretaker of Kailua beach I saw firsthand how Hawaii's environment was being trashed. When I spoke out at a neighborhood meeting with Kailua representatives, I was told that "you need to be aware of what side your bread is buttered on." That comment came from a resident who was running many beach rentals. While that was my first introduction to the commercialization of Kailua Beach, his comment saddens me even more today.

Be wary...once the door to commercialization of a natural beach is opened, there is no turning back. Today social media will find a way, in the same way the moneymakers will and have.

In my experience, what started as a few buses and kayaks grew to thousands of people inundating previous environmental areas stomping endangered corals and nests. We saw this happen on Flat Island and the Mokulus. When the buses were banned, the buses then dropped off their riders in Kuulei and Lanikai. So we had to speak up again to prevent these dropoffs. Then the buses morphed to vans to get around these new restrictions. All this sneakiness to make money off the beaches in neighborhoods where children walk or ride bikes to school and residents battle sometimes hours of traffic to get to work and other regular life moments.

You have the power to prevent these environmental and safety issues occurring on and around the beaches of Kailua and Waimanalo. Use your ability to be a caretaker of our environment and communities. Exempt Kailua and Waimanalo beaches as well as all natural beaches from commercial activities.

Thank you,

Jodi Endicott

Name: Mel Wildman	Email: wildman1101@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:05 AM

Testimony:

Attention : Council members and Chair.

re: Testimony on Bill 19.

Aloha, in the past we had endured the compromised use of Waimanalo Parks and Beaches by illegal activities caused by Tourist and Vendors from Tour agencies. Many of whom engaged in Alcohol and parties that leave our beaches in a disaster waiting to be an injury to one or many. Broke beer bottles, fires left from parties on beaches, illegal use of drugs have also been a problem by groups of people damaging our beach sands and vegetation.

Bill 19 should not remove protections for Waimanalo, Kailua, Kokolio, and North Shore beaches. Those prohibitions can be complimentary to the permitting system. 2) Bill 19 lacks a limit on the number of commercial operations under its permit system. Besides the fact we all know very well - DLNR do care and their services do not operate fully to protect any OF OUR BEACHES AND PARKS ! Your desire to promote such a bill , is ludicrous beyond reasonable intent. You've taken every initiative to employ a fee that is beyond practical common sense where the cost is below economic standards ! Its not viable and serves no economic gain. Where the Cost to repairs and clean up damages from this BILL 19 may exceed the cost of any PERMIT being declared. Mahalo, Mel Wildman.

Name: Jeff Miller	Email: jeff.a.miller67@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:21 AM

<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support local businesses and their opportunity to earn money by providing services at the beach parks. It will bring more business to all of our locally owned businesses and restaurants.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Patricia LaForce</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>palaforce@earthlink.net</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96734</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:39 AM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I would like to continue the current controls in place regarding commercial activities in Kailua Beach park.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Cynthia Nash</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>cindy@cindynash.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96734</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:44 AM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Even with the ban on commercial activities, many vendors don't abide by the law. Residents are being inundated with tourists and traffic on all parts of Oahu and it will get even worse in the beach communities. There will be on one who will monitor Kailua and Waimanalo beaches and vendors will just say "I didn't know". I see illegal kayak companies every single day in Lanikai and it's only going to get worse if this bill is passed. If the goal is to cause Hawaii families to leave the islands then keep commercializing Oahu and you will get your wish. It's not just the cost of living that is forcing residents to flee the State. It's the tourists, traffic, and commercial activities.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Alex Wilson</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>andercw@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96815</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:45 AM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>How can removing vehicals that take multiple passengers help the real problem? Why are you supporting the use of rental cars? This bill is terribly written and you all need to stop making the tour industry out to be the bad guys. They are locals working and earning a living on the marketing you have done to get people to these islands. They help support the local business that would otherwise fail without them.</p> <p>Hopefully no one on this council has any conflict of interest by benefiting from people renting cars, "cough cough".</p> <p>Work together with the commercial business. People should only be allowed to visit locations only with them, not with out them.</p> <p>By moving forward with this bill you are going to increase the amount of illegal tour operations that already exist on the island. You will increase traffic. You will promote pollution and you will cause more accidents because of this bill.</p> <p>I 100% do not support this bill.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Judy Bishop</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>jbishop@bishopco.net</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96734</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 11:56 AM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>As a 22 year resident of Kailua and a homeowner and full time resident , I have been an active and concerned citizen & taxpayer when it comes to the issue of commercialization of Kailua beach park. I fought a long time to get prohibition of commercialization passed a decade ago, and now here we are again fighting the same fight !!!! I STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY OR RECREATIONAL DROP OFFS at Kailua beach park. Kailua beach park cannot be treated the same as other beach parks because it is,for all intents and purposes, a DEAD END! All cars coming into the park from the only access road must exit on the same road in the same direction. There is NO OTHER WAY OUT. This is EXTREMELY DANGEROUS- for EMERGENCY VEHICLES.Also the beach park can only be accessed over a narrow bridge which can flood. Parking is already extremely limited in this only public beach park for Kailua and Kaneohe!</p>		

Also Roberts Hawaii buses cannot even make a clean turn into the parking lots! Please exempt kailua beach park from commercial activity and from recreational drop offs. I support CD1 amendment proposed by Esther Kia'aina.

Name:
Chuck Prentss

Email:
prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com

Zip:
96734

Representing:
Keep It Kaila

Position:
Support

Submitted:
Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:14 PM

Testimony:

KIK is totally dismayed by the proposal to repeal the prohibition of commercial activities at Kailua, Kalama and Waimanalo beach parks. The basis for the prohibition was firmly established after years of work by the Kailua NB, KIK, Lanikai Outdoor Circle, as well as large numbers of concerned community residents. The changes proposed to the existing ordinance by the Parks Department not only negate a long-established need for the protection of residential area parks from commercial tourist activities, but also depict a shocking disregard for meaningful citizen participation in our democratic process. The proposed Parks Department changes should not be adopted.

Name:
Alexandra Richardson

Email:
alvalinrich@icloud.com

Zip:
96815

Representing:
Self

Position:
Oppose

Submitted:
Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:35 PM

Testimony:

I disagree with the proposed restrictions and outcomes of this bill. While trying to "simplify" commercial activity island wide, the bill only further complicates interactions between the state and local businesses. Now all commercial tour companies will have to make sure to schedule specific tours on specific day at specific times making sure that they arrive at the allowed times and on the proper days all while making sure there aren't more than the allotted number of commercial vehicles at a place. In a state that runs efficiently and with timeliness then maybe I would find these restrictions acceptable, but in Hawaii, a state where things are rarely on time, listed correctly, or accurately accounted for why would I have the expectation that this new system would be anything but a disaster? I see long wait times for local businesses trying to get permits, I see corruption happening in who is picked from the lottery system, and I see great confusion in practice as to who will actually be making sure all commercial vehicles are following said new rules. What good are public spaces that are "for everyone" if you can only use them in very specific ways all laid out carefully by the government? What is the difference between a group of people coming to the beach on a tour versus the same group of people all trying to get there in their own separate commercially rented vehicles? If they're all coming on a tour they've got someone (a guide) who knows the area, can teach them about the area, and also can tell them what not to do in the area. If they're on their own they are driving on roads they don't know well, parking in areas they don't know about, and trying to visit stops they don't know about. These restrictions make no sense and should not be put into place. Leave local tour companies and the locals that run those businesses alone.

Name:
Michael Waters

Email:
mlwaters86@gmail.com

Zip:
96815

Representing:
Self

Position:
Oppose

Submitted:
Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:38 PM

Testimony:

If "we took the easy way out" was written in "legalese" it would be the first part of this bill. The logistics of this bill, which are an absolute nightmare, contradicts itself several times and is a thinly veiled attempt at the next phase of the "tourism gentrification" plan that is currently en vogue with folks who have no idea about the realities of the ground.

The lack of effort, knowledge, energy, or intent is disgusting, especially while you are asking for a 90% raise at the same time you try to simultaneously exploit the community and further wage war your war on small businesses. The only good parts of this either came from the Community or the Industry. Please, get our of our way already and let us get to work.

This is more than hesitation. This is just lazy.

Name:
Shirley Hasenyager

Email:
shirleyinhi@aol.com

Zip:
96734

Representing:
Self

Position:
Oppose

Submitted:
Apr 4, 2023 @ 12:42 PM

Testimony:

I very much object to any renewal of business activity at Kailua Beach Park. It is a park used so much by families and daily swimmers, kite surfers and dog walkers. The kayak business is now working from outside the park...people rent the kayak and walk it to the beach. This keeps the beach clear of the former trucks unloading there. Do not change the current status. It is working and should be left alone.

Name:

Adam White

Email:

awhite4000@yahoo.com

Zip:

96815

Representing:

Self

Position:

Oppose

Submitted:

Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:13 PM

Testimony:

Aloha.

If visitors cannot visit local beaches/parks with local tour companies, then visitors will choose to rent a car and explore the island on their own. Therefore, this Bill has the potential to encourage visitors to rent a car instead of experiencing the island with local tour companies. PLEASE support local tour companies instead of encouraging visitors to rent a car for the day.

Many local tour companies:

1. Provide employment for local people.
2. Provide guidance (serve as hosts) to visitors.
3. Respect and promote the Aloha Spirit to visitors and our local community.
4. Support other local small businesses throughout the course of their circle island tours.
5. Support the well-being of our local communities and teach/share Aloha.

Many visitors in rentals cars:

1. Support mainland corporations instead of local small business owners (think McDonald's instead of Ono Steak & Seafood Shack).
2. Use digital apps to guide their course on our local roadways. This can cause safety issues on our local roads because the driver is not familiar with the local infrastructure/logistics.
3. Choose to drive smaller groups in several separate vehicles, instead of one group in a larger tour van. This puts more vehicles on our roads, potentially creating more traffic in our local communities.
4. Don't get to see the island through a local's eyes. In theory, this can create a lesser experience during the visitor's time here on Oahu.
5. Do not understand how to live and act with Aloha....yet.

Tourism does not have to be our leading industry. However, if it's managed properly, Tourism (as supporting industry) has the ability to enhance our local communities. We have that opportunity now. PLEASE take full advantage of this opportunity. As our leaders, take the time to do the actual research at the local beaches/parks that are being misused (don't just take the word of individuals who are already angry and often short-sighted). As our representatives, you should be held accountable for seeing this process through....and then, in turn, we the Community will be held accountable for sharing these spaces with visitors in a respectful manner.

WE can do this. Aloha is the answer.

Aloha Ke Akua.

Adam

Name:

Ingrid Peterson

Email:

irpmailbiz@icloud.com

Zip:

96734

Representing:

Self

Position:

Oppose

Submitted:

Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:30 PM

Testimony:

Aloha once again, Council Members!

My name is Ingrid Peterson. My family became residents of the Kalama part of Kailua in 1963 and my husband Doug Seelig is 3rd generation Kailua. We live in my childhood home. When my mother Tess Peterson was on the Neighborhood Board she helped

in the creation of the public Kalama Beach Park very near our home.

We strongly oppose Bill 19 unless it is amended as Councilmember Esther Kia'aina has proposed, which would exempt Waimanalo, Lanikai and Kailua's public parks and right of ways from commercial "recreational stops" as well as other commercial tourist activity.

One size does NOT fit all. These beaches are so extremely popular with tourists that removing the protections we worked so hard to put into law would once again swamp these beaches and entrances with extreme overtourism overuse, depriving residents of the ability to easily access and enjoy their public beaches and even depriving the dead-end Lanikai community's residents of the ability to get in and out of their community in a timely manner. The "recreational stops" of any size commercial vehicles at Lanikai Beach entrances created horrendous traffic and even gridlock.

None of this is pono!

Even O'ahu residents living outside Kailua and Waimanalo like to come and enjoy our public beaches.

People are extremely upset about the impacts of overtourism on our beaches.

Please kokua and amend this bill as Esther Kia'aina proposes. Do not pass it in its current form.

Mahalo for listening,
Ingrid Peterson.

Name: Jenna Mercurio	Email: jennaprice8@gmail.com	Zip: 11565
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:37 PM

Testimony:

This bill needs to be rewritten, if not completely discarded. A lot of tour companies are essential for keeping smaller businesses alive as well as educating visitors about the islands. If anything, make tour companies complete certifications in order to hold them accountable for executing educational and sustainable tours that will keep away from main stream business to keep the heart of Hawaii alive.

Name: Joyce Ingram-Chinn	Email: joyceingramchinn@aol.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:40 PM

Testimony:

Pease keep Kailua Beach Park and Kalama Beach clear of commercial activity. This is a pristine, community and family beach in a relatively non-commercial small town....We need to keep it that way!

Name: Jennifer Meehan	Email: jennifer_meehan@hotmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:49 PM

Testimony:

The communities of Kailua and Waimanalo fought very hard to manage access to parks and beaches - prioritising the local community over visitors. While we still get our share of visitors, this has ensured the local community (and by this I mean not only those in Kailua and Waimanalo, but on O'ahu and visitors from our other islands) can enjoy without overcrowding and overuse of these precious resources. While I understand the role visitors play in our economy, I believe it is entirely appropriate for some areas (including more than just Kailua and Waimanalo) to be protected and prioritised for the local community. We maintain, restore and protect these assets for today and into the future.

Name: Kate Reimann	Email: kate.reimann@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:50 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Kailua, Lanikai, and Waimanalo beaches are tranquil gems on the windward side and the cornerstone of our communities. This peace and tranquility makes Kailua attractive to tourists and those of us who own homes, raise our families, and pay taxes here! We have a flourishing tourism enterprise in our community WITHOUT allowing commercial activities on our beaches/parks. This would completely upend the current community and negatively impact those of us who live here and already have to navigate crowded streets and beaches. Preserve the natural, cultural, and historic resources of our public parks and beaches in our windward community by RETAINING the ban on commercial activities and OPPOSING Bill 19 (2032).</p>		
Name: Kurt Fevella	Email: lionkurt1@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:55 PM
Name: Dale Evans	Email: evans@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 01:59 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>MANY in the Waimanalo community fought for years to secure protection against rampant commercialization of our coastline. Prior "permitting" processes by City authorities were routinely abused by the uncaring, greedy tour, wedding, photography, glamping, limousine, catered picnic, rave conductors, ETC. that infested our parks and beach access areas. If the Council gives a green light to resumption of these activities, which HPD and DOCARE have proven INEFFECTIVE in monitoring, resistance on the community level can be expected.</p>		
Name: Mark Hines	Email: hinesmark@mac.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:05 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am against the proposal to increase commercial activity in the parks. I've raised three boys over the last 30 years in these areas, and the lack of commercial activity was one of the beautiful benefits of being at the park with other community members, enjoying the beauty of the space, and not worrying about any other kinds of activity, happening, other than families and friends. Please please keep these sacred spaces the way they are, and not commercialized them in any possible way.</p>		
Name: Heidi Kreul	Email: hkreul@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:12 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony opposing Bill 19.</p> <p>Born and raised in Kailua I have first hand seen the impact of commercial business taking over our natural resources and changing the fabric of our community.</p> <p>As a collective community we have worked diligently to protect kailua and Waimanalo. Our representative have heard our voices and partnered with us.</p> <p>Please respect our kapuna, Kanaka maoli, kamaaina, locals and most importantly protect these resources for our keiki. They deserve to grow up in residential neighborhoods were the resources are protected not sold to commercial industries.</p> <p>Mahalo nui loa,</p> <p>Heidi</p>		
Name: Elizabeth Madin	Email: epmadin@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:20 PM

Testimony:
Dear councilmembers, I strongly oppose this bill. Our local communities are already experiencing severe over tourism and commercialisation of parks and residential areas. In some areas, including Kailua, Waimanaolo, and Lanikai, life has become extremely difficult in terms of getting to, and from work, school, and things like doctors appointments due to the large, daily influx of tourists and visitors. Allowing commercial activities to return to our parks as they were before will only exacerbate what is already an unsustainable level of cars and visitation. We need to be going in exactly the opposite direction, in terms of finding ways for equitable and fair use of our states, parks and other resources that is manageable for residents and provides a positive experience for visitors. This bill would work in the opposite direction of heading towards that solution. Thank you for your attention.
Sincerely, Elizabeth Madin.

Name: Richard Hagstrom	Email: rehagstrom@aol.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:26 PM

Testimony:
I support CD1, in Bill 19, which exempts Kailua Beach Park and City- owned right of ways to the beach in Kailua and Lanikai. These areas, prior to the current ban on commercial activities, were over run with activities completely not in keeping with the residential, local beach users, who frequently were pushed out of the way by tour guides and other professionals. Issuing permits, as under the proposed Bill 19, will open the flood gates and set presidents, which will make it hard to refuse other permit applicants. I am not in favor of Bill 19, but I do support CD1.

Name: Larry McElheny	Email: lkmcelheny@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:42 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Members
I strongly oppose the commercialization of public lands. I agree with Ikaika Anderson when he says:

"Residents right to access public parks supersedes anyone's right to make a buck"

Mahalo
Larry McElheny

Name: Larry McElheny	Email: lkmcelheny@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:51 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Members
I strongly oppose the commercialization of our public lands. I agree with Council Member Kiaaina when she says :

"I don't believe that commercial operators have a right, per se, to use our public parks and resources for personal economic gain"

Mahalo
Larry McElheny

Name: Rebecca Taggart	Email: becbectaggart@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 02:54 PM

Testimony:
I am opposed to commercial activity in all city & county parks & Beach parks.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
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Holi Hernand	holih123@yahoo.com	96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 03:18 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I can't imagine how horrible the traffic, road conditions and pollution would become if your companies and buses go away!!! It would be environmentally irresponsible to pass this bill! Please oppose this bill to ensure tour buses & vans do their part to help lower vehicles on our roadways</p>		
Name: YOSHIYUKI OSATO	Email: yoshi@cinevie.tv	Zip: 96815
Representing: CINEVIE LLC	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 03:18 PM
Name: Arielle LaBrecque	Email: ariellelabrecque@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 03:22 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>A large part of what makes Kailua beach and our community so special is the peacefulness that comes from not having commercial activity where we live and work. This bill would disrupt our community in numerous ways by way of extensive traffic, crowded beaches, and littering/pollution - just to name a few. This bill does not take into account how important our environment is to tax-paying residents.</p>		
Name: Richard Puetz	Email: R.puetz@me.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 03:37 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Kailua & Waimanalo communities were overwhelmed with tourist beach activities in the past. Keeping existing restrictions gives travelers a more holistic experience and does not negatively impact residents and our fragile environment.</p>		
Name: GARY WELLER	Email: wellerge@manaikaika.com	Zip: 96734-1805
Representing: Kailua neighborhood board member	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 03:45 PM
Name: Tash Wong	Email: meilun@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:05 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please amend Bill 19 to continue the ban on commercial activity for windward side beaches, including in Waimnalo, Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way.</p> <p>Our community worked very hard to protect these areas from over tourism, and currently the beach parking lots are often overcapacity. I appreciate the intent of Bill 19, but without this amendment, I fear we will return to the days of overwhelming traffic and sanitation issues.</p> <p>Mahalo, tash wong</p>		
Name: Ruth C Carlson	Email: roothcc@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:06 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>The Windward Beaches are being loved to destruction and death. Commerce should not disrupt the serenity of our beaches and contribute to the many problems already there. Photographers with wedding couples, or new babies and parents, flaunt the law really early in the morning to avoid getting caught. I know as I am an early morning Lanikai Loop walker, stopping at least once each time to see the ocean and sunrise.</p>		
Name: Kai Duponte	Email: kaiduponte@yahoo.com	Zip: 96768
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:06 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Testimony Bill 19—Oppose</p> <p>Aloha!</p> <p>There is a move to eliminate bans on commercial activities by those profiting off those activities—at the expense of all beachgoers. Please exempt Waimanalo and Kailua beach parks and rights of way from any elimination that is approved.</p> <p>I am on the island of Maui now, but I lived in Kailua for several years and witnessed how simple commercial activities that no one minded were taken over for large commercial activities that literally took over the beach. Regular beach goers were made to feel that they were in the way and needed to make room for those making money.</p> <p>The environment created by allowing commercial activities to take over the beaches is NOT the Hawai'i people come to visit, and certainly not the Hawai'i residents want to be a part of—unless they are the ones making money, which in that case, they just don't care about others who just want to enjoy the beach.</p> <p>Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony.</p> <p>Kai Duponte</p>		
Name: Rodney Salm	Email: resilientreefs@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:13 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose the amendment. Our parks are already overcrowded and traffic and parking are major issues. We need fewer people and activities overrunning our parks.</p>		
Name: Barbara Mayer	Email: bamayer@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:20 PM
Name: anne towey joyer	Email: annetoweyjoyer@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:29 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>All commercial activities at Kailua and Kalama Beach needs to be prohibited forever.</p>		
Name: Cynthia Bersson	Email: bersson@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:34 PM

<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I oppose this Bill based on my personal observation of the impacts of commercial activities on City beach parks, especially during canoe regatta season.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Jaimi Martin</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>eeyore_blue_14@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96815</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 04:56 PM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I think this will create more traffic and more problems. I have nearly been caught out with illegal tours in the past and this bill will only encourage more to pop up. The bill needs to be rewritten.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Daniel Sanchez</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>dannysanch94@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96734</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 05:37 PM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>There is no reason for this and it's hurting the small businesses doing all they can to stay afloat in a state trying to price them out.</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Tusi Kekaula</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>tusikekaula@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96795</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>The Kekaula Ohana</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 06:37 PM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My Ohana has lived in Waimanalo since 1959. We have seen the damage and destruction done to our beaches. And with climate change, it's going to get worse.</p> <p>Our beaches are being overwhelmed with tourists and our parking lots over filled with vehicles.</p> <p>When there are games or functions at our parks, there is no stalls available for the participants and their families.</p> <p>My Ohana and I strongly disagree with this amendment and hope you all make the right decision.</p> <p>Mahalo Nui</p>		
<p>Name:</p> <p>Lisa Cates</p>	<p>Email:</p> <p>lisa.k.cates@gmail.com</p>	<p>Zip:</p> <p>96734</p>
<p>Representing:</p> <p>Self</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>I wish to comment</p>	<p>Submitted:</p> <p>Apr 4, 2023 @ 06:58 PM</p>
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Chair Tulba and Councilmembers,</p> <p>I would like to comment on bill 19 and changes proposed by this committee and the current administration.</p> <p>An island-wide policy to manage and regulate commercial activities in all Oahu city parks will be difficult. Certain beach parks were created under special circumstances therefore cannot be managed under rules that pertain to other parks.</p> <p>Kailua Beach Park comes from private lands condemned by executive order under Governor Farrington in 1922. Many Kailua families were displaced to create this public resource. The EO was made upon the express condition that the city must maintain the land for public purpose and only for use as a park. Commercial use for private gain is not the purpose or intention of public parks.</p> <p>I was involved with policy changes for both Kailua and Waimanalo during Councilmember Andersons time as the windward representative. In 2010, all of our district lawmakers (both City and State) supported a commercial activity ban in Kailua due to hundreds of complaints by constituents over many years. Following numerous public hearings, hours of testimony, and the councils override of a Mayors veto, this legislative body enacted Ordinance 12-22 knowing it would set precedent for parks island-wide.</p> <p>Prior to that, the City Council faced testifiers in 1996. An Environmental Assessment was conducted to expand Kailua Beach Park</p>		

and private land was condemned for a second time. Initial plans for the expansion included a large parking lot and tour bus parking. The EA documents testimony by the Director and administrators stating tour buses and commercial activity would not be allowed at Kailua Beach Park. The EA was approved by the City Council and the park was expanded to what it is today. The proposed parking lot was replaced with wide open green space and picnic tables. Testimony by the Parks Director stated limited parking will naturally limit the amount of park users coming to Kailua Beach Park and prevent overcrowding.

Today we are once again faced with proposals for recreational stops by tour vehicles at Kailua Beach Park. The existing EA does not allow any kind of commercial permits and another EA would need to be conducted in order to assess the effects of new activities. Ordinance 12-22 that originally banned commercial activities from Kailua and Kalama beach park merely codified findings of the EA and the parks purpose. As a community, we knew that with each incoming administration, the history of the EA would eventually be lost therefore pushed for those stipulations to become permanent policy. Yet, here we are again.

Waimanalo faces similar circumstances. In 2004, Resolution 04-37 was passed by the City Council authorizing the mayor to enter into License Agreement No. 547 which transferred the management, operation, and maintenance of beach parks located on Hawaiian homelands from DHHL to the City. The parks affected by this agreement are Waimanalo, Kaiona, Kaupo, Makapuu, and Nanakuli. As a result of this agreement, permits for commercial recreational stops are prohibited. Prior to CM Anderson introducing bill 8 in 2015 (Ordinance 17-3) it was already illegal for tour vehicles to enter Waimanalo parks and the bill codified existing rules.

Commercial use of city parks is a privilege, not a right. An island wide rule easily enforced is no commercial activity in city parks. If permits are considered, they should be vetted through the authorized activity designation process for that particular park. Kailua and Waimanalo parks cannot be used for recreational stops for reasons beyond the control of this council which is why exemptions should remain in ROH Chapter 10.

Mahalo,
Lisa Cates
Kailua HI

Name: Emily Wilson	Email: emilymariejennings87@hotmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:02 PM

Testimony:
I oppose this bill as I already see traffic is bad enough, and this bill will make it worse, forcing tourists to have to rent a car to go to these places any way. Making it illegal for tour companies to go to certain places will make the problem increase immensely and will make tourists rent more cars versus being consolidated to a bus or van. This bill is great for rental car companies, bad for the locals as the traffic will get out of control. Tour companies help keep traffic down, and the wear and tear on our roads down. Not to mention they educate tourists about where to go, not to go, and how to respect the land. If tourists are on visiting these places on their own, they are contributing to traffic, they don't know where to go and how to properly respect the lands they are visiting.

Name: Lourdes Millan	Email: millan.lourdes1@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 07:22 PM

Testimony:
I oppose the way Bill 19 is written.
This bill hasn't even been passed and already hunananiho in waimanalo is already having huge tour buses as a stop. Bill 38 was created and fought hard for.
Rewrite bill 19 by letting Bill 38 stand.

Name: Thomas Cestare	Email: cestare@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Lanikai Association	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:20 PM

Testimony:

This Bill would greatly affect windward Oahu residential communities in a negative way. Our residential communities have been inundated with commercial activity - especially in the past several years.

For many years our windward communities have fought to preserve our residential nature.

Please allow Councilmember Kiaaina's proposal to exempt Kailua and Waimanalo Beach Parks and their Rights of Way from this rule.

The Lanikai Association believes this Bill would be disastrous for windward residential communities and strongly opposes Bill 19

Name: John Miller	Email: dana86@hawaiiantel.net	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 08:45 PM

Testimony:

We can not have commercial activities on our beaches. We have seen how abusive commercial operations can be and we continue to see it in Waikiki where the Beachboys are so many that there is hardly a place to lay your towel on the sand. We must save the Beautiful spaces before we loose them for ever.

Name: Dave Henery	Email: dhenery715@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 4, 2023 @ 09:56 PM

Testimony:

Stop selling out residents for visitors, the space and resources are overwhelmed.

Name: Kimeona Kane	Email: kimeonakane@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 01:09 AM

Testimony:

Aloha nui kkou,

Kimeona Kane of Waimnalo in opposition of the following aspects of the current draft of Bill 19,

Firstly, amend Section 10-1.3(a)(13), which is on the top of page 14, to read as follows:

(13) Recreational stops of any length of time at any beach park or beach support park; except that no permits may be issued for recreational stops prohibited by §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i). And secondly, undo the repeal of ROH, §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i).

It is imperative that we maintain the integrity of the previous work done by the community and administration to protect and preserve the safeguards that apply to Waimnalo. Supporting the proposed CD1 from Councilmember Kia'ina which would:

- Delete the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimnalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way, on pages 7-9, and 13 of the original bill, and
- Exempts specific City-owned beach parks, including Waimnalo and Kailua beach parks, from allowing commercial activities and recreational stops via permit.

It goes without saying that we as a community have worked tirelessly for years to get ahead, and while the guts of the bill MAY offer protections in other places, it very precisely dismantles years of dedication, sacrifice and commitment to due process, internalization and forward thinking displayed by our community, and supported by many others. I strongly urge this Committee to uphold the protections already signed into law to preserve our community and its public spaces and continue to work towards protecting others across the county, without sacrificing ours.

Mahalo for your time and service.

Kimeona Kane

Name: Kimeona Kane	Email: kimeonakane@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
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Representing: Waimnalo Neighborhood Board #32	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 01:22 AM
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Testimony:
Aloha nui kkou,

Kimeona Kane, Chair of the Waimnalo Neighborhood Board #32 in opposition of the following aspects of the current draft of Bill 19,

Firstly, amend Section 10-1.3(a)(13), which is on the top of page 14, to read as follows:

(13) Recreational stops of any length of time at any beach park or beach support park; except that no permits may be issued for recreational stops prohibited by §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i). And secondly, undo the repeal of ROH, §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i).

It is imperative that we maintain the integrity of the previous work done by the community and administration to protect and preserve the safeguards that apply to Waimnalo. Supporting the proposed CD1 from Councilmember Kia'ina which would:

- Delete the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimnalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way, on pages 7-9, and 13 of the original bill, and
- Exempts specific City-owned beach parks, including Waimnalo and Kailua beach parks, from allowing commercial activities and recreational stops via permit.

It goes without saying that we as a community and through two administrations, have worked tirelessly for years to get ahead of the increasingly impactful over commercialization of our spaces, and while the guts of the bill MAY offer protections in other places, it very precisely dismantles years of dedication, sacrifice and commitment to due process, internalization and forward thinking displayed by our community, and supported by many others. I remind the Committee that this body previously worked to address our collective concerns and through Bill 38, which was signed into law by Mayor Blangiardi on April 05, 2022. His doing so helped to rebuild trust with our community, and stands as a reminder that we should always work with honor. I strongly urge this Committee to uphold and honor the protections already signed into law to preserve our community and its public spaces and continue to work towards protecting others across the county, without sacrificing ours.

Mahalo for your time and service.

Kimeona Kane, Chair- Waimnalo Neighborhood Board #32

Name: Tara Rojas	Email: tarahawaiiikai@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 02:23 AM
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Testimony:
Enough of Profit over People - Enough of Commercialization and Overtourism - Enough of Westernized, Colonized, Capitalistic Mindset and HEWA practices here in Hawaii Nei.

Respect our Beaches. Respect the Communities' Voices.

I strongly OPPOSE Bill 19.

Name: Kamalani Keliikuli	Email: kkeliikuli@yahoo.com	Zip: 96762
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 04:17 AM
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Testimony:
With coastal and road erosion there is no need for continued heavy traffic. We have seen the impact the tour industry has caused while trying to maintain infrastructure. We are making a decision that will impact everyone including our LIMITED land, water and infrastructure. We need to fix our island before you make a decision to add more vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Our island is heavily congested and falling apart but yet the City Council continues to ignore the congestion and still no money to maintain and fix infrastructure. Make it Make Sense! Hawaii Residents already struggling to pay taxes and added taxes for the screw ups in the

City but the City cannot fix and maintain. I oppose this Bill we are not ready to take on the heavy erosion that this will bring. The City needs to find other ways to bring in money rather than populating this island.

Name: Susan Dowsett	Email: sdowsett@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 05:49 AM

Testimony:
Oppose any changes to Bill 23 that will allow any commercial activity at Kailua Beach Park. The community has been waiting for some peace and quiet at the parks for years. Any changes would undo what we spent years trying to achieve. Parks and Rec will be unable to enforce any taxing of changes---we all know that.

Name: Victoria DeSilva	Email: vkulanide48@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 06:01 AM

Testimony:
April 5, 2023

Dear City Council Members,

I am a resident of Waimanalo and I oppose any thoughts or actions that would take away from the natural beauty and landscape of our oceans and beaches. Bill 19 (2023) which would eliminate the bans on commercial activities on our precious beach parks and beaches is an attempt at reducing the quality of life that beach goers have enjoyed for a multitude of years. Looks like the almighty dollar has won again over the mana'o and lifestyle of the local people who use the beach parks and beaches for family time, sport, and relaxation.

I don't understand why having solicitation of goods and services at an area designated for recreation is allowed. Park users, sun bathers, swimmers shouldn't have to fight for space or look out for beach craft to recreate safely. I'd rather see keiki on the shore and picnickers at the beach parks rather than rows of floating devices and equipment. I'm not against someone using their gifts and talents to support themselves BUT there is a time and place for everything. Surely, the time and place for commercial activities at our precious beach parks and on sacred beaches is not NOW nor anytime in the future. Our quality and way of life are diminishing too quickly. Stand up and fight for the simplicity that our islands have lost. We cannot and should not have to share our beach parks and beaches with commercialization.

In your hearts you know what is right.

Thank you kindly,
Vicky De Silva

Name: Racquel Achiu	Email: rhachiu@gmail.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 07:00 AM

Testimony:
Aloha Committee Chair Tulba & Committee Members: I am writing in opposition of BILL 19. I have great concern that this Bill would ultimately eliminate the existing laws/tools that we worked so hard to implement. Enforcement has been challenging but it has been effective when able to act. I personally have experienced strong support & enforcement by HPD when appropriate. Our beaches and public parks have been over run by Commercial Activities & Surf Schools. We've had positive engagement with the "larger" tour companies to support the management of their tours through our community. Yet the smaller companies remain defiant. But with the existing laws/tools we are able to effectively address their infractions. There is still a lot to do but I absolutely don't think eliminating the existing measures that we've worked so hard for would be a positive move. Please consider how this would impact us and send us back to a Commercial Free-For-All where families cant access parks or beaches & get their kids to sports practices or activities, family gatherings etc. MAHALO

Name: Sally Winter	Email: swinterp@hotmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 08:10 AM
Testimony: I oppose any commercial use on the public beaches in residential neighborhoods, specifically all of Kailua and Waimanalo.		
Name: Dale Jensen	Email: dalejensen2@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 08:19 AM
Testimony: Dear City Council Members: As a longtime user of Kailua Beach Park, I strongly oppose any new ordinance that eliminates the ban on commercial activities at this park and in Waimanalo Beach Park. The existing ban evolved after much community complaint and discussion, and it is working as intended. Any new ordinance should not change this ban at Kailua and Waimanalo. One size fits all only works if the attractions and location of parks is essentially the same, but this is clearly not the case. Therefore, I urge you to reject any new ordinance that modifies the existing commercial activity ban in Kailua and Waimanalo. Sincerely, Dale Jensen Prof. Engineer, Ret'd		
Name: Sarah Gilman Sur	Email: sarahanngilman@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 09:02 AM
Name: Kapohuolahaina Pa Moniz	Email: alohaina77@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 09:17 AM
Testimony: As a kupuna I strongly oppose the way this Bill 19 has been written. There needs to be stronger language that ensures enforcement implentation and protection of our beach parks and shoreline from over run use and abuse of commercial activity. As recent past history has shown thev"caring" residents and non profits like 808 and Shoreline volunteers are always left with the mess to clean up and fix that abuse over use commercialism has left behind. Careful planning is common sense to the manpower and ways needed to enforce the implementation that prevents high commercial over use. Past bills have failed because of poor implementation and enforcement. Instead of solutions when these issues were brought up by residents at numerous neighborhood board meetings or council hearing the excuses given were not enough manpower or state and city jurisdiction laws colliding laws where the left hand undermines the right intended hand? The other excuse was not enough money which again proves all this high commercial activities are profiting pockets and not the communities. It's time for this kind of commercial use to be limited regulating it's abusive unfriendly footprint. Accountability to participate with cleanup standards are overdue. The entitled attitudes of we bring in commercial money to hang over politicians heads when allowed results in even bullying residents out of their way in these beach & park spaces as video news footage has shown. It's time for our leaders to listen to the many smart solutions active caring residents bring include them for we residents are your long term paying partners in many ways even in electing you to represent our community interest over commercial activity grown out of control. Our parks and beaches need overdue care and the necessary manpower maintenance and park rules enforcement which currently poorly lacks. Bring resident's ideas and expertise solutions to your table with the many well educated not at a desk but out in the trenches cleaning and fixing the mess kind of environmental sharp smart caring volunteers. No more excuses time to get serious. There's enough erosion going on let's not profits erode our thinking and kuleana and do the right pono solutions now for better tomorrows especially for our keiki. Will you work with us who keep coming here proving we actively care not just about our pockets? Mahalo for your this time again.		

Name: John Foti	Email: john@kaulanacorp.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 09:49 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Imposing a blanket set of rules for all parks is wrong, especially when it comes to commercial uses. Each wahi pana has its own unique circumstances and so should have those unique circumstances accounted for individually. We of Kailua and Waimanalo have spoken via our representatives. We want limited use and have a system tailored to our circumstances already in place. This bill should be killed, but if not, exempt Kailua and Waimanalo from it.</p> <p>Mahalo John Foti</p>		
Name: Shogo Kishie	Email: s-kishie@takami-bridal.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Ocean Investments, LLC	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 10:52 AM
Name: Merania Kekaula	Email: paitonu@msn.com	Zip: 96731
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 11:11 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is My name is Merania Kekaula & I oppose bill 19 which continues to ignore the destructive forces assaulting Kokololio beach & beach parks statewide as well. What applies to Kokololio Beach Park shld be enforced statewide to stop the divide & conquer tactic exemptions now occurring ... also, the cherry picking of bill items amenable only to lobbyists & the state & leaves the public holding the proverbial bait & switch bag. The following must happen so our beaches remain pristine & healthy for our posterity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bus tour companies pay \$2 million/ yr a permit - most companies are out of state - how much do these companies pay for using parks, other resources like our precious water? Books must be opened to public so every penny is accounted. Excess profit from this permitting process must be given back to the tax payers in the form of refunds or exrmptions to accommodate for out-of-control cost of living; families find it difficult to put food on the table for keiki. I thought govt was setup for the benefit of the people? We don't see govt fulfilling that responsibility. City must also account for budget in hand & show expenses to date & funds remaining. So, disclose money in budget first & as a prerequisite to tackling the parks problem. 2. Hire park attendants to monitor & oversee park/beach activity,; who'll have authority to fine offenders who break the law, including tour bus companies who overload their buses & who dont p/u tourists w/in time allotted. <p>Finally we must embark on a beautification program to stop erosion through replanting, providing designated access to & from beach, litter & water control,, etc May we suggest the Nature Conservancy that has a \$1billion of tax payer funding be invited to the table, (so that our tax payer money is used widely), to ensure part of nature conservancy 's mission statement to protect our beaches is fulfilled. Let's get to work & Oppose bill 19! & I oppose bill 19 which continues to ignore the destructive forces assaulting Kokololio beach & beach parks statewide as well. Our beaches/parks are for future genetatioms; we are CARETAKERS; we shouldnt be greedy exploiters. What applies to Kokololio Beach Park shld be enforced statewide to stop the divide & conquer tactic exemptions now occurring ... also, the cherry picking of bill items - amenable only to lobbyists & the state & which leaves the public holding the proverbial bait & switch bag. The following must happen so our beaches remain pristine & healthy for our posterity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bus tour companies pay \$2 million/ yr a permit - most companies are out of state - how much do these companies pay for using parks, other resources like our precious water? Books must be opened to public so every penny is accounted. Excess profit from this permitting process must be given back to the tax payers in the form of refunds or exrmptions to accommodate for out-of-control cost of living; families find it difficult to put food on the table for keiki. We thought govt was setup for the benefit of the people? We don't see govt fulfilling that responsibility. City must also account for budget in hand & show expenses to date & funds remaining. So, disclose money in budget first & as a prerequisite to tackling the parks problem. 2. Hire park attendants to monitor & oversee park/beach activity,; who'll have authority to fine offenders who break the law, including tour bus companies who overload their buses & who dont p/u tourists w/in time allotted. <p>Finally we must embark on a beautification program to stop erosion through replanting, providing designated access to & from beach, litter & water control,, etc. May we suggest the Nature Conservancy that has a \$1billion of tax payer funding be invited to the table, (so that our tax payer money is used wisely), to ensure part of nature conser- vancy's mission statement "to protect ..."</p>		

our beaches is fulfilled. Let's get to work & Oppose bill 19!

Name: Kaori Okajika	Email: info@felicity-hawaii.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Felicity Co., Ltd.	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 5, 2023 @ 12:14 PM

AGREE

Page 7 Commercial activities prohibited at Park

In favor of making the park, which currently prohibits commercial activities, open to activities.

Reason 1: It meets the purpose of having the same conditions for all parks, and it seems fair.

Reason 2: The East Coast beaches, such as Kailua Beach and Waimanalo Beach are very beautiful and are coveted by tourists from Japan also around the world, and wedding beach photos at there will greatly contribute to the revitalization of the Hawaii wedding industry.

OPPOSE

Page18 © -(1) Recerational stops ~ standard-sized Parking stall

c-(2) Recreational stops ~8:00am to 5:00pm

Oppose : Only vehicles that can be parked in a standard parking space.

Oppose: Parking available 8am - 5pm

Reason 1: Stretch limousines are commonly used for wedding transportation and do not fit into standard parking stalls.

So this bill does not seem to be in line with reality.

Reason 2: Please replace 8am to 5pm to Sunrise to Sunset.

Because Sunset photo can be taken after 5:00pm.

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Page24 (2)-(B) Permits for commercial ~ 90minute schedule for any park

Oppose : limit of 3 groups at the same time and 18 groups per day in the same park.

Reason 1: Limits of 3 groups in the same time zone and 18 groups in the same park are not appropriate.

For example, on lucky days for weddings, beach photos, sunset photos, etc., the number of couples is likely to exceed 10 or more during the same time period and 100 or more on the same beach.

In other words, the number of restrictions in the proposal is not in line with the actual situation.

Ala Moana Park should not be discussed in the same way as other small-scale beaches.

The number of regulations should be set flexibly depending on the size of the beach.

In addition, although we are basically opposed to setting the number of regulations, we would reconsider it as an industry if the following can be taken into consideration

Unfortunately, we also see some non-acquirers of permits, so the industry agrees to expose those who do not acquire permits locally.

- Establishment of a number of regulations based on the size of the beach
- Simplification and fairness of the permit system
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Page24(2)-©Permits shall not be issued ~ and welfare of the public

Oppose : on filming from 1pm Saturday to 8am Monday and on Holidays.

Reason 1: Japanese tourists often schedule their trips around weekends to streamline their itineraries.

Therefore, this bill may cause a decrease in the number of visitors to the island.

Reason 2: Even now, even on crowded beaches on weekends, efforts are made to avoid disturbing people who enjoy the surrounding beaches.

In this regard, efforts are being made within Wedding industry to educate photographers and videographers, and to integrate with the local population.

Testimony of Richard Ames

Bill 19 will destroy our neighborhoods. Commercial activities like tour buses in residential neighborhoods and parks cannot be justified or tolerated. Residential neighborhoods are where we live, raise our children, have birthday parties, luaus and interact with our friends and neighbors from all over Oahu. Every square inch of Oahu should not be open to commercial abuses. Neighborhoods, roads and parks are overcrowded and overused. Look at Kapaa on Kauai and Paia on Maui. Haleiwa town is already like those towns. Don't take away our neighborhoods too. Excessive property assessments, mismanagement of Rail, Criminal prosecution of City and County officials have jaded many in my neighborhood and I'm sure others too. Why should we believe that the City and County, starting with the mayor, will be honest brokers with the public on these matters. The mayor's response to the City Council when he sent Bill 34 back unsigned shows what he thinks about our residential neighborhoods. Thus we have Bill 19. The selling of our communities is just another way to put the burden of bad decisions on the backs of the citizens of Oahu. Please just stop a moment and remember who you owe your allegiance to.....your constituents of the districts you represent and collectively the citizens of the City and County of Oahu. Please vote No on Bill 19. We need to strengthen Bill 34 with enforcement and penalties that will facilitate compliance not weaken neighborhoods and empower commercial activities like the tour bus industry who have no restraint and no respect for the communities they invade. Protecting residential communities and neighborhood parks should not have to be a fight.....it should be a responsibility to build and make better!

AGREE

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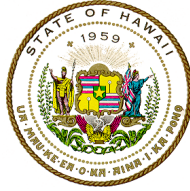
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The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 4, 2023

The Honorable Augie Tulba, Chair
and Members of the Parks Enterprise
Services and Culture & the Arts
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Committee Chair Tulba and Councilmembers:

Subject: Presentation on Bill 19 – Commercial Activities in City Parks

I am writing to voice my opposition to the above-referenced bill that proposes to establish island-wide standards, limitation and procedures for commercial activities at City public parks. There are a number of city parks that already have restrictions on commercial activities in place. These commercial bans were established based on public input, specific impacts unique to the area community, and following public hearings before the City Council.

Bill 19 (2023) has the potential to take a backwards step for communities who have made progress in controlling commercial activities at our parks. Why fix something that is not broken. But what I am most concerned about is this bill has the potential for allowing more commercialization at City parks that currently enjoy the peace and enjoyment without someone trying to make an extra buck to pocket. This island-wide approach to commercial activity proposed by Bill 19 may introduce and allow for more profiteering activity in areas where these issues do not exist.

I ask the City Council to oppose this bill and work with the State to find more responsible solutions to improve our natural and cultural park assets.

Sincerely,

Senator Kurt Fevella
State of Hawai'i, District 20
Minority Leader

State Capitol, Room 231
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Phone: (808) 586-6360
Fax: (808) 586-6361
senfevella@capitol.hawaii.gov

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Oppose By Gary E. Weller

Kailua Neighborhood Board member.

Do you remember what it was like before the bans on commercial activity at the beach parks?

Bill 19 (2023) in the City Council eliminates the bans on commercial activities in the beach parks that Kailua and Waimanalo communities fought for, I Fought for, the **Kailua Neighborhood Board** Fought for, and the Great people of Kailua and Waimanalo communities fought for.

Councilmember Kia‘āina has introduced a proposed CD1 which would exempt Waimānalo and Kailua beach parks and rights of way from this rule. I support this CD1 and **retain the existing ROH 10-1.2(h) prohibition of commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks**. Did you read this:

<https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/FINAL-Kailua-Beach-Park-Report.pdf>

Blangiardi signs bill banning most commercial activity at Windward Oahu beaches.

Sep. 10, 2013

However the Kailua Neighborhood Board isn't happy about Kailua's popularity. It passed a resolution urging the Hawaii Tourism Authority to stop promoting Kailua as a tourist destination.

"Be it resolved that the Kailua Neighborhood Board asks the Hawaii Tourism Authority to respect the zoning and quality of life of our residential neighborhoods and immediately stop promoting Kailua as a tourist destination and alternative to Waikiki," the resolution said.

"We feel that we need to have areas on the island where local people can live and not be inundated like animals in the zoo where people come look at us. This is a residential community. We want to raise our children and the tourist areas are designated elsewhere on the island," said Chuck Prentiss, Kailua Neighborhood Board Chair.

Prentiss says tourists attract more thieves which brings crime, as well as traffic and increased housing prices. He also says the Hawaii Tourism Authority should not encourage Kailua vacation rentals when bed and breakfasts established after 1989 are not allowed.

"We feel very strongly that the position of the board is what the community wants," said Prentiss.

Apr. 19, 2012

The council's Parks and Cultural Affairs Committee traveled to Kailua to hear testimony on the new measure, Bill 11 CD1, which was introduced by area councilman Ikaika Anderson.

"They were loud and clear when they came out to a meeting, I had about a month ago. A hundred plus community members said 'Ikaika, we don't want any commercial activity, we don't want any tour bus activity, and we want you to take that back to the council,'" he said.

More than **200 people**, including current and former area state lawmakers, came to support the bill.

"Kailua is not Waikiki," Rep. Chris Lee (D-Keolu, Lanikai, Waimanalo) told the council committee. "We do not have the infrastructure to support the increased commercial use here that we've seen in recent years." The remark drew cheers and applause.

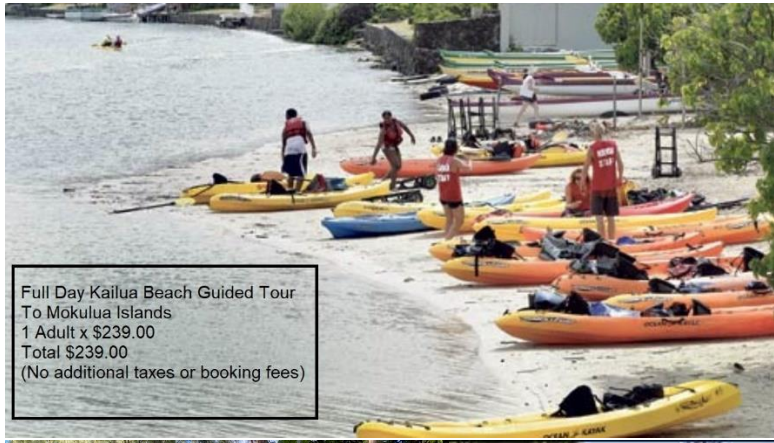
Several of those who testified were especially against kayak rental companies at the beach parks. "The island bird sanctuaries of Popoi'a (Flat Island) and Moku Nui have lava rock shorelines except for one small sandy beach, which can fill up quickly with a single kayak tour. However, there are seven companies selling tours," said Lisa Miller.

"Many people have a deep spiritual connection to Kailua Beach," said resident Lisa Cates. "Many go there to connect with loved ones whose ashes are scattered there, and to see it exploited for monetary gain is hurtful."



Also, at our meeting on Thursday, 4/6/23 an individual motion is proposed for consideration:

The Kailua Neighborhood Board opposes the portion of Bill 19 (2023) that would eliminate the current protections of ROH 10-1.2(h) which prohibit commercial activities at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks in Kailua. On April 5, 2012 the Kailua Neighborhood Board passed a Resolution that "The Kailua Neighborhood Board No. 31 supports a version of City Council Bill 11 (2012) that includes prohibitions of commercial vendors and commercial buses in Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks". City Council Bill 11 (2012) was subsequently passed in 2012 which added the following language to ROH 10-1.2(h): "(h) Commercial activities prohibited at parks. (1) Commercial activities, including recreational stops by commercial tour companies, but excluding commercial filming activities that take place from 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays through 6:30 a.m. on Mondays, are not allowed at any time at the following parks: (A) Kailua Beach Park; and (B) Kalama Beach Park." Prior to the implementation of Bill 11 (2012) Kailua Beach Park was being overrun with commercial kayak and tour bus activity. In 2019 Kailua Beach Park was determined to be at the tipping point for overcrowding, with twice the use of the beach as there was in 2007. Clearly a resumption of commercial activity that would take up parking and beach space and compete with family recreational activity would put us past the tipping point. As currently written, City Council Bill 19 (2023) threatens to do just that. Bill 19 (2023) would eliminate the current protections of ROH 10-1.2(h) and replace it with provisions that would allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue permits to authorize commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks in Kailua. **The Kailua Neighborhood Board strongly urges the City Council to amend Bill 19 (2023) to retain the existing ROH 10-1.2(h) prohibition of commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks.**



Testimony for the City Council; Honolulu, HI; by Barbara Mayer; Wednesday, April 5, 2023:

My name is Barbara Mayer, retired teacher, and year-around resident of Waimānalo since 1976. I'd like to take a position on the proposed CD1 for Bill 019(2023) relating to commercial activities at public parks & beaches.

I oppose Bill 19; am in favor of CD1.

(1) Firstly, in Bill 19 I am in favor of deleting the repeal of §§ 10-1.2 (h) and (i). I am in favor of deleting the repeal of commercial activities, including recreational stops and certain commercial filming activities, at certain City-managed beach parks, including in Waimānalo and Kailua, and City-managed rights-of-way.

I believe the stated commercial activities do not belong in or around beach parks; these activities should be prohibited. There should be no repeal of the prohibitions. Therefore, delete the repeal of prohibitions of commercial activities.

(2) Secondly, complete the job by amending Section 10-1.3(a)(13) to read "Recreational stops of any length of time at any beach park or beach support park; except that no permits may be issued for recreational stops prohibited by §§ 10-1.2(h) and (i)".

Eventually, I would like to see laws prohibiting commercial activities of all sorts at all parks & beaches across the state. But in the meantime, I want to retain the protections we have in place for Waimānalo and Kailua and City-managed rights-of way.

Written Testimony OPPOSING Bill 19 (2023)
Submitted by Sarah Gilman Sur, 12A Kailua Road

Aloha. I am submitting written testimony OPPOSING Bill 19 (2023) relating to public parks. I live on Kailua Beach (behind Kalapawai Market and right at the entrance to Kailua Beach Park). My family has resided on our property since the 1930's. We have seen first-hand how previous commercial operators (kayak rental and wind surfing companies and tour buses in the 90s) took over the beach park, destroying the "small-town feel" of Kailua as we knew it. In 2012, the grassroots efforts of the Kailua community testified with a resounding "NO!" to allowing the continuation of commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Parks. As a result, former Mayor Carlisle's veto was overturned and Bill 11 passed. In 2022 (a little over a year ago!), our brothers and sisters in Waimanalo stood up and said, "NO!" to commercial activity from Makapu'u Point to Kapoho Point and thus, the passing of Bill 38. Their voices are still echoing in our ears.

With the introduction of Bill 19 (2023), it seems that the voices of both Kailua and Waimanalo community members have faded...their efforts forgotten...their commitment to preserving our beaches, our parks and our community disregarded.

This one-size-fits-all approach for all O'ahu public parks is not the way to handle this situation. Each park and each community has a story to tell; a history to preserve; and various needs and concerns. Most importantly, each park and community has their own limits on ACCESS and CAPACITY. From an administrative/bureaucratic standpoint, it might seem "cleaner" or more streamlined to revise this ordinance and make it fit for all O'ahu parks. However, from a community standpoint, this approach negates the needs, concerns and desires of each community and seems to hand over permitting decisions solely to the Director of the DPR. Yes, revisions to the various sections of this ordinance are necessary, as the current ordinance and its sections do not read well and are confusing. However, eliminating Section 10-1.2 (h) and (i) from the ordinance would be destructive. For many of us, it brings peace of mind—as well as hard copy evidence that can be referred to—that commercial activity in these specific parks is prohibited.¹

The Council and the Director of DPR have unfinished business pertaining to Kailua and Waimanalo. I would like to remind the Council and Director Thielen of a 2019 report entitled *Socioeconomic Impacts of Tourism in Kailua and Waimanalo, Hawai'i* (<https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SocioEcon-FINAL-report.pdf>). Funding for this project was provided by the City and County of Honolulu and the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency. The study itself was designed to determine the social, economic, and natural resource visitor impacts on Windward O'ahu. The report surveyed both Kailua and Waimanalo residents, as well as visitors to Kailua and Waimanalo. With Bill 19 (2023), the *potential* for the Director of DPR to allow for commercial activity at Kailua and Kalama Beach Park, as well as beach parks between Makapu'u and Kapoho, would compound the problem of tourism and its negative impacts on these communities.

¹ Despite this ordinance and how it is written currently, illegal commercial activity continues to take place in Kailua Beach Park. There is zero enforcement of the current laws regarding commercial activity...I doubt there would be any enforcement of a permitting system should Bill 19 pass. Vendors who choose not to seek permits won't and will operate illegally.

The results of this 2019 report revealed widespread concern about tourism among the residents of both communities. In the case of each resident survey, over 65% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that:

- “tourism has increased traffic,”
- “tourism has increased the cost of living,”
- **“tourism has destroyed the small town feel” of the city**
- “vacation rentals have reduced the availability of housing for locals,”
- “tourism has made transportation more difficult for locals,”
- **“government decisions on tourism issues tend to favor tourists over locals.”**

Again, allowing commercial activities to take place at these parks would exacerbate the above mentioned impacts. When is *enough, enough*?

The February 2023 tourism statistics from the DEBEDT² state that, ...*“a total of 753,750 visitors arrived in the Hawaiian Islands in February 2023, an increase of 19.5 percent from February 2022. When compared to 2019, the benchmark year prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, this represents a 96.5 percent recovery in total visitor arrivals from February 2019.”*

The 2019 *Socioeconomic Impacts of Tourism in Kailua and Waimanalo, Hawai‘i* report does recommend the consideration of the following top priorities:

- “negative effects of tourism on the overall quality of life”
- “effective leadership to solve problems caused by tourism”

It is my hope that City Council will utilize its effective leadership to help our community solve these problems of commercialization/tourism. Passing Bill 19 (2023) does not solve the problem, but simply adds to it. Redacting the no commercial activity policy at public parks that fought so hard to end commercial activities is unsettling and sends a clear message to our communities that our concerns, needs and desires for protecting our parks are irrelevant. Using this report as a guide, the Director of DPR should consider current and future impacts of tourism and commercial activity on our beach parks. Kailua and Waimanalo are destinations for tourists and the capacity for these two areas is already threatened.

Passing Bill 19 (2023) is a slap in the face to the residents of Kailua, Waimanalo and other communities where commercial activity is restricted or completely prohibited. The one-size-fits-all approach is inappropriate. What is a good fit for beach parks in Waikiki is not a good fit for beach parks in Kailua.

Mahalo,
Sarah Gilman Sur

² <https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/media/10793/february-2023-visitor-statistics-final-002.pdf>

AGREE

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Reason 2: The East Coast beaches, such as Kailua Beach and Waimanalo Beach are very beautiful and are coveted by tourists from Japan also around the world, and wedding beach photos at there will greatly contribute to the revitalization of the Hawaii wedding industry.

OPPOSE

Page18 © -(1) Recerational stops ~ standard-sized Parking stall

c-(2) Recreational stops ~8:00am to 5:00pm

Oppose : Only vehicles that can be parked in a standard parking space.

Oppose: Parking available 8am - 5pm

Reason 1: Stretch limousines are commonly used for wedding transportation and do not fit into standard parking stalls.

So this bill does not seem to be in line with reality.

Reason 2: Please replace 8am to 5pm to Sunrise to Sunset.

Because Sunset photo can be taken after 5:00pm.

So this bill does not seem to be in line with reality.

Page24 (2)-(B) Permits for commercial ~ 90minute schedule for any park

Oppose : limit of 3 groups at the same time and 18 groups per day in the same park.

Reason 1: Limits of 3 groups in the same time zone and 18 groups in the same park are not appropriate.

For example, on lucky days for weddings, beach photos, sunset photos, etc., the number of couples is likely to exceed 10 or more during the same time period and 100 or more on the same beach.

In other words, the number of restrictions in the proposal is not in line with the actual situation.

Ala Moana Park should not be discussed in the same way as other small-scale beaches.

The number of regulations should be set flexibly depending on the size of the beach.

In addition, although we are basically opposed to setting the number of regulations, we would reconsider it as an industry if the following can be taken into consideration

Unfortunately, we also see some non-acquirers of permits, so the industry agrees to expose those who do not acquire permits locally.

- Establishment of a number of regulations based on the size of the beach
- Simplification and fairness of the permit system
- Simplify and make the permitting system fair and equitable.

Page24(2)-©Permits shall not be issued ~ and welfare of the public

Oppose : on filming from 1pm Saturday to 8am Monday and on Holidays.

Reason 1: Japanese tourists often schedule their trips around weekends to streamline their itineraries.

Therefore, this bill may cause a decrease in the number of visitors to the island.

Reason 2: Even now, even on crowded beaches on weekends, efforts are made to avoid disturbing people who enjoy the surrounding beaches.

In this regard, efforts are being made within Wedding industry to educate photographers and videographers, and to integrate with the local population.

AGREE

Page 7 Commercial activities prohibited at Park

In favor of making the park, which currently prohibits commercial activities, open to activities.

Reason 1: It meets the purpose of having the same conditions for all parks, and it seems fair.

Reason 2: The East Coast beaches, such as Kailua Beach and Waimanalo Beach are very beautiful and are coveted by tourists from Japan also around the world, and wedding beach photos at there will greatly contribute to the revitalization of the Hawaii wedding industry.

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