

# **TESTIMONY**

**COMMITTEE ON PARKS, ENTERPRISE  
SERVICES AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
APRIL 5, 2023 MEETING**

## **DISCUSSION ITEM NO. 2**

**PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PARKS AND RECREATION ON PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS INCLUDED IN BILL 19 (2023) –  
RELATING TO CITY PARKS**

**PESCA  
MISC. COM. 157**



**MĀLAMA  
PŪPŪKEA-WAIMEA**

PROTECTING OUR OCEAN'S RESOURCES

Augie Tubla, Chair  
PESCA Committee  
Honolulu City Council  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill 19 - April 5, 2023 Agenda

Aloha Chair Tulba and Members of the Committee,

**Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW) strongly opposes Bill 19 in its current form, which proposes to repeal the ban on commercialization in North Shore and other City Beach Parks, a ban that our impacted communities worked very hard to pass into law.**

**We support Councilmember Kia'aina's PROPOSED CD1 - EK1, which would "delete the repeal of §§ 10-1.2 (h) and (i), which relate to prohibitions of commercial activities at certain parks, and makes conforming amendments to ensure new proposed language does not contradict §§ 10-1.2 (h) and (i)."**

MPW is a Hawai'i non-profit organization founded on the North Shore of O'ahu in 2005. Our mission is "working to replenish and sustain the natural and cultural resources of the Pūpūkea and Waimea ahupua'a for present and future generations through active community stewardship, education, and partnerships."

For eighteen years, we have focused our stewardship and education efforts on the Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District (MLCD), created in 1983, one of only three MLCDs on O'ahu and eleven statewide. The two beach parks that surround the MLCD – Waimea and Pūpūkea – are already over-crowded and impacted on a daily basis by overuse, erosion, septic tank issues, water pollution, and trash, all of which is exacerbated by commercial operations that bring more and more people to these parks.

Until the ban, commercialization was rampant. Even now, enforcement is a big challenge so a lot of commercial activity operates under the radar, un-enforced, or continues despite being cited for violations.

The proposed permitting system would be a nightmare to enforce and needs lots of work to be feasible. Please keep the ban for the currently listed beach parks.

Mahalo!

Denise Antolini  
(Volunteer) President, MPW

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