

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY
and
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, February 6, 2017
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 632
RELATING TO UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS**

Senate Bill 632 proposes to prohibit the launching, landing, or recovering of an unmanned aerial system at a public park or beach without the prior consent of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and prohibits the operation of an unmanned aerial system over any public park or beach at an altitude that interferes with the use of the land or water, or the space above the land or water, or is a danger to others and defines “unmanned” and “aerial system”. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill, and offers comments as well as concerns with the need to have prior consent of the DOT over lands under Department jurisdiction.**

The Department’s Division of State Parks (State Parks), through Administrative Rules [§13-146-9], currently prohibits landing or launching of aircraft within State Parks unless written permission is given by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). The Department feels that this current practice at a state park provides sufficient legal means to regulate use of unmanned aerial vehicles. For the Department, requiring the consent of the DOT would be redundant; BLNR or its authorized representative is the appropriate entity for Department approvals. The Department respectfully suggests that with respect to parks and beaches under Department jurisdiction, approval from BLNR rather than DOT is required.

The Department defers to the respective counties as to how this measure applies to county parks.

Further, the Department suggests adding language to the end of Section 2 (d) to provide an exception for “a state or county agency conducting management activities.” Government agencies at times enlist unmanned aerial vehicles to conduct necessary management actions such as aerial surveys, fence inspections, tree inspections, and the like.

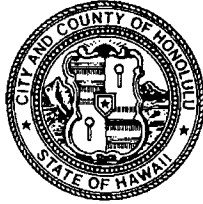
In addition, the operator should be in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration Rules Part 107 §§ 107.41 and 107.43 or secure a waiver under §§107.200 and 107.205.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MICHELE K. NEKOTA
DIRECTOR

JEANNE C. ISHIKAWA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 3, 2017

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
February 6, 2017 Conference Room 225

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water and Land

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
SENATE BILL 632: RELATING TO UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS


Dear Chair Inouye, Chair Rhoads, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) supports the proposed Senate Bill 632, "Relating to Unmanned Aerial Systems" which prohibits certain activity by unmanned aerial systems, referred to as "UAS" or as "drones" at public parks and beaches. DPR is victim to an increase of drone activities in our county parks and beach parks; this has generated complaints of privacy issues from our park users and safety concerns from various permitted events in our parks. In 2014, the National Park Service banned the use of drones at Yosemite National Park for those very reasons, privacy and public safety within a park.

According to a report by the Federal Aviation Administration released in March 2016, drone popularity continues to rise and is expected to peak to \$7 million in sales by the year 2020. With this rise in drone usage, DPR strongly supports SB362 and requests that Chapter 261, Hawaii Revised Statutes, be further amended to include a procedure for the State and City and County to collaborate on a notification and enforcement procedure according to their respective jurisdictions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB632 with amendments.

Sincerely,


(f) Michele Nekota
Director

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHINO
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February 3, 2017

The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair
Committee on Transportation and Energy
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 210
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Water and Land
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Inouye and Rhoads:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 632 Relating to Unmanned Aerial Systems

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support SB 632, which proposes to establish unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) laws that complement federal regulation.

Currently, the four county fire departments have not implemented the use of UAVs. However, we recognize its value as another tool in meeting its mission to provide for a safer community through prevention, preparedness, and effective emergency response. UAVs eliminate the risk of a pilot and helicopter to survey a variety of incident areas. In the case of search or rescue missions, UAVs can pinpoint the exact location that a helicopter operation is needed before actual deployment. UAVs can be dispatched within minutes to remote areas, even in inclement weather. Aerial views provide an advantageous perspective for an incident commander and preplanning purposes.

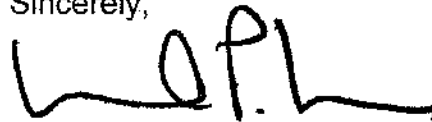
The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
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Operational implementation by the fire departments will include meeting federal and state regulations.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committees' passage of SB 632.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.P.N.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

MPN/LR:clc

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 4, 2017 6:11 AM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: mtcrrs157@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB632 on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM

SB632

Submitted on: 2/4/2017

Testimony for TRE/WTL on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Hazenfield	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Bill SB632 is reasonable until the point where individuals are required to have a permit from the DOT of some sort to fly recreational drones in a public space. I believe that it may be appropriate in certain situations to require commercial drone operators to obtain a permit, but for the most part I think that individuals operating drones responsibly should be allowed to do so if they are not putting other people at risk in any way.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 6:31 PM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: aehough@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB632 on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM*

SB632

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for TRE/WTL on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Hough	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Elizabeth Winternitz
1212 Nuuanu Ave. No. 3509
Honolulu, HI 96817

Re SB632

I am writing in support of SB632 to prohibit usage of unmanned aerial systems at parks and beaches without a permit. Drones at beach parks are invasive and intrude on privacy. I do not wish to be photographed without first granting permission, nor do I agree to have my image used for commercial purposes without my knowledge or approval.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Winternitz

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2017 8:42 PM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB632 on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM*

SB632

Submitted on: 2/2/2017

Testimony for TRE/WTL on Feb 6, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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