

**TESTIMONY**  
**SB 411**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
LAURA H. THIELEN  
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Monday, February 2, 2009  
3:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 299

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 411  
RELATING TO KAENA POINT STATE PARK

Senate Bill 411 would amend Chapter 184, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to permit overnight camping at Ka'ena Point State Park, subject to administrative rules being adopted for this purpose. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this measure because it is unnecessary.** Chapter 184, HRS, and its implementing rule, Chapter 13-146, Hawaii Administrative Rule (HAR), already give the Department the power to permit overnight camping at appropriate State Parks, including Ka'ena, and to regulate any overnight camping.

The Department recognizes that there are strong opinions in the community about overnight camping at Ka'ena State Park in Wai'anae (Kāneana Cave to Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve (NAR)) and Ka'ena Point State Park Reserve in Waialua (Ka'ena Point NAR to Dillingham Field). This undeveloped stretch of coastline has long provided a wilderness experience that is rare on O'ahu and it remains a refuge for those pursuing customary fishing and other cultural practices. The Department is fully committed to taking the steps needed to permit camping along this coastline, but it must be permitted in a manner that protects public safety and the cultural and natural resources in the area.

An inter-divisional Ka'ena Point Stewardship Planning Group has been established within the Department to address the various resource and public use issues we face at Ka'ena. This Planning Group is in the process of organizing a group of community members to advise it in these efforts. The issue of camping will be a major topic of discussion. This will include identifying campsites that accommodate fishing practices while protecting native plant communities and cultural sites, access routes to campsites, an equitable permitting process, and appropriate sanitation. The Department asks that this measure be held while it works with the community to resolve their concerns.

LAURA H. THIELEN  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI  
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



**SB 411 RELATING TO KAÏENA POINT**  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian  
Affairs

February 2, 2009  
Room: 229

3:15 p.m.

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 411 because it would allow regulated camping at Kaïena Point State Park subject to the adoption of administrative rules. Camping at Kaïena has long been a cherished tradition for the many people who enjoy the recreational, subsistence and cultural opportunities the region offers. However, the state's administrative rules no longer allow camping at Kaïena.

The state is currently developing permits that would allow for wilderness camping areas within Kaïena Point State Park, such as at Mākua Beach and on the North Shore side of the park. These areas do not have infrastructure such as running potable water and bathrooms that most state camping grounds provide. This creates public health and sanitation issues for both people and the environment. The wilderness camping permits would have conditions that would address these issues. The camping permits would also help protect the area's vast natural and cultural resources.

Many people do not support the permit process because they want to be able to camp at Kaïena without restrictions, as they have done for generations. But Kaïena is being negatively impacted by increased public use. OHA believes that overnight camping, regulated through the state's administrative rules process, would be a critical tool that will enable the state to address the area's numerous management issues while allowing our beneficiaries and the broader public the opportunity to continue a beloved tradition.

OHA has also introduced House Concurrent Resolution 31, which would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to open its rule making process to change its administrative rules relating to camping. We believe this

is another opportunity to help address the many concerns relating to camping at Kaÿena. While we believe the camping permits hold much promise, we also understand that the development of the permit process takes time. As a result, our beneficiaries are not able to camp in the interim. Our hope is that this inability can be addressed wisely and soon.

To: The Senate Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources  
From: Dr. Robin Fujikawa , Mrs. Linda Fujikawa, Mr. Sho Fujikawa on behalf of  
Gen Fujikawa (deceased)  
Date: January 31, 2009  
RE: SB411 (Support)

Yesterday was our son Gen Fujikawa's birthday. Gen, 18, died 3 years ago in a diving accident. Gen lived fully with compassion and passion, especially for the ocean, nature, and people of Hawaii. Part of his ashes has returned to the sea of Kaena Point, his beloved fishing, diving, and camping spot.

Gen took "Not In My Backyard" and changed it to "Now In My Backyard," by bringing home garbage from the fishing area. He shared his fish with the homeless along the Leeward coast when he had enough to share. He volunteered at the DLNR Anuenue fisheries. The moi fingerlings he raised and released are now gracing many homes with good dinner for all. Today, he would have been serving with Americorps and Youth Conservation Corps on the Big Island working on invasive species control, attending Hawaii Community College. His life goal was to work in the area aqua culture.

Kaena Point nurtured this passion and compassion in our son Gen. The time spent fishing, diving, and camping at Kaena Point, one of the few spots on Oahu where one can truly be one with nature, was an integral part of our son. Therefore, we hope that our keikis, the konohikis, the stewards of our future, will be able to continue to enjoy Kaena Point responsibly.

Therefore, we fully support SB411.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2009 6:57 PM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** robinf@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB411 on 2/2/2009 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for WTL 2/2/2009 3:15:00 PM SB411

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robin Fujikawa  
Organization: Individual  
Address: 590 Farrington Hwy 210PMB201 Kapolei, HI  
Phone: 722 6709  
E-mail: [robinf@hawaii.edu](mailto:robinf@hawaii.edu)  
Submitted on: 1/31/2009

**Comments:**

The health of future generations depends upon open contact with wilderness. The spiritual and mental health of our island state particularly requires vision to protect this fragile relationship we have to open wilderness. Kaena Point is perhaps our island's last chance to preserve this open relationship with something bigger than our island. The sea is where this island comes from and Kaena Point is perhaps the jumping off point beyond this island. Closing the circle of restricted contact this island has with the sea, with its regulated parks and neighboring homeowners, would deprive future generations of the communion and nourishment of the soul that makes our island people whole. Keep the circle open. Keep Kaena Point camping use unrestricted. Please pass SB 411.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2009 8:31 PM  
**To:** WTLTestimony  
**Cc:** trisha.saldajeno@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB411 on 2/2/2009 3:15:00 PM

Testimony for WTL 2/2/2009 3:15:00 PM SB411

Conference room: 229  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Trisha Saldajeno  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail: [trisha.saldajeno@yahoo.com](mailto:trisha.saldajeno@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 1/31/2009

Comments:

Thomas T Shirai Jr  
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Hearing Notice  
Monday, February 2, 2009 / Conference Room 229

**Senate WTL Cmte**  
**Sen Hee, Chair / Sen Tokuda, Vice Chair**

**Testimony w/ RESERVATIONS SUPPORTING SB 411 (Relating to Kaena Point)**

**Aloha Chair Hee & Cmte Mbrs,**

**I support SB 411 w/ reservations because this footprint would impose on established rules and regulations that have protected Kaena from becoming like Pupukea MLSD with overuse and eco-tourism. Overnight fishing is not camping and therefore the only practical usage of that aina regarding overnight.**

**However, fishermen should be imbedded in their thinking WE TAKE CARE THE AINA AND THEN IT TAKES CARE OF US...DON'T JUST TAKE. Lastly contents in such legislation as SB1 should be incorporated and restricting Kaena to POLE OR SHORE CASTING ONLY. Will illaborate when I return from the mainland celebrating the birth of our great grandson here in Las Vegas. Any inquiries about my credentials are on the DLNR website featuring the Kaena Point Restoration Project EIS. This mana'o is similar to the *Kawaihapai Ohana* which is a recognized *Native Hawaiian Organization (NHO)* by the *Department of Interior* ([www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)). *Malama Kaena.***

***Thomas T Shirai Jr***  
***Kawaihapai Ohana – Po'o***



Senator Clayton Hee, Chair, Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and  
Hawaiian Affairs

Monday, February 2, 2009  
3:15 pm. Conference Room 229

**Testimony in Support of SB 411**

Aloha! Chair Hee and members of the Committee:

My name is William J. Aila Jr. I am an employee of DLNR however the  
testimony provided here is that of my own.

I support the intent of SB 411 because it reinforces efforts currently  
underway by DLNR and user groups who want a controlled program of  
camping on the Mokuleia side of the Kaena Point State Park.

I would ask that the Bill be amended in two ways.

- 1- exclude the Natural Area Reserve at Kaena Point
- 2- exclude the Wai'anae side of the Kaena Point State Park because the  
Wai'anae community, through its Neighborhood Board has already  
worked out an overnight permit for the Keawaula portion and is  
currently working with DLNR on a camping permit for the Makua  
portion.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on SB 411.

**TESTIMONY**

**SB 411**

**(END)**