

P3, B11

5

August 15, 2012

Erik Rusnak
234 Kuuhoa Place
Kailua, HI 96734
alohalures@yahoo.com

RECEIVED
Aug 15 5 44 PM '12
CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

I support Bill 11 cd-1

Testimony on commercial activity at Kailua Beach parks

Aloha,

I have been a resident of Kailua for 36 years and I am glad to come forward in support of Bill 11 cd-1. I have watched with dismay at the growth of commercial activities in our windward town, and now they are heavily impacting our beaches and roadways. I am an avid surfer and waterman and have used Kailua Bay and the reefs off of Lanikai and Waimanalo as a training ground. The sacred offshore islands, Na Mokulua and Popoia, have been the place where so many windward residents have learned to Surf, Fish, Dive, Canoe paddle and respect the land and sea. The growth of the equipment rental and tour industry in Kailua is spoiling the once tranquil waters of our local beach parks. Consideration of residents and community is the primary concern.

I have cleaned trash from the beaches and I have watched as these activities have escalated and the commercial operations have made money on the time and concern of others. Currently many of these operations operate illegally by state and county regulation. They cause considerable traffic problems on land and dangerous conditions in the ocean for both vistors and locals alike.

I oppose commercial vendors on our Kailua public beaches. Kailua lacks the infrastructure for the traffic these businesses create and their lack of consideration for the effects of this traffic on our community and sacred offshore islands. Many of these companies have side stepped the legal paper work that would legitimize their business at the expense of the community. The voices that oppose the measures provided by Bill 11 are all people who profit from this freedom.

We need more regulation of all commercial activities that affect natural resources and especially in a situation where the safety and peace of local residents has been so disregarded. The perpetuation of these sacred places for our children is crucial and all commercial considerations should come second to those of the community at large... The Kailua community has spoken and the majority do not want commercial operations on our state and county beaches...

Please help us stop the commercialization of our beaches. The residents of Kailua do not want the Windward version of Waikiki...

Mahalo,
Erik

MISC. COM. 2198

COUNCIL