



Maui Hotel & Lodging
ASSOCIATION

September 12, 2017

Council Member Elle Cochran
Chair, Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee
200 S. High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Cochran and Members of the Committee,

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry. Our membership includes over 175 property and allied business members in Maui County – all of whom have an interest in the visitor industry. Collectively, MHLA's membership employs over 25,000 residents and represents more than 19,000 rooms.

On behalf of MHLA I respectfully request that further examination and discussion occur regarding the proposed Bill for a change to County Code Section 20.40, declaring a moratorium on sand mining. The current bill does not appear to provide for beach re-nourishment.

The bill in its current form could possibly prohibit a project the State explicitly allows or unintentionally pre-empt the State's public trust responsibilities. We are currently working with the State on the Ka'anapali Beach re-nourishment and are preparing for the EIS process. Funding was established for this project in the 2015 State Legislative Session (ACT 117).

Sand for this beach re-nourishment would not come from inland resources, but rather off-shore. We request that language be inserted into this proposed bill allowing for an exemption for activities that the State of Hawaii DLNR has permit issuing authority.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at MHLA at 244-8625.

Sincerely,

Lisa Paulson
Executive Director

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