

**Bill 11 confounds me.**

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CITY CLERK  
[HONOLULU, HAWAII]

"The purpose of the bill is to address certain commercial activities at certain city beach parks," it says.

What exactly does this bill address and why is it only certain beach parks? What's so special about these selected beach parks?

Commercial activities described include stops by tour companies at Kailua and Kalama Beach.

The number one industry in Hawaii is tourism. Is Bill 11 making sightseeing illegal? Or just bus stops by Japanese tour companies in Kailua?

The state of Hawaii is celebrating increases in visitors from Japan. Bill 11 is proposing to cut them off and to send them home unsatisfied.

Tourism means more jobs, more income for Hawaii residents, and more taxes to help fix the roads. If the visitors don't pay these taxes, we are going to have to pay them.

Any time you have an increase in commercial activities you have increases in traffic, noise and parking problems. Just look at Honolulu. There are cars, traffic and noise problems everywhere.

Why? People need jobs to feed their families. People need jobs and income to pay their taxes. People need money to afford housing. Tourism brings money into our communities. Businesses create jobs.

The trade off has always been problems of noise, parking and traffic in exchange for bread to feed our children. All around the world, this is the daily trade off. More jobs and more income mean more problems of traffic, noise and parking.

People love kayaking in Kailua Bay. People love visiting the beach and taking pictures of it even if they are not staying more than a few minutes. People come from around the world to see Kailua Beach. It's a wonderful thing.

Communities around the world are courting these tourists because tourism is good business. It's clean business. It provides lots of jobs, income and taxes. The trade offs are minimal when compared with other industries.

Whenever there are jobs, you get traffic, noise and parking problems. And these are very real problems in Kailua.

How can jobs and income be legal everywhere else but not legal in Kailua? Is that legal? What exactly is the problem that Bill 11 is addressing?

Is it traffic problems in Kailua? Is it parking problems in Lanikai? Is it noise? Is it the people that come to enjoy Kailua Beach? Is it all of the above?

Has this problem really been defined?

Stand in front of Kalapawai Market on a Saturday afternoon. What do you see? Local folks with dogs driving pickup trucks. These are O'ahu residents. You see visitors and you see military and a few tour buses. You see tons of people from Honolulu coming to Kailua to visit America's best beach and get free parking.

You also see traffic completely stopped for kayaks crossing the roadway.

Is kayaking at Kailua Beach the problem? Or is it kayakers dragging their kayaks across the road and blocking traffic? Is that the problem?

Bill 11 doesn't say that. Here's what I suggest:

1. Study the issues at Kailua Beach and other parks and offer solutions that don't take jobs from Kailua or income from the State of Hawaii. Come up with solutions that allow people to live and work in our towns and villages. Allow small businesses here to provide jobs for our families.
2. Hire someone to direct traffic at the corner of Kailua Road and Kalaheo Avenue.
3. Provide funding to create a separate city department to enforce the existing laws against commercial activities in city beach parks.
4. Provide free parking at all other beach parks including Waikiki.
5. License commercial concessions at other beach parks besides Waikiki.
6. Permit kayak companies to deliver kayaks to the Kawainui Stream landing. If the kaya companies are parking illegally in Lanikai, ticket them.
7. Provide dedicated parking for tour companies and buses at Kailua Beach Park and charge \$1 per head for these visitors. Dedicate the revenue to park improvements. Charge for watersports deliveries to these areas.
8. Fix the park bathrooms. Open the food concession stands. Make infrastructure improvements to accommodate residents and visitors at Kailua and other beaches.
9. Require the City Parks and Recreation Department to enforce the existing laws before the new law shall take effect.
10. Please don't just throw paper at this problem.

Please vote "NO" on Bill 11.

Mahalo.

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