

Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-08-01 1:30 PM

Meeting Time: 08-01-23 13:30

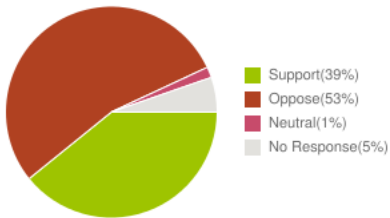
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-08-01 1:30 PM	08-01-23 13:30	13	245	96	132	4

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-08-01 1:30 PM
08-01-23 13:30

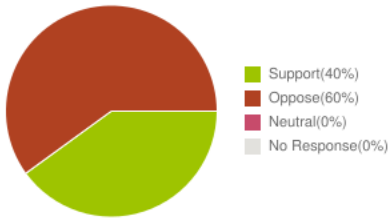
Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
GREAT-3(2) Reso 23-174 RESOLUTION 23-174, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO THE COUNTY TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (GREAT-3(2))	5	2	3	0
GREAT-3(3) Reso 23-176 RESOLUTION 23-176, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL TO ESTABLISH PAID FAMILY LEAVE FOR STATE AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES (GREAT-3(3))	1	0	1	0
GREAT-3(4) Reso 23-184 RESOLUTION 23-184, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO FIREARMS (GREAT-3(4))	1	1	0	0
GREAT-3(5) Reso 23-185 RESOLUTION 23-185, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO COMMERCIAL USE OCEAN PERMITS (GREAT-3(5))	5	3	1	1
GREAT-4(5) Reso 23-182 RESOLUTION 23-182, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO COMMERCIAL USE OCEAN PERMITS (GREAT-4(5))	4	2	1	1
GREAT-3(6) Reso 23-183 RESOLUTION 23-183, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO MOTORIZED WATERCRAFTS (GREAT-3(6))	206	83	112	1
GREAT-4(6) Reso 23-180 RESOLUTION 23-180, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO THRILL CRAFT (GREAT-4(6))	21	5	13	0
GREAT-3(7) Reso 23-175 RESOLUTION 23-175, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO THE MINIMUM WAGE (GREAT-3(7))	1	0	1	0
GREAT-4(7) Reso 23-172 RESOLUTION 23-172, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO USE OF REVENUE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (GREAT-4(7))	1	0	0	1

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

Overall Sentiment



Pamela Tumpap

Location:

Submitted At: 1:25pm 08-01-23

Please see attached testimony.

Lisa Paulson

Location:

Submitted At: 12:50pm 08-01-23

RE: Opposition for Resolution 23-171 and 23-174

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry for Maui County. We represent over 180 property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. MHLA opposes Resolutions 23-171 and 23-174 supporting a State Bill relating to the County Transient Accommodations Tax.

MHLA is concerned that Maui County is considering lifting the cap on Maui County Transient Accommodation Tax. The County of Maui already has the authority to tax real property, and recently has been granted additional authority to levy surcharges on general excise and transient accommodation taxes. While we understand the frustration over the State not sharing State TAT revenues that the Counties help generate, the State currently does not have the authority to assess a surcharge to our real property taxes. With Maui County seeking additional tax revenue, it opens the possibility of the State again seeking an RPT surcharge. This continuous structure of dual taxation keeps increasing the cost of living for the residents and businesses of Hawaii.

We have already seen the ability of the State to keep increasing the TAT taxes and remove any nexus to the money collected. The beginnings of the Transient Accommodation Tax (TAT) go back to the summer of 1985 when the industry took it upon itself to introduce a measure that called for a hotel room tax with the proceeds of the tax earmarked for the building of a convention center and increased promotion of tourism. Hawaii State TAT is now at 10.25%, and in FY22 generated \$830,056,000, with the majority going into the State General Fund. [Please refer to the attached charts.]

The current Maui County surcharge at 3% is expected to generate \$60,000,000 for FY24. MHLA is hopeful there will be a clear nexus on using the funds, with some used for destination management and regulation of illegal vacation rentals.



Our residents continue to ask visitors to pay more taxes without realizing the current taxes that are collected. Most residents don't know of the millions collected and what those funds have been used for. At the same time, tourism leaders are frustrated that tax revenue generated by the industry is channeled into general funds, and

then spent without mentioning where the money came from. MHLA believes residents would have better attitudes about tourism if they knew how State and Counties hotel room tax revenue would be spent. For FY22, that was almost one billion dollars.

In closing, this proposed legislation leaves an open-ended source of taxes without first looking for ways to use the current income streams the visitor industry provides.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Lisa H. Paulson
Executive Director
Maui Hotel and Lodging Association

Jason Economou

Location:

Submitted At: 12:50pm 07-31-23

RE: Testimony Concerning GREAT 3(2) and 4(2), Relating to County Transient Accommodations Tax

Aloha Committee Chair U'u-Hodgins and Committee Members,

I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the REALTORS Association of Maui ("RAM") in my capacity as their Government Affairs Director. Though we recognize the positive intent behind the bill, and the need to address the impacts of over tourism, RAM respectfully urges the committee not to pursue inclusion of these bills in the HSAC legislative package. Specifically, we have concerns over normalizing the trend of dual taxation at both the state and county levels, and we fear this proposal will invite another attempt by the state to exercise taxing authority over real property again. Moreover, we have concerns over the propriety and wisdom of granting the counties unfettered authority to tax transient accommodations at this time.

The State of Hawaii has established some fairly clear boundaries when it comes to the authority to tax residents. For instance, it had long been accepted that the counties have the authority to levy taxes against real property, and the state has the authority to levy general excise and transient accommodations taxes. However, in recent years, the state has created processes for the counties to implement additional surcharges on general excise and transient accommodations. Those are ostensibly temporary and come with clear limitations, but they still represent dual levels of taxation for the same things. Some in state government had concerns with allowing Maui County levy those additional taxes, as Maui County is known to be reluctant to use the taxing authority it already has on real property, but the authority to levy additional taxes was still granted.

This erosion of the boundaries in taxing authority almost cut the other way in 2018, when a constitutional amendment was proposed on Hawaii ballots, which sought to allow the State of Hawaii to impose an additional surcharge on property taxes to go towards education. Though a noble cause, RAM opposed that constitutional amendment, and we were joined by a majority of Hawaii voters, because it was inappropriate for the state to seek taxing authority that was clearly reserved for the counties. We recognized then what we recognize now: as the boundaries between taxing authority keep getting blurred, the cost of living just keeps increasing for the residents and businesses of Hawaii, and the problems that spurred the taxes still aren't getting solved.

The people of Maui are tired of this ever increasing trend of overlapping taxation, and it should not be normalized and extended any further. The County of Maui already has the authority to tax real property, and it has already been granted additional authority to levy surcharges on general excise and transient accommodation taxes. The county budget keeps going up, along with county revenue, and tourism numbers are in decline from 2019 pre-pandemic levels. When will enough be enough, and what is the ultimate goal? What has the County of Maui been doing to address the impacts of over tourism with the revenue it has already brought in with the TAT surcharge, and how will a limitless TAT change those efforts? Similarly, what efforts have been made towards economic diversification as a means of reducing our reliance on tourism?

Taxes are not solutions, but a means of funding solutions. Before the counties seek unfettered authority to tax that which is already being taxed by both the State of Hawaii and the counties, there should be a clear explanation of what is currently being done with taxpayer dollars to address the negative impacts of over tourism, and how more taxing authority is intended to benefit the people of Maui Nui.

As always, we are grateful for the opportunity to provide input on the legislative process, and we are happy to provide additional information on any of our comments as you may desire. Please feel free to contact me with any questions by email at jason@ramai.com, or by phone at (808)243-8585.

Mahalo,

Jason A. Economou
Government Affairs Director
REALTORS Association of Maui

JoAnne Winer

Location:
Submitted At: 11:55am 07-31-23

The monies through this measure should also be earmarked to help provide adequate medical facilities for communities that are underserved.

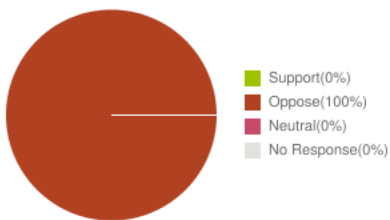
Kai Duponte

Location:
Submitted At: 5:12pm 07-30-23

Aloha! My testimony in support of revoking all commercial permits for hydrofoils is attached.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-3(3) Reso 23-176 RESOLUTION 23-176, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL TO ESTABLISH PAID FAMILY LEAVE FOR STATE AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES (GREAT-3(3))

Overall Sentiment



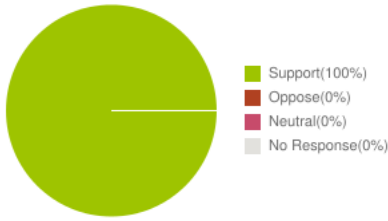
Pamela Tumpap

Location:
Submitted At: 1:10pm 08-01-23

Please see attached testimony.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-3(4) Reso 23-184 RESOLUTION 23-184, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO FIREARMS (GREAT-3(4))

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

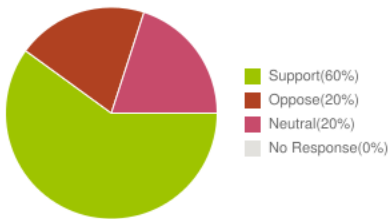
Location:

Submitted At: 12:05pm 07-30-23

Please do not allow felons to purchase any type of gun. Air, or otherwise, they have proven that they don't make good choices.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-3(5) Reso 23-185 RESOLUTION 23-185, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO COMMERCIAL USE OCEAN PERMITS (GREAT-3(5))

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:50pm 08-01-23

Aloha. Tammy Harp.

I am in support of Resolution No. 23-185.

Pamela Tumpap

Location:

Submitted At: 1:28pm 08-01-23

Please see attached testimony and suggested revisions.

marcy martin

Location:

Submitted At: 7:03pm 07-31-23

Support with revision: If owner or staff are found to park in beach access parking, permit terminated, no dumping toilets near shore

Kai Nishiki

Location:

Submitted At: 3:58pm 07-31-23

We support this with attached suggested revisions.

Here is our justification.

DOBOR has and is already required to by rule and the constitution to exercise discretion to protect the public, the environment, and traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices and rights.

The purpose and scope of DLNR's rules pertaining to state facilities, including issuance of boating and commercial use permits:

HAR § 13-230-1:

"The purpose of these rules is to secure the most effective control and management of the small boat harbors and facilities of the State in order that the general public may enjoy safe, orderly, and convenient water recreation. These rules are intended to harmonize and coordinate the department's powers and duties with all applicable public laws, and are also intended to govern the use or operation of vessels and the activities of persons in the small boat harbors, shores, ocean waters, and navigable streams of the State."

HAR § 13-251-33: (This statement applies to all commercial use permits)

"No regular or extensive use of any state property or facilities or ocean waters or navigable streams for private gain or purposes shall be allowed without corresponding and reasonable benefits and returns to the public.
(a) No person shall engage in any business or commercial activity on the navigable waters of the state without:
(1) Prior written approval from the board or its authorized representatives; or
(2) The proper execution of an agreement with the department."

HAR § 13-231-50: (This general statement applies to all use permits)

"No regular or extensive use of any state property or facilities for private gain or purposes shall be permitted without corresponding and reasonable benefits and returns to the public."

Current permits contain this standard condition:

a. 11. The Department may immediately revoke a commercial use permit without a hearing for activity that endangers or may endanger the health or safety of passengers or the public, and may suspend or revoke a commercial use permit for violation of any rules of the Department, if the activity or offense is not corrected following seventy-two (72) hours notice by the Department of the violation. The permit holder shall have ten(10) days from receipt of the notice of suspension or revocation to request in writing an administrative hearing. The administrative hearing is solely for the purpose of allowing the permit holder to contest the basis for suspension or revocation of the permit.

Mahalo,
Kai Nishiki

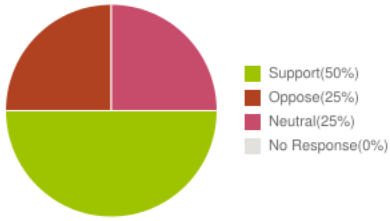
Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:14pm 07-29-23

E foil or commercial use of jet skis or anything like that on the north side of Black rock up to Airport beach should not be allowed. I swim here almost every day. Many of us to. Really bad spot for commercial use of water crafts.

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:52pm 08-01-23

Aloha. Tammy Harp.

I am in support of Resolution No. 23-182.

Bruce St Germain

Location:

Submitted At: 8:11pm 07-31-23

As an avid efoil rider on Oahu I can attest to the safety and all-around respect the local efoil community holds for the other watersport enthusiasts in Hawaii. We never foil inside of surf breaks or come close to swimmers. The public is always in awe of the smooth, quietness and no wake that trails our efoils.

Efoiling for me at 64 years old has brought back the love of surfing that my age has slowly taken from me. Also, the love of our beautiful Hawaiian waters with its abundant Waterlife that does not speed away from the efoil sound as others would have you believe.

marcy martin

Location:

Submitted At: 7:07pm 07-31-23

Permits need to be limited, motorized water and thrill craft banned near swimming and diving

Kai Nishiki

Location:

Submitted At: 3:59pm 07-31-23

We support this with attached suggested revisions.

Here is our justification.

DOBOR has and is already required to by rule and the constitution to exercise discretion to protect the public, the environment, and traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices and rights.

The purpose and scope of DLNR's rules pertaining to state facilities, including issuance of boating and commercial use permits:

HAR § 13-230-1:

"The purpose of these rules is to secure the most effective control and management of the small boat harbors and facilities of the State in order that the general public may enjoy safe, orderly, and convenient water recreation. These rules are intended to harmonize and coordinate the department's powers and duties with all applicable public laws, and are also intended to govern the use or operation of vessels and the activities of persons in the small boat harbors, shores, ocean waters, and navigable streams of the State."

HAR § 13-251-33: (This statement applies to all commercial use permits)

"No regular or extensive use of any state property or facilities or ocean waters or navigable streams for private

gain or purposes shall be allowed without corresponding and reasonable benefits and returns to the public.
(a) No person shall engage in any business or commercial activity on the navigable waters of the state without:
(1) Prior written approval from the board or its authorized representatives; or
(2) The proper execution of an agreement with the department.”

HAR § 13-231-50: (This general statement applies to all use permits)

“No regular or extensive use of any state property or facilities for private gain or purposes shall be permitted without corresponding and reasonable benefits and returns to the public.”

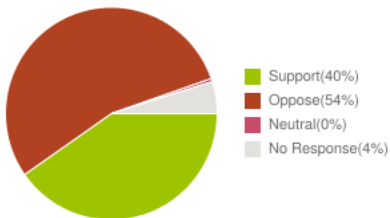
Current permits contain this standard condition:

a. 11. The Department may immediately revoke a commercial use permit without a hearing for activity that endangers or may endanger the health or safety of passengers or the public, and may suspend or revoke a commercial use permit for violation of any rules of the Department, if the activity or offense is not corrected following seventy-two (72) hours notice by the Department of the violation. The permit holder shall have ten(10) days from receipt of the notice of suspension or revocation to request in writing an administrative hearing. The administrative hearing is solely for the purpose of allowing the permit holder to contest the basis for suspension or revocation of the permit.

Mahalo,
Kai Nishiki

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-3(6) Reso 23-183 RESOLUTION 23-183, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO MOTORIZED WATERCRAFTS (GREAT-3(6))

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:12am 08-02-23

This is clearly rich people trying to make the beach behind their homes more private.

This is not a safety concern. The data doesn't support the claims. There are proportionally more injuries from boating, surfing or swimming. Shall we ban those activities as well?

As for the school: that's probably the best and safest way for people to learn by professionals. Have many people been injured because of the school? Of course not.

It's bad enough that rich people try to restrict access to our beaches. Don't let them restrict access to our waters.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:33pm 08-01-23

Regulate e-foils now for the safety of swimmers

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:16pm 08-01-23

I am a constituent of West Maui and I oppose allowing hydrofoils in areas where there are swimmers. They should be limited to other locales where they can't hurt people or ocean life.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:48pm 08-01-23

Unnecessary legislation please.

Brad Cook

Location:

Submitted At: 6:17pm 08-01-23

I fully support non carbon polluting sports on the water!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:14pm 08-01-23

There are no more injuries by efoils than there are of any other water activity. This is rich people trying to control the water.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:56pm 08-01-23

It seems the same user in opposition just reposts variants of his/her complaint. Don't be swayed by the miserable vocal minority, that's their main pleasure in life - trying to steal joy from happy people. Still waiting to see any report of someone hurt by the foilers, other than what if fantasy, or wild life in danger, where? If so prevalent would there be just a few more examples they could show, and maybe some correlation. More people are being injured on boats all day every day and no complaints. Shouldn't swimmers find a pool and not disturb ocean life either. Think of the cost every time they irritate a shark.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:27pm 08-01-23

As a physician, I believe all foils, especially efoils are dangerous to other ocean users. I have seen numerous injuries caused by foils and efoils.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:13pm 08-01-23

efoils like other ocean going craft can be used responsibly. Simple common sense rules will be adequate to ensure public safety

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:50pm 08-01-23

!!!!!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:47pm 08-01-23

There should be more rights for locals and fisherman. Commercial activity should be regulated.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:42pm 08-01-23

Nuff already!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:33pm 08-01-23

I oppose all restrictions put forth

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:31pm 08-01-23

I oppose restrictions

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:25pm 08-01-23

Unnecessary danger for our people, and marine life! Keep it out of Hawai_i

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:19pm 08-01-23

This is our home! & it's being abused with so much tourists activities that us natives can't enjoy our home in peace. & tourists should come to hawaii to see hawaii!! A lot if not all of tourists activities are not hawaiian activities! So that says these activities is only used to draw in tourists and make money. So why not do that in their home (not in hawaii).

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:03pm 08-01-23

support

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:51pm 08-01-23

Dangerous. Leave Maui's waters alone.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:38pm 08-01-23

Ban e-foils until better rules or a structure is set up to prevent injuries. It is such a new piece of technology that is not being responsibly controlled.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:55pm 08-01-23

This is a blatant and obvious attempt by property owners to make the beach behind their homes more exclusive.

If this was a safety concern, show me the analytics and numbers.

How long has the school been operating and how many people have been injured because of the school?

If safety was the real the concern, you should want and have professionals teaching in a safe, structured manner.

Unfortunately, this isn't a safety concern. This is an exclusivity agenda,, disguised as safety.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:55pm 08-01-23

Support

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:53pm 08-01-23

Aloha. Tammy Harp.

I am in support of Resolution No. 23-183.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:41pm 08-01-23

E-foils are just the opposite of a jet ski or thrill craft. E-foiling is very peaceful for the user and the surroundings. We abide by the rules and stay far away from swimmers, surfers, etc. I have never heard of an injury related to an e-foil. I have heard of several injuries related to non motorized foil surf boards surfing with other surfers. I am guessing most people can not tell the difference between an e-foil and a non motorized surfboard.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:37pm 08-01-23

I own and operate 2 efoils on Oahu hawaii. We operate them safely at sand island. We keep our distance from swimmer, fishing lines, canoes etc. efoil's just like surfboards are very safe if used properly.

This agenda on Maui is clear. Rich people with beachfront homes. Don't want to share the waters with others. They can't buy the beach, but they can lobby and pay legislators to change laws.

I witnessed the same thing happened in Kailua with Kitesurfing. Nobody was ever injured on the beach as a bystander, but they kept claiming safety safety safety.

And now you can't get safe legal lessons in Kailua. That's bad for the community as a whole because now people teach illegally without permits, insurance or supervision.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:34pm 08-01-23

Support this!

Mariko Higashi

Location:
Submitted At: 1:16pm 08-01-23

I swim along the north Ka'anapali beach and am weary of fast moving water crafts near the shore. We don't need any more of them. Go slow in Hawaii...

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:16pm 08-01-23

i oppose this bill never have or my daughter been near any swimmers when efoiling

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:15pm 08-01-23

Hello,
I grew up here in Lahaina and have been in the ocean since I can remember. As the years have gone by ocean related sports have gotten extreme. So extreme to the point that other recreational users of the ocean feel unsafe. As an Ocean Safety Officer (Lifeguard) that works here on the west side of Maui, safety is one our main priorities. I am opposed to any sort of E-foiling activities in these areas for safety reasons and hope to see more rules and regulations created and enforced to ensure the safety of others.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:15pm 08-01-23

I have seen 1st hand efoils being in the hands of people who should t be riding them. Without proper guidelines and rules it becomes reckless for the entitled and unaware users.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:14pm 08-01-23

E foils don't belong where people swim. There should be restrictions and zones for them.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:14pm 08-01-23

FYI, people are getting confused. I clicked support in favor of allowing efoils on my review but I meant to OPPOSE the bill.
Hope someone is actually reading the comments instead of counting the support/oppose because I see a lot of other comments who got it mixed up as well

I did an efoiling class at royal Lahaina and I can tell you we went nowhere near where people were swimming. The instructors were very strict when it came to the zone where we could ride. They had whistles in the water to tell us to turn back if we had gone too far. Even entering the water, they enforced a rule how it had to be on speed 1 until we got out farther in the ocean for safety. We didn't go ANYWHERE near canoes, boats, or people swimming. I felt it was very safe and fun activity to enjoy here in Hawaii. They thought they had seen a dolphin way far out and made us just sit there to allow them to swim away. The water was so deep not anywhere near the reef. It seems obvious that the people against this have ulterior motives because maybe it is a threat to their own business. And it's pretty comical how I hear opposers say it could harm the marine life yet it's acceptable to pluck animals out of the water, murder and eat them? It's okay for fisherman to leave behind their nets and let animals get tangled up in fishing lines? How is that respecting the ocean? Go to Lahaina harbor, smell the oil from the boats going in and out of the water. Efoil is electric. It's really reaching to say efoiling needs stricter restrictions or even banned. We should ban cars, they do more damage. This state will do anything to raise taxes and add regulations any chance they get.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:10pm 08-01-23

I did an efoiling class at royal Lahaina and I can tell you we went nowhere near where people were swimming. The instructors were very strict when it came to the zone where we could ride. They had whistles in the water to tell us to turn back if we had gone too far. Even entering the water, they enforced a rule how it had to be on speed 1 until we got out farther in the ocean for safety. We didn't go ANYWHERE near canoes, boats, or people swimming. I felt it was very safe and fun activity to enjoy here in Hawaii. They thought they had seen a dolphin way far out and made us just sit there to allow them to swim away. The water was so deep not anywhere near the reef. It seems obvious that the people against this have ulterior motives because maybe it is a threat to their own business. And it's pretty comical how I hear opposers say it could harm the marine life yet it's acceptable to pluck animals out of the water, murder and eat them? It's okay for fisherman to leave behind their nets and let animals get tangled up in fishing lines? How is that respecting the ocean? Go to Lahaina harbor, smell the oil from the boats going in and out of the water. Efoil is electric. It's really reaching to say efoiling needs stricter restrictions or even banned. We should ban cars, they do more damage. This state will do anything to raise taxes and add

regulations any chance they get.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:07pm 08-01-23

I have witnessed so many reckless users of efoils too close to snorkelers & swimmers. There needs to be oversight on the areas these dangerous craft are allowed to be used. The e foil businesses are too numerous & out of control.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:04pm 08-01-23

Support this bill

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:58pm 08-01-23

THIS IS SIMPLE... WHY DO AIRLINES NOT LET PLANES TAKE OFF AND LAND ONE AFTER ANOTHER WITHOUT GIVING A BREAK IN BETWEEN? TURBULENCE!!! The Jet of a jetski creates powerful turbulence which would severely injure anyone who is on an efoil. If we are to put those 2 completely different water craft into the same areas be ready for MASSIVE INJURIES and CASUALTIES.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:58pm 08-01-23

Ban commercial E-foil

It's a hazard for swimmers and divers.

Too many close encounters I've experienced.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:57pm 08-01-23

I have children and am fearful that they will be injured or killed while swimming around these dangerous electric foil boards!

These companies should NOT be permitted near public beaches,

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:55pm 08-01-23

Efoils aren't bad

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:54pm 08-01-23

Support

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:53pm 08-01-23

We efoilers must be able to enjoy the whole beach, as long as we understand our limits with the efoil board for the safety of other beach users!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:52pm 08-01-23

We cannot govern the current over commercialization already... we should not allow commercialization of Efoils. Not to mention the dangers they have

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:52pm 08-01-23

I OPPOSE THIS BILL. I swim and see the efoilers in the water and have met a few and they are nice people to talk to. They respect the swim areas where I swim and I have had no issues. Its nice to see these marvelous silent boards above the water instead of gas polluting big boats.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:50pm 08-01-23

I oppose this, there is no reason to support this. Anyone using the water to surf does it in a responsible and respectful manner. Surfing is part of being aloha.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:49pm 08-01-23

E Foils are extremely hazardous especially when ridden by novices not only to them but also to swimmers and sealife. Plus the owner has proven to be dangerous himself using threats and intimidation to those that disapprove of his business. Aole! No can

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:47pm 08-01-23

This is unfair. Foils and efoils are a great source of exercise and should be allowed. They do not cause any environmental contaminants like these large boats in the water and do not disturb other wildlife in the water.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:39pm 08-01-23

I oppose. Our surf spots are already crowded. Efoil's open up the playing field and allow people to enjoy surf at breaks that are typically unusable to a paddle in surfer. If people weren't efoiling, they'd be on a board competing with the other 100 people at our already crowded beaches. Almost all EFoilers use leashes and never come closer than double the leash length to other people.

Ravi Bugga

Location:

Submitted At: 12:39pm 08-01-23

I'm a 70 year old regular swimmer at Kahekili beach. We are already at risk from tourist canoes from Westin KOR which come very close to the beach, especially near Black Rock. And from inexperienced paddle boarders who can't manoever their boards. We do NOT need motorized equipment in this area. Thank you!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:35pm 08-01-23

I strongly oppose recategorizing eFoils as thrill craft.

IT COULD PUT THE LIVES OF eFOILERS AT RISK. It would also render worthless the thousands of dollars and hours many eFoilers have spent investing in this non-polluting, fun water activity that has been explicitly endorsed by the State in the office of DOBOR at Sand Island. Would the State reimburse these costs?

Thrill Craft, like wave runners and jet skis, are generally large, heavy, loud, polluting, operated at very fast

speeds, and cause wakes. As such, they are, in my opinion, correctly limited in the locations in which they can be used. I do not want to be at the beach and hear the loud whine of jet ski engines.

eFoils, on the other hand, are quiet, electric, and non-polluting. A poster at DOBOR on Sand Island endorses eFoils as "a smooth, cool ride. It's eco-friendly. It's swift and silent." DOBOR further endorses eFoils by running a program to register them.

eFoils are relatively small (shorter than most surfboards), light (can easily be carried, unlike jet skis and don't require boat launch ramps or trailers), and are generally operated at relatively slow speeds (5-10 knots). This is much slower than jet skis and other Thrill Craft, and much slower than kite surfboards. They produce no wake. They are far quieter than boats, including whale watching boats.

If eFoils are forced to operate in the few, small areas where large, heavy, fast Thrill Craft operate, like jet skis, then THE LIVES OF THE eFOILERS WILL BE AT RISK. It would be similar to forcing bicyclists to ride on the highway alongside cars and trucks. If a jet ski were to crash into an eFoiler, the eFoiler would suffer serious injuries.

My friends and I enjoy safely riding eFoils when the wind is low and other options, like kite surfing, wing foiling, and wind surfing are not possible.

Please allow us to continue to safely enjoy the beauty that Hawaii has to offer in our quiet, non-polluting, fun manner with our community.

Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:25pm 08-01-23

I strongly oppose

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:19pm 08-01-23

E-foils are motorized watercraft. Allowing unskilled tourists to operate these vehicles without oversight or training puts all other ocean-users and wildlife in danger.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:14pm 08-01-23

I am for any ban on practices that have been studied with objective controlled data. As usual, the loudest minority has got the attention of some lawmaker who hasn't figured out more important priorities, and instead is going after people, enjoying the beauty and freedom of the islands. When the time comes that someone has collected relevant data to this supposed issue I am all ears to consider a decision. Remember, first do no harm. We should've learned this during the pandemic were many erratic, knee-jerk steps were taken to supposedly protect people, when in reality, they ended up harming countless more. Please use wisdom patience and objectivity to consider all factors before making decisions on this proposal, or any other . A common MO seems to be -scream the loudest and claim danger to endangered species. What a crock! present a logical argument based on data and facts. Then we can have a discussion. No more screaming. Last, has any swimmer been injured? Compare this to the amazing fun enjoyed by the foilers.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:06pm 08-01-23

I've had the opportunity to go out with EFH more then once. Let me tell you what a special group of guys they have over there. The treated me and my wife like we were family. For having there grand opening at the Royal Lahaina about a month ago I can say that there extremely professional and take every safety perception very

seriously. From the several different activities on Maui this would have to be by far my favorite! Definitely looking forward to coming back again soon!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:06pm 08-01-23

Ban this potential risk to human life e-foil business or keep them outside the surf spots... way outside - like jet ski type biz

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:02pm 08-01-23

Aloha,

This proposed inclusion to the package regarding e-foils is not an accurate representation of the e-foil. I strongly oppose this inclusion. I am an avid waterman. I surf, SUP, kiteboard, kitesurf, foil and kitefoil as well as e-foil. I am certified by the State of Hawai'i to tow-in surf from a thrillcraft. My experience for the last 35 years has been related to safety and risk management. The points presented in the proposal are not accurate and bear further investigation and verification. Please table this inclusion for future research, debate and examination by experts from both sides of this issue. Mahalo, Colonel John Y (retired USAF)

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:00pm 08-01-23

As a paddler, swimmer and surfer I support a ban on commercial Efoil operations on Maui County, on the grounds of their impact on our environmental resources and on safety. Since an efoil business began operating at Sugar Beach, there has been an anecdotal decline in the presence of marine mammals. It is a strain on state and federal resources to adequately monitor these business to ensure they are operating in compliance of marine mammal protect laws. There is high potential for damage to the reef and to coastal vegetation. Not to mention increased litter. The owner of one particular business has demonstrated disregard for safety of others multiple times, including just yesterday when he buzzed past me and a group of swimmers way too close and video's us without asking permission. He has done the same to children participating in camp activities at the canoe hales along this beach. I have witnessed him multiple times leaving his clients well alone as he zips along the beach, leaving them vulnerable to injury and harm and further putting our reef at risk. I agree that efoils should be considered same as personal motorized watercraft and that commercial operations be banned to protect our natural resources and safety.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:54am 08-01-23

Support

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:54am 08-01-23

I support

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:53am 08-01-23

Ban commercial efoil operations

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:51am 08-01-23

I strongly oppose the ban of efoils. Please allow efoils to be used in Hawaii waters.
Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:49am 08-01-23

Jay Nakahara

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:49am 08-01-23

Aloha

My name is Bobby Bland. I support banning commercial EFOIL operations throughout Maui. As a paddler and fisherman, these operations limit people their traditional rights to access these areas where operations currently exist. I also had a personal experience with Rhavie Marino (owner of EFOIL Hawaii) his friend Jeison Manois showed up at my place of business after I commented against his business. Come to find out this owner is known for bullying people who advocates against his business. This is the type of foreign entitlement that should not be tolerated on Maui. I request you to do the right thing today to protect the interests of kama'aina,

Mahalo

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:45am 08-01-23

The safety of beach goers and sea life should be priority

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:44am 08-01-23

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed bill that aims to ban Efoiling in Hawaii. As a resident and advocate for responsible recreational activities in our beautiful state, I believe that prohibiting Efoiling would have several negative consequences for our communities and environment.

Efoiling, or electric hydrofoiling, is a sustainable and innovative form of watersport that has gained popularity over recent years. It offers an eco-friendly alternative to traditional water activities that rely on fossil fuels, contributing to a cleaner environment and reduced carbon emissions. Banning Efoiling would hinder the growth of environmentally conscious tourism and hinder our efforts to promote sustainability in Hawaii.

Furthermore, Efoiling has demonstrated to be a safe and enjoyable activity when conducted responsibly. It is essential to focus on education, training, and implementing appropriate safety measures instead of outright prohibition. By doing so, we can foster a culture of responsible water sports enthusiasts who respect marine life, adhere to local regulations, and ensure the safety of themselves and others.

Hawaii's unique geography and diverse marine life provide an ideal setting for Efoiling enthusiasts to enjoy this thrilling experience. Outlawing such an activity not only limits recreational opportunities for residents and visitors but also hampers our ability to attract environmentally conscious tourists who seek out sustainable experiences.

I strongly urge you to consider the significant social and economic implications of banning Efoiling. Instead, let us explore collaborative solutions that balance the interests of various stakeholders while preserving our environment and maintaining a vibrant recreational culture.

I kindly request that you reconsider your support for bill and support initiatives that promote responsible Efoiling practices through education, awareness, and regulation. Together, we can find a balance that allows us to enjoy our beautiful waters while preserving the unique natural heritage of Hawaii.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this issue further if you are available.

Lahela Aiwohi

Location:

Submitted At: 11:40am 08-01-23

On behalf of the Hawai'i Hotel Alliance, we support resolution 23-183 to approve inclusion to the 2024 Hawai'i State Association of Counties legislative package a state bill relating to motorized watercrafts. We continue to see an increase of motorized watercraft, specifically e-foils, being used and operated near our shoreline. Permit operators have shown negligence as "instructors" with their own paid customers as well as beach goers enjoying their day. We've seen and heard of multiple injuries occurring by these motorized watercraft and we need to address this issue sooner rather than later. Please consider adopting resolution 23-183 to help address the safety hazards of motorized watercraft along or near the shoreline. These watercraft should have the same regulations as jet ski operators. Mahalo for your consideration

Lahela Aiwohi, VP

Hawai'i Hotel Alliance

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:35am 08-01-23

I ride an efoil (in addition to normal surf, snorkel, sup), and this would hurt my individual liberty. These boards are not cheap and it's typically an older crowd using them (I'm one of the youngest I've seen and I'm 35). All efoilers I know avoid surfing breaks where surfers are already out, instead going to far out breaks away from people and therefore safe.

Efoiling is one of the funnest activities I've ever done in my life, you get the thrill of being in the ocean and also flying above it at the same time, limiting use of this would be the wrong move and should strongly be opposed.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:34am 08-01-23

Educate -Education is the key - balance and harmony with others is also important- I am a fisherman a waterman a swimmer a snorkeler a diver..in other words , I love the ocean and enjoy EFOILING I have a Self imposed rule -when OPERATING AN Efoil When you get on your foil , safely ride at less than 5 mph to minimum of 1000 yards at sea -We do to others as we would like others do unto us- Respect of what is in our care - the ocean and the people and fish and animals around us - Efoil are for sure less noisy and have covered blades and are less polluting - please do not take away this form of exercise ,it is a stress reliever - I also ride a bicycle and it is too dangerous to ride on the Maui roads...Remember when driving a car a boat or a motorcycle you also have the lives of others in your hands . Be alert ! Slow down ! Respect others space.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:32am 08-01-23

High risk danger to swimmers and divers

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:32am 08-01-23

Motorized watercrafts should not be made legal

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:32am 08-01-23

Drowning is the 5th leading cause of fatal injuries in Hawaii, with an average of nearly 40 deaths a year. Drowning is the only injury cause for which non-residents comprise a majority of victims (53%), and their inclusion increases the average annual number of deaths to 83.

Number of deaths caused by efoil related incidents = Zero

If safety is a concern, focus on the root cause and not something erroneous as a efoil.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:32am 08-01-23

Before we consider this, we should look at all the other inconsistencies with respect to ocean activities not following the laws and regulations. This will be yet another “thing” that will not be managed appropriately and businesses looking to profit again will push locals out of our spaces.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:28am 08-01-23

If jet skis (which are motorized, the same as a boat) are to be operated in a buffer zone away from swimmers and the general public then so should motorized e-foils. The worst that could happen in a surfing line up is someone getting “ran over” by a surf board skeg, unlike the motorized (also should be registered as a motorized craft with DLNR DOBOR) e-foil which reaches higher speeds. The current operating area in Maui and most of the areas around the Hawaiian isles especially around the general public is dangerous! Please give motorized e-foils the same classification and rules/laws as jet skis.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:19am 08-01-23

Aloha, we are local to Maui and we oppose on this agenda.

1. Because there are many differences between jet ski and efoil, you can compare it.
2. Access to water is made differently for jet skis and efoil.
3. If you put motor on wingfoil board it becomes thrill craft?
4. Just because you have few people who don't like efoils, this over years again and again pops up, please use your time for better solving issues.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:18am 08-01-23

I am an E-foiler. 56 years old and my efoil has gotten me back out in the water. I have too many aches and pains to surf with a traditional surf board now. E foiling is safe and easy on my body. I can catch non breaking waves without any one around and if I fall it is like falling in flat water. I am back out enjoying our beautiful waters again. This has been life changing for me.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:13am 08-01-23

I believe it would be an extreme over reach and over regulation that targets a select group of citizens for no reason under the guise of environmental protection and public safety. This topic is not new and all previous attempts by these special interest groups to ban or reclassify Efoils have failed in both house and senate committees after review of all the facts. Both the Hawaii State DOBOR and _the State Attorney General have previously ruled and reconfirmed in public testimony that Efoils are not to be classified as thrill craft.

Additionally, many people use eFoils as their only way to get in the ocean due to physical disabilities. This takes away their right and freedom to enjoy ocean activities like all others who are not disabled which is stigmatizing and further isolated people living with disabilities into isolation which can create further concerns such as poor mental health. Our mental health crisis is still rising each day due to poor post-covid planning. Places to house

people with mental health concerns are almost always full due to my personal work experience in this field. Not only does this negatively impact Maui County's mental health crisis further for people protected under ADA policies, but it also creates a trickle down effect for those who cannot surf or do any other ocean activities due to other injuries. Our social security administration office turns a blind eye to those that clearly qualify and I can personally attest to this being a working professional who had to fight and advocate for those who qualified, just to get letters of disqualification.

What about large company snorkel, whale watch, fishing, and other vessels? As someone who has been employed for many years on these vessels, I can personally attest that the motors are much more damaging to sea life due to their sounds and vibrations they create. What about Pacific Whale Foundation who has broken all rules during whale season regarding distance laws, and has (many times) ran over whales where I have seen so much blood in the water it is sickening.

This issue is biased and much larger than the accusations that are being made by Tiare Lawrence and Kai Nashiki. We cannot rule out one water sport and put it into a new category that it does not belong in. Where is the statistical evidence ladies? Where is the non-biased and scientifically based peer reviewed journal articles? The answer is, there are none. People, sea-life, and our precious Maui reefs are dying and have been for many years. Restoring coral takes many years, if even possible at all. Tiare Lawrence who works for Mahi Pono takes no questions from those asking about the pollution runoff created by Mahi Pono. How can we trust people like Tiare Lawrence (Mahi Pono) who cannot even take ownership of her own faults in ruining so much Maui County land? Show us the data and statistics with everything in Maui County waters that negatively impact all of the allegations being made. Showing data and statistics on eFoil along with all the others mentioned above will be eye openers. I hope you ladies do the right thing and show Maui County evidence-based and peer-reviewed evidence on all of your claims.

Kai Nashiki, Tiare Lawrence, and other supporters of this biased ban are making baseless accusations. In fact, Tiare Lawrence posted a video on her Instagram during one of their activist events, but I cannot confirm if it was an eFoil (I'm sure she has deleted it by now). However, it was close to shore, which is hypocritical considering the accusations being made. The recent recorded injury from a company that lacks respect for others in the water is at fault here and this reckless business owner should not ruin eFoiling for all. This incident should not be used to generalize all eFoil users and or business owners. The arguments against eFoiling lack factual support and fail to acknowledge the significant efforts made to ensure safety and sustainability that so many honor. Such actions are discriminatory, unethical, and undermine the principles of transparency that our council stands for.

I am against the resolution that seeks to redefine "thrill craft" to include eFoils. Unlike other items categorized as "Thrill Craft," eFoils are quiet, electric, and non-polluting. They are fundamentally different from wave runners and jet skis, which are typically large, loud, polluting, and operate at high speeds, causing wakes. It is reasonable to restrict the locations where and what times of year these traditional thrill crafts can be used, but eFoils should not be placed in the category of "thrill crafts".

This resolution represents an excessive overreach and unnecessary regulation that unfairly targets a specific group of citizens under the guise of environmental protection and public safety. It is important to note that previous attempts by special interest groups to ban or reclassify eFoils have failed after a thorough review of all the facts by both the Hawaii State DOBOR and the State Attorney General. They have consistently ruled that eFoils should not be classified as thrill craft.

Furthermore, many individuals with physical disabilities rely on eFoils as their only means of enjoying ocean activities. This ban would deprive them of their rights and freedom, further isolating them and potentially exacerbating mental health concerns. Given the rising mental health crisis, with limited resources available for those in need, it is crucial not to add further burdens on individuals protected under ADA policies. Additionally, this ban would also impact those who are unable to participate in ocean activities due to other injuries or non-qualifying disabilities. It is disheartening to see the lack of support from the social security administration office for those who clearly qualify for assistance.

What about the impact of large company snorkel, whale watch, fishing, and other vessels? Having worked on these vessels for many years, I can personally attest that their motors are much more damaging to sea life due to the sounds and vibrations they create. Let's not forget Pacific Whale Foundation, who has repeatedly violated distance laws during whale season and has caused harm to whales, resulting in distressing scenes of blood in the water.

This issue is biased and goes beyond the accusations made by Tiare Lawrence and Kai Nashiki. We cannot single out one water sport and place it in a category where it does not belong. Where is the statistical evidence? Where are the non-biased, scientifically-based, peer-reviewed journal articles? The people, sea life, and our precious Maui reefs have been suffering for years. Restoring coral takes a significant amount of time. Tiare Lawrence, who works for Mahi Pono, avoids addressing questions about the pollution runoff caused by the company she works for. How can we trust individuals like Tiare Lawrence (Mahi Pono) who refuse to take responsibility for their own actions in damaging Maui County land, fresh water and the ocean? It is essential for Tiare Lawrence and Kai Nashiki to provide evidence-based and peer-reviewed data and statistics on all their claims, not just about eFoils but with all others mentioned above. This will shed light on the true impact of various activities in Maui County waters. I hope that these individuals do the right thing and present Maui County with evidence-based, peer-reviewed, and scientifically-based to support their claims. Kai Nashiki and Tiare Lawrence, what credentials do you hold to make these accusations?

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:10am 08-01-23

Our beautiful resources are limited! The commercialization of our bays and waters must be curtailed! Consideration of our ocean life and traditional cultural practices must precede any commercial interests! I urge you to consider the overcrowding of this bay and the dangers that e foiling present. The bay cannot accommodate the number of swimmers, surfers, and canoe paddlers and the non-traditional efoiling riders. Yes the ocean is a big place but, the area in question is not

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:07am 08-01-23

Most e-foilers are over 40 years old and mature enough to be safe and responsible. E-foils are expensive and most 20 year olds can't afford them. Although they can afford a non motorized foil board. This is the problem, since they have to paddle out they can't go out far enough to avoid swimmers and surfers. They are foiling in the breaking waves. When they fall they are getting tumbled with their foil board. This is what causes most of the injuries. The other injuries are from the foil boards hitting other surfers. E-foilers don't want to be in these areas and we can power out to areas where the waves do no break. If we fall nothing happens. No wave comes crashing down on us.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:06am 08-01-23

HAWAII-WHALES-R-US

DEDICATED TO LIVING IN BALANCE WITH OUR MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Richard Craig Roshon – Lecturer, author, Kayak Entrepreneur

Established 1975

To: Does Anyone Really Care

From: Richard Roshon

Subj: KAHEKILI BEACH PARK TO BLACK ROCK

Unsafe place to swim

They are called E-Foils, and electric powered surfboard that can reach speeds of up to 25 miles per hour and emit a noise that can be heard for over 100 yards underwater. The Sea where sound travels 5 times the distance

than it does in our atmosphere. Marine species such as turtles, seals and whales use sound to find migration routes, food and mates.

For nearly 5 decades a place where Sugar Cane once lined the cost line, now the location of Kahekili Beach Park has been the beginning of my daily morning swims to Black Rock and back beginning in the 1970's. It has always been a nice clean, quiet and safe place to swim. Today dozens of local residents swim along this coast from Kahekili Beach Park to Black Rock and back for their morning exercise. Many of us swim out to the moored Catamaran and then down to Black Rock – NO MORE

However sadly and unfortunately this E-Foil operation is now operating from the Royal Lahaina Resort. Recently I have heard of several close encounters by daily swimmers as the E-Foil races close by. I have also been told of a few residents approaching the operator of this E-Foil operation questioning this operation and saying that this individual has been rude and some what threatening.

After 5 decades and a personal frightening close encounter with an E-Foil I will no longer swim in this area and enjoy the meditative quietness that swimming brings. A hit I feel could be fatal – (there is no air bag to protect you such as in a car. It would be a full on hit and a lawsuit will not bring a persons life back who may have just perished or gets seriously injured. Recently in Rhode Island I was told a young boy wass hospitalized due to being hit by an E-Foil.

I urge all who read this letter to write, call DO something. Don't just say "Oh that's to bad". Do something to eliminate this operation so that other E-foil operations do not appear.

PLEASE, PLEASE DO SOMETHING, OR THINGS WILL ONLY GET WORSE.

Here are some addresses, so please take the time to write, call – make copies of this letter and forward, call but again DO SOMETHING.

Maui County Council, Kalana O Maui Bldg. 200 S. High Street, 8th Floor Wailuku, Maui 96793

Tamara Paltin, Maui County Council Representing W. Maui, same address as above.
Tamarra.Palltin@mauicounty.us

Elle Cochran, House of Representatives, 14th District - Maalaea, W. Maui, Kahakuloa, Waiehu
415 S. Beretania st. #315, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 808-586-6160
repcochran@capitol.hawaii.gov

State DLNR-Division of Aquatic, 130 Mahalani st. Wailuku, Maui 96793 808-243-5294
DLNR Main office, Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson 808-587-0400 dlnc@hawaii.gov

DLNR Division of Boating & Recreation, Lahaina Small Boat Harbor, 675 Wharf St.
Lahaina 96761 808-662-4062

County of Maui – Department of parks & Recreation, 700 Halia Nakua St #2,
Wailuku, Maui 96793 Patrick McCall Director, Shane Dudoit Deputy Director 808-270-7230

Love The Sea, 33 Hoe St. Paia, Maui 96779 – Campell Farrell, Executive Director
808-870-6404 (Non-profit organization)

Maui SurfRiders, P.O. Box 790549, Paia, Maui 96779, Nicole Rosen, Marina Scott (Non profit organization)

Division of boating and Ocean Recreation, Maui District Office 101 Maalaea Boat Harbor Road, Wailuku, Maui
96793 808-243-5824 dlnc.bd.mauidistrict@hawaii.gov

Mr Stephen Hinck, GM Royal Lahaina Resort, 2780 Kekaa Drive, Lahaina, Maui, 96761

IN CLOSING: Thankyou Royal Lahaina for taking away the once Ambience of a quiet, peaceful and safe place to swim for Residents, Visitors and Nature (Sea Turtles, Seals and Whales)

DOES ANYONE REALLY CARE
For the preservation and safety of all life
Above and Below the SEA

Richard Roshon
Lahaina, Maui

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 11:04am 08-01-23

I oppose this discriminatory bill and support the rights of individuals to e-foil.
Brad NaPier MD

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 11:01am 08-01-23

TWO HUNDRED FEET AWAY FROM SWIMMERS AT ALL TIMES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

PLEASE FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC. THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS AS WELL AS THE WHALES, DOLPHINS AND SEA TURTLES THAT TRAVEL BETWEEN BLACK ROCK AND AIRPORT BEACH DEPEND ON YOUR DUE DILIGENCE. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY AND TRANQUILLITY TO THIS SPIRITUAL PLACE ON OUR PLANET AND SHUT DOWN E FOIL HAWAII LLC AT ONCE!

MAHALO,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

I IMPLORE THE STATE OF HAWAII MORE SPECIFICALLY MAUI COUNTY TO FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC BEFORE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH OCCURS FOR THE THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS WHO DAILY TRAVEL BETWEEN AIRPORT BEACH AND BLACK ROCK. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE TO NORTH KAA NAPALI BEACH WHILE PROTECTING WHALES, DOLPHINS, SEA TURTLES FROM THIS COMERCIALISM E FOIL OPERATION. THE CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF WEST MAUI HANG IN THE BALANCE.

MAHALO.,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:58am 08-01-23

I support.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:57am 08-01-23

Hi everyone, I am 58 years old and Efoiling is a healthy way for me to get outside and be in the water. I was born and raised here and over the years I have many other factors that have negatively impacted our reef such oil and leaky fuels from unkept boats and jet skis dripping onto our beautiful reef and destroying them.

If DLNR really cares about saving our resources start with the root cause and address the gas guzzling water vessels.

If you want modernize anything, modernize your perspective and look at electric water vessels as a gateway into our brighter future where our reef and wildlife is flourishing. Don't penalize the few who are quiet and minding their own business. No operator of efoils are intending to hurt wildlife or looking for swimmers to run over. Please have an open mind.

Grace Lin

Location:

Submitted At: 10:55am 08-01-23

I believe that e-foils should be banned in Maui because of their harmful environmental impacts and their disrespect for native peoples. Many environmentalists have also made it clear that this is an unnecessary tourism experience that hurts native flora and fauna.

Electronic hydrofoil, better known as an E-Foil are powered by electric motors (hence the name), which means that they produce emissions that contribute to climate change, and they also use an excessive amount of energy. the noise from e-foils often disturb marine life survival patterns and make it difficult for other people to enjoy the natural beauty of Maui.

The use of e-foils in Maui has also been criticized by many native Hawaiians, as a short-sighted disrespectful intrusion without deeper thought of it's intersectional impacts. E-foils are often used in areas that are sacred to native Hawaiians, and the noise from the machines can disturb cultural practices such as fishing, surfing, ect. Tourists will still flock to Hawaii even if e-foils are banned. There are many other activities that tourists can enjoy on the island, such as hiking, swimming, and snorkeling. In fact, a ban on e-foils could actually help to protect the environment and the cultural heritage of Maui, which would make the island more attractive to tourists in the long run.

For these reasons, I believe that the environmental and cultural impacts of e-foils are too great to allow them to be used in Maui. I urge the Maui County Council to ban the use of e-foils in Maui in order to protect the environment and the cultural heritage of the island.

I believe that a ban on e-foils would be a fair and reasonable measure that would protect the interests of all people who live on or visit Maui. Thank you for your time and consideration

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:51am 08-01-23

I think most of the reported injuries are from non powered foil boards surfing on breaking waves with other surfers. A lot of people can't tell the difference between a powered and non powered foil board. They are just latching on to the term E-foil and assuming we are all the same. E-foils do not operate in the breaking waves. We have the ability to power out farther away from people and breaking waves. The non powered foil boards have to paddle by hand and cannot make it out far enough to avoid people and breaking waves.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:48am 08-01-23

Locations | E-Foil Hawaii

I IMPLORE THE STATE OF HAWAII MORE SPECIFICALLY MAUI COUNTY TO FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC BEFORE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH OCCURS FOR THE THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS WHO DAILY TRAVEL BETWEEN AIRPORT BEACH AND BLACK ROCK. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE TO NORTH KAAPALI BEACH WHILE PROTECTING WHALES, DOLPHINS, SEA TURTLES FROM THIS COMERCIALISM E FOIL OPERATION. THE CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF WEST MAUI HANG IN THE BALANCE.

MAHALO.,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

CORUPTORS OF KAAPALI NORTHSIDE (E-FOILHAWAII) WHERE CALMNESS, TRANQUILITY,
NONCOMMERCIAL WATER ENJOYMENT MEETS OLD LAHAINA TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES

RECENTLY A COMMERCIAL E-FOIL LEASE WAS GRANTED BY THE ROYAL LAHAINA TO E-FOILHAWAII. THIS ONCE PEACEFUL STRETCH OF COASTLINE (NORTH KAAPALI BEACH) WHERE ORGANIC WATER ACTIVITIES LIKE OPEN OCEAN WATER SWIMMING, SNORKELING AND PADDLEBOARDING PROVIDE A SAFE HEAVEN FROM GAS OR ELECTRIC POWERED WATERCRAFT HAS NOW BEEN DISRUPTED BY MAINLAND COMERCIALISM. THE OPERATORS OF E- FOILHAWAII WILL CLAIM THAT THEIR PRACTICES ARE SAFE FOR BOTH THE CUSTOMER AND THOSE WHO ENTER THE OCEAN FOR THE ABOVEMENTIONED ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT THE ELECTRIC E-FOIL IS A MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT THAT CAN TOP OUT AT SPEEDS BETWEEN 20 AND 28 MPH. THE DAMAGE THIS WATERCRAFT CAN DO TO BOTH WILDLIFE AND HUMANS IS ENORMOUS AND IN MANY INSTANCES FATAL. REGARDLESS OF THE SUPERVISION PROVIDED BY E-FOILHAWAII WHILE ENTERTAINING GUESTS OUT ON THE WATER IN FRONT OF THE ROYAL LAHAINA, ACCIDENTS, MISHAPS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR DEATH EXIST. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY (LAHAINA, KAAPALI, HONOKOWAI, KAHANA. NAPILI AND HONOLUA) WHO FOR DECADES HAVE MADE THE JOURNEY TO THIS STRETCH OF BEACH WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES STRONGLY REJECT, OPPOSE AND INSIST THAT THE ROYAL LAHAINA AND DLNR REVOKE ALL PERMITTING FOR E-FOILHAWAII IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO RESTORE SAFETY, PEACE, CALMNESS, TRANQUILITY TO THIS VERY SPIRITUAL CORNER OF THE WORLD.

MAHALO,
SCOTT COHN

Mike Haxton

Location:
Submitted At: 10:46am 08-01-23

I wholeheartedly oppose this. There are inconsiderate surfers, divers, boaters, and beach goers. The acts of a foolish few should not jeopardize those who are safe wise stewards of our ocean resources.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:35am 08-01-23

Efoiling is safe

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:25am 08-01-23

I can understand the intent of this bill. All water vessels have rudders which are like swords under water. I have seen more wildlife at risk from speeding boats. Lets take this opportunity to partner and educate both sides so we can have a safe ocean and resources.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:18am 08-01-23

Can we just learn to share the ocean, which is rather large? I swim in the ocean with foilers all the time, but I never seem to get close to them because they operate so far away from shore. I frequently find dead salinity caused by boats traveling faster than a foil, which typically operates at 12 miles per hour.

Shachar Jeffrey Argov

Location:

Submitted At: 10:11am 08-01-23

My wife and I are in our late 50s. based on environmental and safety considerations, Efoiling is a superb opportunity for us to exercise and enjoy our beautiful Island. Please please please don't take it away from us! We've been Efoiling for almost three years and haven't encountered any issues with swimmers, other vessels, or sea life. How is a 15MPH Efoil less safe than unregulated recreational activities such as a 25MPH Kite Surfing or even plain surfing? Have the authors of the bill considered statistics for surfing injuries? Why do they pick on the mellow, slow, and quiet sport of Efoiling?

As alternative, would the authors consider a common sense proposal, other than a BAN? For example, it makes perfect sense that Efoils (and Kite surfing) should not be operated within designated swimming areas.

In addition, grouping us with thrill crafts is unsafe for Efoilers, as we normally try to avoid thrill crafts such as Jet Skis. We don't move fast enough to get away from thrill crafts and are not visible enough when we are off the efoil and in the water. If we are forced to share a space with them we will be put in real danger!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:09am 08-01-23

It flies in the face of logic to grant a permit to these watercraft for tourists. They are the same as slashing blades through the water at risk to not only the rider, but to other people and wildlife in the ocean.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:09am 08-01-23

Stop caring about the tourists more than the aina and the people who live here. If you don't regulate the land and resources in a pono and Intelligent way...there will be NO land and resources left.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:08am 08-01-23

Aloha.

I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.

_Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity as a thrill craft, like has been done for jet skis.

_This watercraft is a serious threat and potentially fatal to humans and marine life.

_It's like flying through the water with a submerged samurai sword!

_Please don't wait for someone in our community to be maimed or killed.

Take immediate action to protect our health and safety.

Mahalo.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:07am 08-01-23

To pass legislation

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:05am 08-01-23

I support this resolution. I have been a spear fisherman for over 60 years on the island of Maui. I have also been

a commercial boat fisherman for over 50 years. All water craft have the potential to kill or maim humans and marine life. Increasing the number of either or both will result in more conflicts.

Foil boards powered by motors, or humans are especially deadly and destructive because of their long masts and wings traveling at very high speeds under the water. They also operate in close proximity to the shoreline along with humans, turtles and seals. .

Turtles and seals are protected but no one mentions the collisions in the ocean between them and foil and windsurf boards. Turtle shells in areas of popular foil and windsurf areas are cracked and have many scuff marks from collisions. Why not ask them if they have ever hit a turtle or seal while windsurfing or foiling? Ask them if they have ever hit a human or came close to one. Is money more important than safety or protection of humans and marine life? Mahalo for doing something.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:02am 08-01-23

Super dangerous around snorkel areas for the obvious reasons. Must stop this before someone gets hurt or worse

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:00am 08-01-23

Please keep our ocean users safe. Don't risk injury to swimmers, keiki, etc.

These are likely to be used by inexperienced visitors and are not necessary for a thriving tourist economy. There are already enough activities for visitors to do.

Mahalo,
Kanoa Nishiki
Kanoanishiki@hotmail.com

Ben Collins

Location:

Submitted At: 9:57am 08-01-23

These watercraft are as dangerous as jet skis & take far more skill to safely maneuver. They need to be in a restricted area far off shore & only used during non whale season just like the Jet Skis. If anyone opposed this safety measure, talk to the man with the 200 stitches or his lawyer.

Manoki Nguyen

Location:

Submitted At: 9:56am 08-01-23

Lets give respect to common sense here. The motor and rudder used in the efoils are also used for fishing kayaks. The motor of an efoil and the motor of a fishing kayak produces the same level of noise. An efoil has underwater wings which is basically rudders of all water vessels. There is no difference between a wings used to steer an efoil and a rudder to steer a fishing kayak. All water vessels need rudders to steer. This modernization of definition would also put fishing kayaks into this classification and negatively the fishing community which to many is a way of life and embodied in the hawaiian culture.

Since Fishing has been an important aspect of Hawaiian culture for thousands of years. The practice of fishing helped connect people to the natural world and reminded them their actions had a direct impact on it; it was also a societal "glue" that strengthened relationships between seaside and upland communities.

Everyone, please use common sense here.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:56am 08-01-23

Tamara Paltin needs her legislation to be reviewed by an attorney who understands watercraft. You cannot redact an internal combustion engine as this leaves a loop hole for combustion engines. Eliminating E-Foils is not the answer but I do feel that regulating to assigned areas and rules is a more acceptable approach and therefore this legislation needs to go back to the drawing board.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:56am 08-01-23

Let's have time for an honest debate with experts from both sides. Then we all can get the facts and make an educated decision. Until then I strongly oppose !

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:54am 08-01-23

If E Foil is being banned or considered thrill craft you should do the same with your local wholly surfing, as the board or the fins can hurt the surfers, swimmers and/or snorklers. 2020ies the decade of forbidding.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:52am 08-01-23

This is a dangerous commercial activity that needs regulation or banned. Most tourist dont know what a dive flag is either and would not know it means someone is in the water as they zoom along w a underwater sword.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:52am 08-01-23

Please keep our beaches for swimmers, young and old! Please keep as distant as possible or entirely gone any commercial opportunists who put money before people so no scythes, motors, endanger any wildlife or folks. Surfers and windsurfers let swimmers be, why can't the non-commercial foil folk find somewhere else- Kanaha or Windmills or Ukemehame? Beaches for swimmers!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:37am 08-01-23

Please support the regulations regarding motorized thrillcraft. Mahalo, Chris Breckels, Lahaina

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:20am 08-01-23

I am afraid of the thrill craft harming people in the ocean, the county has a responsibility to protect the people from this greedy industry!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:53am 08-01-23

Yes to regulate this activity as a thrilll craft

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:45am 08-01-23

Aloha

I'm a Maui county lifeguard stationed in west Maui and I fully support banning commercial e-foil operations because it's a safety hazard to swimmers and prevents local fisherman from casting lines. Please ban commercial operations.

Mahalo

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:32am 08-01-23

I have been active in waters of Maui for 30+ years, and using an e-foil in these same waters for the past three years. I very much oppose Resolution 23-183 reclassifying e-foils as thrill crafts. E-foils are safe, quiet, generally limited to 17 mph and run on electricity. I just found out that this bill had been introduced 15 minutes ago. If there are specific issues being presented by e-foiling, the e-foil community would love to understand them and help address these issues.

Mahalo

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:20am 08-01-23

Please keep our most popular beaches safe for swimmers and snorkelers. Do not give out permits allowing motorize foil boards to be rented or used in Kaanapali.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:19am 08-01-23

E-Foil Hawaii is a business with a management team constantly evolving health and safety for its staff, guests and everyone around us. We have completed the only controlled sound test for whales and build advanced protocol for whale safety. Where we completely stop and never go in there direction. We have contacted monk seal teams to set up perimeters for their safety. None of our guests ever operate around any sea life and we explain the importance about giving aquatic animals. The respect they deserve. With over half an hour of professional instruction on ride technique and safety our guests are our priority, and their experience is in the forefront. Our team members are all boat certified in CPR certified. We have also done several ocean rescues for young people on paddleboard's that get swept away by Highwinds. So anywhere E-Foil Hawaii is lifeguards are on site with marine radios connected directly to Coast Guard. Our team members are experience, water, men and women, with decades of love and respect for the ocean and the people of Hawaii. We strive to set the standard for safe operations on an Efoil through our company and have even educated private owners. Our hopes are to create a safety certification class given by E-Foil Hawaii to certify a rider for safe operations here in Hawaii. Then with that certification, it can be presented to DLNR for registration. We set up boundary lines in the ocean while doing lessons and guests can not pass that line. What we're doing it at E-Foil Hawaii is under complete control and will never allow to be drop under a certain standard. We have extended free rides for several community members in order to show that standard and professionalism, and we ask if anybody wants to know how we operate and see it with their own eyes calm down take a free ride or just hang out with us and you'll see that what you're reading and social media is far from what we do at E-Foil Hawaii. I Rafael Rivera stand behind E-Foil Hawaii and its team and will continue to share the experience and education here in Hawaii as long as possible. We welcome all challenges and opportunities to grow together. We appreciate everyone's time and consideration, and giving us the opportunity to do this in the first place.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:15am 08-01-23

Aloha,

I've been windsurfing, surfing, diving, fishing, skimming, body surfing, swimming, boating, and jet skiing in Maui Coastal Waters for over 35 years. I've also been efoiling in the same waters for the past three years. I strongly oppose Resolution 23-183 (formerly bill 1900HB, which was struck down) classifying an efoil as a thrill craft / in the same category as a jet ski, as it is illogical based on the following reasoning. An efoil is whisper quiet, creates no wake, weighs 60 lbs., averages 15 knots, and has an electric 5-hp motor. In contrast, a jet ski weighs 750 lbs., is capable of speeds of 65 knots, and has a gas-powered 300+ hp motor. Furthermore, by this same logic, boats would also fall into this thrill craft category.

If efoilers are creating a safety or marine concern, we need to address the issue, not just ban them or reclassify them as a thrill craft. Why not educate efoilers, have them take a boater's safety course, or create an efoil safety course. There's no reason an efoil can't safely operate just like any other vessel in Hawaii. Educate, don't discriminate.

Can you provide factual evidence/cases of people / marine life being struck by efoilers?

Is there factual evidence pertaining to efoils causing underwater noise pollution? Harm to whales, dolphins, turtles, corals spawning,.....?

If the bill doesn't fit your agenda, is it right to just change the definition? Just because someone doesn't agree with you, doesn't mean they are wrong.

Why is it that those who oppose this bill are only finding out about it hours before the testimony, while the ones who support the bill seem to have known about it for quite some time based on all the supporting responses?

We need to wake up and stop the insanity. Are we really that naïve that the real reason for this bill is an ulterior motive? Why are we trying to prevent the advancement & growth of green technology? Share the ocean with all who embrace it! Stop the fear-mongering and share the aloha.

Mahalo,
Travis Gulnac

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:01am 08-01-23

In my opinion, while well intentioned, I don't believe this proposal solves the problem. Also, its reasoning is poor because I think it is focused on achieving what would be a poor result.

MISTAKES & PROBLEMATIC REASONING

"speeds of up to 30mph"

- It is *possible* to go as fast as 30mph on an eFoil, but one would need to be extremely light (around 100lbs), in perfect conditions, have a high speed foil on, and be an outstanding rider. In my experience typical speeds are between 15mph and 20mph in the vast majority of cases.

"The legislature recognizes that non-motorized hydrofoils cannot reach speeds comparable to motorized hydrofoils"

- This is false. Windsurfers, kite foils and wing-foils regularly reach speeds between 20mph and 30mph. These are non-motorized craft. And are presumably just as, or more, dangerous than an efoil. For example kite-foilers also have the issue of the lines which can get wrapped up with other kiter's lines, come into contact with wing-foilers, etc. Kites and wingers are powered by the wind. It's much more difficult to control one's direction and speed because the wind is a variable power source. An electric engine is not.

e-foils "pose much higher risk of injury to others because they are difficult to use and can reach speeds of up to 30 miles per hour"

- Higher than what? This should be established so we can put the regulation of eFoils in context. Higher than kite-foils? I doubt that. Higher than wing foils? Higher than windsurfers? Higher than surfing? These are *all* injury prone sports. The government is entitled to regulate as it pleases. However, reasoning such as this makes it appear that eFoils are being singled out for some reason. A better argument would show evidence that eFoils where MORE dangerous than the unregulated wing-foiling, kiting, kite-foiling, windsurfing, etc. That has not been done. How many efoil accidents are there in general? How many eFoilers are there? How many are there in comparison to kiting? Or windsurfing? It's important to have perspective on the magnitude of the issue. Again, no evidence is provided rather the problem is asserted as being true without first proving that is.

"similar to other motorized watercrafts, e-foils emit sound that may cause underwater noise pollution and cause

harm to whales and other marine life"

Actually they aren't that similar. eFoils are very quiet and the most recent versions (2023) are *extremely* quiet. I can barely hear them even at top speeds. eFoils have electric engines and not gasoline powered engines. Think the amount of noise a Tesla/Leaf/etc makes in comparison to any internal combustion engine automobile. Or boat! In addition, many foil designs used in wing-foiling and kite-foiling also make a sound when they are at speed. To me it sounds like a med-high pitched hum. Likely it is the sound of the water flowing over the foil. This sound is certainly as noisy if not more noisy than the sound that eFoils make. Regardless, there is absolutely no evidence provided that harm is being caused to marine life. And if this were the case, you would need to regulate almost all internal combustion engines near to shore as they are *MUCH* louder than efoils even at idling speeds.

So what is the actual problem? I believe it's inexperienced efoilers zipping around in areas with paddlers (canoe and otherwise) making them anxious and uncomfortable, especially when the efoilers fall, or worse, collide with someone nearby. This seems like a legitimate complaint! But it's not really a different situation than one we encounter when we surf, wing-foil, or kite-foil. The solution to the problem is to create a culture of respect and care. It is to make sure that people are properly trained and have the adequate skills necessary before engaging in a sport in an area where people can be hurt. On the surf line up, surfers are quick to spot kooks who shouldn't be there, tell them to go, and invite them to discuss it in the parking lot if they won't! Not that I recommend that, but it does work. Kites and wings often have beginner areas where newbs are strongly encouraged to go (the Harbor or Kooks Beach for example). These are practical solutions that recognize that we all need to get along, people should be allowed to learn and enjoy new sports, but they need to get good and practice in a safe area where chances of hurting themselves or other people are minimized.

eFoils are motorized, so I wouldn't think it unreasonable to have folks take a boater's safety course. Pass a test, written and practical. That sort of thing. Haven't most of us wished at some point that *all* boaters had to take a practical test just like automobile drivers? *That* is a practical solution. I think it would be important to license people to train eFoilers and certify them. Perhaps along the line as we do with divers. Ideas of this nature all seem like practical solutions. The proposal here: poorly argued, doesn't address the problem, punitive in nature, etc. Really it seems like the author would prefer there to be no eFoilers at all! Classifying them as thrill craft, with all the restrictions therein, in practical terms makes it very difficult, if not impossible, to enjoy an eFoil on the island. If that is the actual goal, better to just outlaw them. The government can, after all, regulate as it sees fit.

Todd Cowing
Wailuku

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 7:55am 08-01-23

As an eFoil, kite foiler, and wing foiler, it is not much different. Riders have no interest in being near regular surfers or swimmers. Coexisting is more than reasonable here, mahalo

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 7:41am 08-01-23

This is incredibly dangerous and needs to be regulated

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 7:14am 08-01-23

eFoils are safe, silent, electric powered with no wake, no exhaust, and zero harm to nature. Dolphins and wildlife love us, we always float alongside many!

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 6:59am 08-01-23

Please ban EFoils. They are dangerous and prevent me from shoreline casting on the beach in front of the Royal Lahaina Hotel. Maui doesn't need more commercial activities consuming our beaches.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:45am 08-01-23

Efoil is silent, no wake, no exhaust, no harm to environment, and is no different than any other foil projected with a sail or kite

Bruce St Germain

Location:

Submitted At: 6:44am 08-01-23

I oppose this resolution for a lot of the same reasons as others but also want to share that efoiling has brought back to me my younger years of surfing in Hawaii. At 64 My body doesn't want to work the way it used to. Efoiling has me and my wife back in the water observing at all the water life (that does not bolt away) and catching the wave bumps safely outside of surf breaks. So Much Fun.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:26am 08-01-23

I'm strongly against this resolution. Using an efoil or any board type sport on the water has its dangers to others in the water. It is us as surfers who are paying attention to our surroundings, to make sure we don't slide our fins over someone's head or back. A driver in a vehicle has to be cautious of his surroundings to watch for pedestrians. Please don't ban a sport because of it being so foreign. Allow people to make good judgments as it has already been shown. I know some lively hoods depend on the operation of efoils. I hope aloha can be shown. Mahalo.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:10am 08-01-23

Robert Perkins:

I oppose putting efoils in the "Thrill Craft" category. They create no noise pollution, and as with all ocean activities, they can be exhilarating and provide great outdoor exercise, when used with common sense and safety guideline. Perhaps some safety protocol, such as approved efoil locations and use times makes sense, so that all who enjoy our beautiful waters may partake in the wide variety of activities which make Hawaii such a wonderful and unique destination in the world.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:57am 08-01-23

Everyone enjoys the water in their own way, and everyone has dislikes of how others use the water. If you remove one activity, then those will fight to remove another. Let the people work amongst themselves in the water. We are capable of communicating, we do not need an overreaching authority to command us on what we can and cannot do.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:47am 08-01-23

I support the banning of hydrofoils in Maui. They are a danger to swimmers and snorkelers. At the very least they should be restricted like ja jet ski

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:17am 08-01-23

Allow people to exercise

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:15am 08-01-23

This is ridiculous... let people have fun

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:10am 08-01-23

I've only been efoiling for a little over two years but this article scares me! Similar those who find their niches in other activities or sports, I have found my niche in efoiling and practice approximately 5 days per week so for this sport to become illegal would be an absolute shame! I understand some of the safety concerns surrounding efoil but if you use common sense and follow the rules then this sport is no more harmful then any other sport. Please don't make efoiling illegal, this sport has changed my life and by extension I get to impact other people's lives with the lessons I provide. I feel like we've only just begun exploring the possibilities behind the sport of efoiling so I will continue to pray that the power at be allow efoiling to continue!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:04am 08-01-23

eFoils pose no excessive threat to Hawaii's waters, marine life, or its people. In fact, data shows that eFoiling is statistically safer than other motorized activities in our oceans. Not only does it boast an excellent safety record, but it also stands out as an eco-friendly option, being cleaner for the environment than other motorized water activities while being quieter too.

All the relevant documents substantiating these claims are readily available for any council member or concerned citizen to review, ensuring transparency and confidence in our findings. Unfortunately, there are voices seeking to ban eFoils without factual basis or consideration of these established facts.

I must emphasize that Kai Nashiki, Tiare Lawrence, and others supporting this biased ban are making unfounded accusations. Their arguments lack factual support and fail to consider the significant efforts made to ensure the safety and sustainability of eFoiling. Such actions are discriminatory, un-"ETHICAL," and undermine the principles of transparency that our council stands for.

I earnestly request the council to defer this topic, as it has already been diligently assessed by competent authorities within their purview. Instead, let us focus on addressing more pressing issues that require the council's attention. Our activities have been legally sound and thoroughly vetted, adhering to the highest professional standards.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:50am 08-01-23

Please reconsider this bylaw. It will not only destroy the businesses on island who have been operating successfully and adding value to tourism experiences but will also take away jobs and retail sales related to this sport.

This is already a well regulated industry and is not posing any harm to the environment or persons related. This is also a clean and green activity compared to many of the charter businesses on island.

Thanks you for your consideration.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:13am 08-01-23

Aloha, my name is Rhett Russell and I oppose the addition of efoils to the "thrill craft" category. The idea that an efoil is anything close to a jetski or requires this type of regulation has no basis in fact or common sense. They are not similar in any way; especially speed, noise, or maneuverability. There is simply no way for these slower moving watercraft to safely operate in the "thrill craft" zones - you would essentially be sending efoils that are more similar to a surfboard than a jetski out into the rougher open ocean where they are not practical; they don't have the range or the rough water handling capabilities to operate in the majority of the thrill craft zones. This

proposal essentially bans the use of efoils without saying that publicly by attempting to put these craft in the same category as jet skis. Please don't conflate the use of efoils with thrill craft just to get rid of a sport that you may not agree with especially since efoils are already regulated by the DLNR and require a license. Mahalo

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:53am 08-01-23

Efoils are safe and fun

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:55am 08-01-23

This isn't right for y'all to do this. Isn't this the land of the free?

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:08am 08-01-23

I am opposed to this resolution that would change the definition of "thrill craft" to include eFoils. eFoils are quiet, electric, and non-polluting.

An eFoil is nothing like other items categorized as "Thrill Craft". Thrill Craft, like wave runners and jet skis, are generally large, heavy, loud, polluting, operated at very fast speeds, and cause wakes. As such, they are, in my opinion, correctly limited in the locations in which they can be used. I do not want to be at the beach and hear the loud whine of jet ski engines.

In contrast, eFoils are relatively small (shorter than most surfboards), light (can easily be carried, unlike jet skis and don't require boat launch ramps or trailers), and are generally operated at relatively slow speeds (5-10 knots). This is much slower than jet skis and other Thrill Craft, and much slower than kite surfboards. They produce no wake.

I am very concerned that if this bill passes, eFoilers will be limited to riding in a few very dangerous areas--that is, areas where true "Thrill Craft" are allowed. I don't want eFoilers to be competing with jet skis on the water--a competition that they will surely lose, perhaps even with tragic results.

Please oppose this resolution and allow eFoilers to continue to safely enjoy the beauty of Hawaii's waters without putting them in danger.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:00am 08-01-23

Please allow us to foil

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:23pm 07-31-23

This is dangerous for local swimmers and especially our keiki.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:00pm 07-31-23

Aloha Maui County Council Members,

I am reaching out to you directly to express my deep concern for this bias hearing topic on 8.1.23 at 1:30pm. I personally have worked with the DLNR DOBOR from Oahu and all islands to help understand and create legislation for the Electric Foil Boards entry into ocean activity. These works started in December of 2019. Organizations involved have been; U.S. Coast Guard, The Hawaii State Attorney General, NOAA, DLNR DOBOR, American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). The conclusion of the collaborative efforts of

these organizations, combined with known professionals and famous waterman of Hawaii, are as follows: Electric Foil Boarding bares no excessive threat to hawaii waters, marine life or its people. It is safer in all Ocean activity statistics than other motorized activities. It is cleaner for the environment than all other motorized activities and is quieter. The documents required to prove all of this information can be readily available to any council member or public citizen. Kai Nashiki, Tiare Lawrence, and all other activists associated with this bias push, are making non factual arguments and accusations. They are discriminating and extremely un-“ETHICAL” and non “TRANSPARENT,” which I gathered is the bases of this counsels meaning. If you would like proof of these comments, just ask, they are all documented.

I urge the counsel to defer this topic while it's been assessed already by specific authorities within its purview. The county council has more important topics that require its attention. All of our activities are legally sound and vetted as a professional company should be.

I apologize for the time you have already put into entertaining all false accusations. Feel free to call or email me at your convenience.

Mahalo Nui Loa.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:54pm 07-31-23

I support Maui County Council urging the state to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public before someone gets seriously injured or killed.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:57pm 07-31-23

E-foils are a safe non polluting way to enjoy the Ocean. It is unfair to ban them. The community has always went out of its way to be inclusive and follow all of the rules

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:55pm 07-31-23

Why is this being debated again? Last year it didn't pass. Why are time and resources being used on this? Move on people. Or please fix real problems in Hawaii

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:51pm 07-31-23

Oppose

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:47pm 07-31-23

Clearly the individuals in support here have no idea about this technology. Why don't you go to the beach like I did and learn more about it. I don't own one but these things should replace all motorized gas boats.

Also if you are swimming outside the designated swim area you are taking your life onto your own hands. The Efoil won't hurt you but the guy on the boat blasting music while drunk will. Ban Boats! BAN PEOPLE SWIMMING OUTSIDE OF DESIGNATED SWIM ZONES.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:43pm 07-31-23

The same people thst oppose efoils are the same people that opposed Tesla's. Now they are driving Tesla's. World will evolve if you like it or not. I prefer a 4hp silent electric motor over 400hp gas guzzling cigar boat. But if efoils are outlawed then I'll be back to the 400hp boat.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:39pm 07-31-23

I have not heard of any injuries attributed to Efoiling. As an Efoiler myself. We have no desire to foil close to swimmers, surfers or any powered water craft. We do not want to be near breaking waves and surfers. The waves we catch are the swells further out to sea that do not break. Surfers are not able to catch these waves so we never share the same waves.

I believe it would be an extreme over reach and over regulation that targets a select group of citizens for no reason under the guise of environmental protection and public safety.

This topic is not new and all previous attempts by these special interest groups to ban or reclassify Efoils have failed in both house and senate committees after review of all the facts.

Additionally, For many physically disabled people an Efoil is the only way for them to access and enjoy the ocean which should be protected in accordance with the Americans with disabilities act.

Finally, there is very little audible impact from efoils on marine life. When compared to other powered watercraft, efoils are the most quiet.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:22pm 07-31-23

Aloha, my name is Alika Ferreira and I operate an efoil personally and operate an efoil school commercially on Oahu. I have instructed 1000s of people on how to safely operate an efoil over the past three years and I have ZERO incidents to report. We teach lessons away from the busy locations such as Waikiki.

There is very little audible impact from efoils on marine life. When compared to other powered watercraft, efoils are the most quiet.

If this bill is passed, you would be placing an efoil in the same category as a jet ski. Efoils are much more like a small dingy or pontoon boat than a jet ski. Efoil speeds are capable of 30 mph, similar to a pontoon boat and dingy, but very different from a jet ski with speeds of 60-120 mph. Efoils operate only when the operator is onboard. As soon as the operator falls, the efoil motor shuts off. That is not true for jet skis or boats.

Efoils are classified as vessels by the US Coast Guard. As such, vessels are restricted from surf zones, swim zones, and other vessel restricted areas. This classification is sufficient to prevent accidents with non-powered watercrafts. If this bill is approved, you would put Efoil operators in the same zone as a jet ski which would put the efoil operator in harms way.

Please consider this points and those of all Efoil operators when making your decision. I am available for live testimony if desired.

Mahalo,
Alika Ferreira

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:58pm 07-31-23

I am writing to express my opposition and frustration with the proposed law change affecting Efoils.

I believe it would be an extreme over reach and over regulation that targets a select group of citizens for no reason under the guise of environmental protection and public safety.

This topic is not new and all previous attempts by these special interest groups to ban or reclassify Efoils have failed in both house and senate committees after review of all the facts.

Both the Hawaii State DOBOR and the State Attorney General have previously ruled and reconfirmed in public testimony that Efoils are not to be classified as thrill craft.

Efoils have been operating safely in Hawaii waters for many years. In that time there have been no documented injuries to other people, whales, or marine life.

For many physically disabled people An Efoil is the only way for them to access and enjoy the ocean which should be protected in accordance with the Americans with disabilities act.

Despite being provided with this information these special interest groups continue to try and impose their will and agenda on their fellow citizens. They have continuously tried to re-classify Efoils as a thrill craft in an attempt to restrict peoples access to the ocean.

If there is a problem, we should pass laws to address the problem instead targeting a select group of people.

Boats and many other watercraft that are larger, faster and have more potential for damage are not banned or classified as thrill craft. Why would a different rule or logic be applied to a an Efoil?

Banning or restricting a certain watercraft is not the answer. The answer is to identify any problems that may exist and then make reasonable laws to address and target those problems instead of the watercraft used.

Sincerely, James Dvorak

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:55pm 07-31-23

Efoiling is such a peaceful way to enjoy our beautiful waters. I have a hard time believing these claims of injuries and noise affecting sea life. These foils are extremely quiet and we don't want to be any where near swimmers, surfers or motorized boats / jet skis. I have heard of non motorized foil surf boards being used with other surfers and causing problems. Please don't get these mixed up.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:51pm 07-31-23

There is no evidence to support the theory that marine life is harmed by efoil noise. The quiet electric electric motors have a tiny fraction of the power of an outboard and do not leak any pollutants. Many of the newer sports have been opposed by existing ocean users. Windsurfing, then kiteboarding, now foiling have met resistance but eventually everyone has found a way to coexist in a happy way. Let's all share the large ocean.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:44pm 07-31-23

Aloha. My name is Mau AhHee. I work as a county lifeguard. I support the county banning commercial efoil operations. Efoils are dangerous to swimmers. Had a few rescues going through airport beach and seeing them get super close to swimmers. Most of those eFoil people using it there are newbies and all you need is one to catch a swimmer and kill them. Being a guard we do a lot of preventive actions but hard to do being in the other side of rock. We see guys slowly take off by Hanakao'o but they stay outside of the swim buoys. Cancel the commercialization of eFoils. Mahalo

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 8:43pm 07-31-23

It makes me so sad for the sea life that now has to put up with the annoying high pitched squeal these motorized fouls make, let alone myself that enjoys the serenity of being under the water. Not to mention the obvious danger of crossing where many swim, snorkel, canoe, kayak, etc. it's not the right place for them. They should be out by jet skis and parasails where it is zoned and seasonal.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:42pm 07-31-23

Respectfully oppose

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:34pm 07-31-23

In our rapidly advancing world, eFoils have emerged as an environmentally conscious addition to water sports, promising a serene and harmless experience. As advocates for innovation and responsible recreation, we strongly oppose any potential ban on eFoils and urge their acceptance for the numerous positive attributes they bring. These electric-powered hydrofoil surfboards offer a quiet and peaceful glide above the water's surface, with minimal environmental impact, presenting a fantastic opportunity for inclusive and nature-friendly aquatic adventures.

One of the key reasons why eFoils deserve our support is their gentle and unintrusive operation. With electric propulsion, these craft emit no harmful emissions, ensuring our waterways remain pristine and undisturbed. Their quiet motor ensures that marine life and other water enthusiasts are not disrupted, fostering a harmonious coexistence in our natural habitats. Moreover, eFoils provide an accessible and safe experience for people of all skill levels, allowing more individuals to engage with water sports in a way that promotes physical well-being and relaxation. We need to be able to continue to enjoy the wonders of eFoils while preserving the beauty and tranquility of our precious water environments. Together, let us champion this sustainable and peaceful approach to watersports and create a positive impact for our planet and its inhabitants.

No offense, but it seems that people who support this ban do not have any clue about eFoiling and should educate themselves first before spreading false information.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:32pm 07-31-23

I have not heard of any injuries attributed to Efoiling. As an Efoiler myself. We have no desire to foil close to swimmers, surfers or any powered water craft. We do not want to be near breaking waves and surfers. The waves we catch are the swells further out to sea that do not break. Surfers are not able to catch these waves so we never share the same waves. It would be dangerous to group efoilers and jet skis in the same area. A Jet ski can travel at several times the speed of a typical efoiler and the jet skis can weigh several hundred pounds. A jet ski hitting an efoiler would be comparable to a pedestrian getting hit by a car. An E Foil have no wake, no noise, no exhaust, no fuel, no trailers. E foils are much less impactful than jet skis and other thrill craft. I have heard of non motorized foil surf boards being used with other surfers and a few resulting injuries. These non motorized foil boards are not representative of how we operate our efoils. It makes no sense for us to foil in a crowd. Our battery gives us the luxury of being able to reach areas where no one else is. Please consider most if not all of these injury claims are from non motorized foil surf boards.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:14pm 07-31-23

I oppose because they are dangerous. Also because the noise underwater damages octopus and other marine life. They should not be allowed at airport beach where there is so much marine life and swimmers and divers and snorkelers all day long.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:06pm 07-31-23

Oppose

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:56pm 07-31-23

I'm an Efoiler and resident of Paia. Efoils allow me to enjoy the ocean in a peaceful manner and I make a point to stay away from fishermen, swimmers and other watercraft. There are many other resident foilers who use these craft and make a point of respecting other people and wildlife on the ocean.

Efoils are slower and quieter than a windsurfer or powered boat, emit no pollution and are one of the myriad ways people spend time at sea. Please allow us to continue to do this.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:34pm 07-31-23

On E Foil s how is there use unlike an other craft operated on the ocean by a single entity be it a boat , foil, jet ski

.
Stop beng ridiclous with trying to ban them . Enforcement will never happen due to understaffing and lack of interest from DINR or anyone else .

marcy martin

Location:

Submitted At: 7:10pm 07-31-23

Thank you for looking out for beach users

Anneli Munkholm

Location:

Submitted At: 6:53pm 07-31-23

E-foils are not thill crafts, they are quiet, use clean energy, don't pollute, create no wake and are used at speeds much lower than thill crafts. We should be encouraging more to gain the skills to use E-foils for exploring the Hawaiian coast line instead of using boats. It is much safer for E-foils to launch from our beaches rather than a boat ramp, which this proposal would require. I have E-foiled in Maui for 2 years, and I only receive positive comments from locals and turists when I get back on the beach after an E-foil session. Remarks such as "You made my day - it was so beautiful to watch you glide above the wafer" are very common.

Kai Nishiki

Location:

Submitted At: 3:31pm 07-31-23

Please urge the State to act with urgency, there is an immediate threat to public health and safety.

Please see attached legal action filed with DLNR.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:28pm 07-31-23

An experienced foilboarder doesn't know what these boards will do sometimes, let alone a beginner riding these near others. This is a disaster and lawsuit waiting to happen. I have seen many friends hurt by their foils! That is exactly why I don't foil.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:36pm 07-31-23

I was nearly hit by an E-Foil moving at their speeds of 25 mph. They should be banned completely. A web site (E-Foil injuries.com). From kahekili Beach park to Black Rock. I've been swimming this area since the mid 1970's. but it's not safe anymore. As my letter states not only for residents, visitors, but NATURE. Does Anyone Really Care. Less is More, Would it be nice to enjoy the peace and quietness and safety of what it used to be like. One more assault not only on us, but nature, Where frequent sightings of Turtles, seals, and winter migrations of whales. No more as the E-Foil emits a sound that can easily be heard over 100 yards away.
Richard Roshon

JoAnne Winer

Location:

Submitted At: 11:58am 07-31-23

I have previously submitted testimony in support of this in order to protect marine and human life.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:52am 07-31-23

I believe e foils and regular foil board activities should be regulated. They shouldn't come within 100 yards of shore after departing. I'm a fisherman and constantly have problems with them coming close to my lines or crossing and getting tangled in my line. With a whole ocean they always choose to come all the way in instead of going couple yards down the beach where there is no one. There should be at least a barrier between 2 activities. Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:33am 07-31-23

I support the revoking of commercial permits for hydrofoils at Maui County beaches. There needs to be regulation and we need to put people and wildlife before unnecessary toys for tourists. These boards have already harmed both human and marine life in Hawai'i! The state must protect the community, not just business owner interests

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:17am 07-31-23

I was nearly hit by an e-foil while paddleboarding. The rider zoomed in front of me almost on purpose to try to knock me off and I was in the swimming zone on Kaanapali beach. They are dangerously fast. They are also a hazard for Honu, dolphins, whales, and humans who have suffered. This is not surfing. This is a motorized watercraft and needs to be regulated.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:36am 07-31-23

Safety first before profits!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:02am 07-31-23

I frequent Kaanapali beach where these e foil boards operate. This past week there were about 4 to 6 boards out at all times. While snorkeling you can hear a high pitch ringing sound coming from them. That is not good. I feel these boards are a danger to the public and the ocean life. Inexperienced visitors riding them in a highly populated ocean is not good.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:46am 07-31-23

Ban Hydro-foils and support and protect marine life and those enjoying it safely and naturally.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:51am 07-31-23

I support Maui county urging the state to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this highly dangerous activity for the safety of marine life and families. What needs to happen in order for the state to see how dangerous this is, there are children and families on this beach all day long. Unexperienced, uneducated people flying through the water with practically a sword while families snorkel and swim around them. Please put a stop to this before someone gets seriously injured,

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:21am 07-31-23

We must prioritize safety today!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:38pm 07-30-23

People that come from all over the world to vacation and aren't familiar with the local beaches and marine life have no business flying through the water on a propelled instrument normally reserved for professional athletes (no motor required if you actually are a water person). The people profiting off of these businesses have no right to make money at the expense of local marine life and fishermen/watermen that are rapidly losing their sacred beach spaces to tourism.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:28pm 07-30-23

Keep our people safe from inexperienced tourists!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:44pm 07-30-23

Aloha I am an avid swimmer at Kahekili Beach Park. Since December 2020 E-FOILS Hawaii has been operating the thrill craft off of Kahekili Beach. They required permitting from the boating department in Oahu. How did this happen? when I am swimming, I hear a very high pitched loud noise caused by the E-FOILS I am thinking I am out of harms way, but they are more than a quarter mile distance from me. I can't imagine what it sounds like to the animal life in the water. E-FOILS fully operated during whale season again how did this happen? We need to stop this thrill craft from continuing to hurt our environment as well as maybe hurting themselves or others in the water. The E-FOIL Hawaii permit is good until December 2023. Please do not let them acquire another permit until this matter at hand has been identified. that they are indeed a thrill craft.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:04pm 07-30-23

I am in support of this measure. Hydrofoils must be banned, not only for the safety of our marine life but also for anyone who partakes in ocean activities.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:43pm 07-30-23

I oppose this bill of inclusion of motorized watercraft's being used in the ocean shoreline or anywhere near the beaches at all whatsoever. It's dangerous and the capability of non experienced riders renting these from said vendors is extremely high risk of serious injury and death. If the state doesn't protect the people, imagine if it hits the wrong person (individuals with a lot of money) and they sue the state for negligence, damages, or worse death, etc. the state will be at fault for letting this happen.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:29pm 07-30-23

I am for the revoking of commercial permits for hydrofoils at Maui County beaches. These need to be regulated and have already harmed both human and marine life in Hawai'i! The state has a responsibility to protect community members, and not allow business owners free passes to conduct dangerous commercial activities in our waters.

Christine Keahi

Location:

Submitted At: 3:11pm 07-30-23

DLNR should not be giving permits to the owners of electric foil boards. These electric foil boards are motorized watercraft which need to be regulated. They are dangerous and do not belong in areas of swimmers, divers, fishermen, surfers, etc.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:05pm 07-30-23

These are being rode in crowded areas and will literally decapitate a turtle or a Keiki, snorkeled, etc. They do not belong anywhere near the shorelines and should be banned altogether especially by novice riders. Take 'em in da middle of da ocean.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:01pm 07-30-23

Aloha, this company quietly started their business on the beach fronting Sands of Kahana during the pandemic late 2020. This is our swimming/dive spot and they would meet almost daily renting out their efoils discreetly. This type of activity should not be allowed operate in our waters. The novice riders are not aware of people diving or snorkeling along the coast, it's a death trap waiting to happen. Let's be proactive and not wait for the fatality before we enact the law! Stop it now before it's too late!!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:25pm 07-30-23

These are dangerous and sharp objects that can kill marine life and severely harm humans!!! No Electric Foils on the beach!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:47pm 07-30-23

Efoils are dangerous, and as a surfer I find them negatively imposing and worrisome. They shouldn't be allowed in areas where people can be hurt by novice users. Sounds like a bad idea!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:39pm 07-30-23

I support the Maui County Council in urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public and pass legislation to regulate this activity, like has been done for jet skis. Please protect us beachgoers,swimmers,snorkelers ,divers,fishermen,paddlers and protect the marine life that's being impacted by this activity. The quality of our beach life and enjoyment of its natural resources is being negatively affected. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:58pm 07-30-23

I am a regular swimmer at this beach and have great concerns about these E-Foil Operations. They showed up at Airport Beach last year during Whale Season, and set up camp on the North Side of the Pavilion we could not believe a thrill craft with a motor was operating during Whale Season. Several of us swimmers asked them what they were doing and did they have a permit to operate here and they stated they did, which we found hard to believe. They ceased coming to the beach and we thought great they have been stopped. A few months ago they were back now operating out of Royal Lahaina. The process is they leave from the beach zoom out across the regular path of swimmers/ snorkelers and continue to zoom around the area with what appears to be no real boundaries. I understand the instructor is with them but these are beginners on a motorized craft around swimmers and snorkelers- it seems to be madness that this is going on. They wear a helmet and life vest- can you imagine what will happen- not if- but when- one strikes a swimmer. The noise they create in the water is a high pitched screeching that can be heard as soon as you get in the water all the way to Black Rock. Its annoying

and distracting to a swimmer - I cant imagine what the destructive sound is doing to the Ocean creatures. I support Maui County Council in urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public and pass legislation to regulate this activity, like has been done for jet skis. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:05pm 07-30-23

These are dangerous and distracting. Paddle boards are fine. If people need a natural high of danger because their lives are so cushioned as is- they can go rent a submarine to see the Titanic. We have to stop feeding the privileged few adrenaline rush when it threatens the health of the land, the life and the people.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:03pm 07-30-23

As a swimmer who regularly uses the beach in front of the Royal Lahaina, I ask for the safety of our swimmers, snorkelers and fishermen to be the most important thing. This also cannot be good for the reef at okd airport beach. Thank you, Kelli Medeiros

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:53am 07-30-23

Too dangerous of an activity if you are no experienced! It should also not be monetized.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:57am 07-30-23

Public safety is important so there needs to be laws governing the use of hydrofoils

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:56am 07-30-23

I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.
-Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity like has been done for jet skis.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:50am 07-30-23

No to motorized watercraft

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 10:31am 07-30-23

Protect our water protect our people.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:14am 07-30-23

I support the Maui County Council in urging the state to regulate and/or restrict the operating permits for foiling or any other motorized water craft operating within 100 yards of the shoreline- similar rules for jet ski

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:13am 07-30-23

I support the Maui County Council in urging the state to regulate and/or restrict the operating permits for foiling or any other motorized water craft operating within 100 yards of the shoreline- similar rules for jet ski rentals and operators.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:02am 07-30-23

I support the Maui County Council in urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public and pass legislation to regulate this activity, like has been done for jet skis.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:14pm 07-29-23

This is a very dangerous sport! It shouldn't be allowed at all in our waters! The impact to our marine life is phenomenal! Not to mention the danger to human life should an inexperienced person be onboard. Please ban the permitting of this sport! Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:26pm 07-29-23

Please revoke the commercial permit.

Mahalo

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:12pm 07-29-23

Please protect us and those that cannot protect themselves-sealife and animals! Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:56pm 07-29-23

I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.

Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity. This watercraft and all water craft with foils should be banned from use in the ocean. Humans, turtles and other marine life are subject to severe injury and even death.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:15pm 07-29-23

-I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.

-Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity like has been done for jet skis.

-This watercraft is a serious threat and potentially fatal to humans and marine life.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:05pm 07-29-23

Outlaw these dangerous boards. Bad for swimmers and ocean life.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:00pm 07-29-23

- "This watercraft is a serious threat and potentially fatal to humans and marine life." While humans might be able to avoid being hit, sea creatures would not.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:40pm 07-29-23

Kai Nishiki

Sample comments to include in your testimony.

-I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.

-Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity like has been done for jet skis.

-This watercraft is a serious threat and potentially fatal to humans and marine life.

-It's like flying through the water with a submerged samurai sword!

-Please don't wait for someone in our community to be maimed or killed. Take immediate action to protect our health and safety.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:40pm 07-29-23

The beaches where these tour operators are operating are also those with a lot of beach users swimmers and snorkelers and I am all for allowing people to enjoy the water however these foils are extremely dangerous even for the most advanced users putting them in the hands of untrained tourists is downright irresponsible. The blade on these is sharp and capable of causing extensive damage. Additionally the users are tourists and are not aware of water safety learning a piece of equipment that should be reserved for professional and well. trained users. This is not acceptable and we should not allow this kind of commercial activity. Safety is at risk and it's a matter of time until children are injured or worse. Stop allowing greedy operators to use our beaches for dangerous activity. Thank you.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:32pm 07-29-23

-I support the Maui County Council urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public.

-Please urge the State to pass legislation to regulate this activity like has been done for jet skis.

-This watercraft is a serious threat and potentially fatal to humans and marine life.

-It's like flying through the water with a submerged samurai sword!

-Please don't wait for someone in our community to be maimed or killed. Take immediate action to protect our health and safety.

mary drayer

Location:

Submitted At: 4:30pm 07-29-23

oh boy- it's time for 'money talks commercialism' to no longer be the priority in the way our spaces are managed by the decision makers ..PLEASE PROTECT US and our __INA - mahalo -

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:25pm 07-29-23

Safety first

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:10pm 07-29-23

Please do not allow commercial foil boarding in Ka'anapali. 45 years here & I keep seeing each year Ka'anapali becomes less of a joyous destination and more of a commercial zoo.

Foil boards are dangerous for swimmers and some marine life as well.

Thank you!

Belinda

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:50pm 07-29-23

Protect marine life and humans, don't permit this.

Guest User

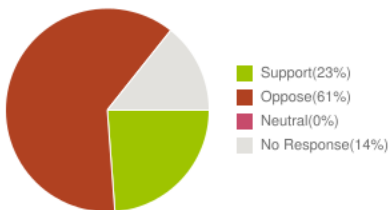
Location:

Submitted At: 1:16pm 07-29-23

E foil or commercial use of jet skis or anything like that on the north side of Black rock up to Airport beach should not be allowed. I swim here almost every day. Many of us to. Really bad spot for commercial use of water crafts.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-4(6) Reso 23-180 RESOLUTION 23-180, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO THRILL CRAFT (GREAT-4(6))

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:55pm 08-01-23

Please don't take away our right to e-foil. I can't believe all the claims of injury and damage to the environment. I have been eFoiling for almost 3 years and have never heard of an injury related to efoils. They are the least impactful. No fuel, no exhaust, no noise, no wake, no trailers, no boat ramps needed. Please ask these people to show some proof of their claims.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:54pm 08-01-23

Aloha. Tammy Harp.

I am in support of Resolution No. 23-180.

Bruce St Germain

Location:
Submitted At: 1:46pm 08-01-23

I very much oppose these sneak attacks on a very safe and fun water sport..

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:44pm 08-01-23

E-foils are just the opposite of a jet ski or thrill craft. E-foiling is very peaceful for the user and the surroundings. We abide by the rules and stay far away from swimmers, surfers, etc. I have never heard of an injury related to an e-foil. I have heard of several injuries related to non motorized foil surf boards surfing with other surfers. I am guessing most people can not tell the difference between an e-foil and a non motorized surfboard.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 1:00pm 08-01-23

I oppose. Efoils should not be classified as thrill craft. They do not pollute, are not noisy, do not create a wake - in fact it's the least impact way of spending time on the water using an engine. They are already classified under DNLR, where Efoils are required to be registered and not operated in swim zones.

Shachar Jeffrey Argov

Location:
Submitted At: 12:58pm 08-01-23

These attacks and legislation proposals targeted at Efoil users and operators appear to be either financially motivated (competitors who share the ocean resource), or simply misguided. Personal grievances should not be a basis for consideration for the legislators. The Efoil sport as a whole is an activity that should be ENCOURAGED by the State, not censored. When compared with other similar activities, this sport is safe for the public and the environment. Please go pick on others who pollute our waters with oil, fume and noise. Go pick on boaters who kill turtles and divers who destroy our reefs. Pick on Kite Surfers who operate at high speeds next to swimmers. Maybe look in the mirror and ask yourself how can I help by changing MY behavior instead of picking on Efoils, that are slow moving, non-polluting, quiet, and safe.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 12:55pm 08-01-23

Alot more people die from drownings than from efoils. Please focus on the root cause for safety sake. Efoils are not your problem. Alot of these safety concerns about efoils can be said about anyone's misuse of any water craft.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 12:48pm 08-01-23

Please let me understand why there is two proposals for this same reclassification? I oppose both!

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 12:42pm 08-01-23

I strongly oppose recategorizing eFoils as thrill craft.

IT COULD PUT THE LIVES OF eFOILERS AT RISK. It would also render worthless the thousands of dollars and hours many eFoilers have spent investing in this non-polluting, fun water activity that has been explicitly endorsed by the State in the office of DOBOR at Sand Island. Would the State reimburse these costs?

Thrill Craft, like wave runners and jet skis, are generally large, heavy, loud, polluting, operated at very fast speeds, and cause wakes. As such, they are, in my opinion, correctly limited in the locations in which they can be used. I do not want to be at the beach and hear the loud whine of jet ski engines.

eFoils, on the other hand, are quiet, electric, and non-polluting. A poster at DOBOR on Sand Island endorses eFoils as “a smooth, cool ride. It’s eco-friendly. It’s swift and silent.” DOBOR further endorses eFoils by running a program to register them.

eFoils are relatively small (shorter than most surfboards), light (can easily be carried, unlike jet skis and don’t require boat launch ramps or trailers), and are generally operated at relatively slow speeds (5-10 knots). This is much slower than jet skis and other Thrill Craft, and much slower than kite surfboards. They produce no wake. They are far quieter than boats, including whale watching boats.

If eFoils are forced to operate in the few, small areas where large, heavy, fast Thrill Craft operate, like jet skis, then THE LIVES OF THE eFOILERS WILL BE AT RISK. It would be similar to forcing bicyclists to ride on the highway alongside cars and trucks. If a jet ski were to crash into an eFoiler, the eFoiler would suffer serious injuries.

My friends and I enjoy safely riding eFoils when the wind is low and other options, like kite surfing, wing foiling, and wind surfing are not possible.

Please allow us to continue to safely enjoy the beauty that Hawaii has to offer in our quiet, non-polluting, fun manner with our community.

Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:48am 08-01-23

Aloha Maui County Council Members,

I am reaching out to you directly to express my deep concern for this bias hearing topic on 8.1.23 at 1:30pm. I personally have worked with the DLNR DOBOR from Oahu and all islands to help understand and create legislation for the Electric Foil Boards entry into ocean activity. These works started in December of 2019. Organizations involved have been; U.S. Coast Guard, The Hawaii State Attorney General, NOAA, DLNR DOBOR, American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). The conclusion of the collaborative efforts of these organizations, combined with known professionals and famous waterman of Hawaii, are as follows: Electric Foil Boarding bares no excessive threat to hawaii waters, marine life or its people. It is safer in all Ocean activity statistics than other motorized activities. It is cleaner for the environment than all other motorized activities and is quieter. The documents required to prove all of this information can be readily available to any council member or public citizen. Kai Nashiki, Tiare Lawrence, and all other activists associated with this bias push, are making non factual arguments and accusations. They are discriminating and extremely un-“ETHICAL” and non “TRANSPARENT,” which I gathered is the bases of this counsels meaning. If you would like proof of these comments, just ask, they are all documented.

I urge the counsel to defer this topic while it’s been assessed already by specific authorities within its purview. The county council has more important topics that require its attention. All of our activities are legally sound and vetted as a professional company should be.

I apologize for the time you have already put into entertaining all false accusations. Feel free to call or email me at your convenience.

Mahalo Nui Loa.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:06am 08-01-23

HAWAII-WHALES-R-US

DEDICATED TO LIVING IN BALANCE WITH OUR MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Richard Craig Roshon – Lecturer, author, Kayak Entrepreneur

Established 1975

To: Does Anyone Really Care

From: Richard Roshon

Subj: KAHEKILI BEACH PARK TO BLACK ROCK
Unsafe place to swim

They are called E-Foils, and electric powered surfboard that can reach speeds of up to 25 miles per hour and emit a noise that can be heard for over 100 yards underwater. The Sea where sound travels 5 times the distance than it does in our atmosphere. Marine species such as turtles, seals and whales use sound to find migration routes, food and mates.

For nearly 5 decades a place where Sugar Cane once lined the cost line, now the location of Kahekili Beach Park has been the beginning of my daily morning swims to Black Rock and back beginning in the 1970's. It has always been a nice clean, quiet and safe place to swim. Today dozens of local residents swim along this coast from Kahekili Beach Park to Black Rock and back for their morning exercise. Many of us swim out to the moored Catamaran and then down to Black Rock – NO MORE

However sadly and unfortunately this E-Foil operation is now operating from the Royal Lahaina Resort. Recently I have heard of several close encounters by daily swimmers as the E-Foil races close by. I have also been told of a few residents approaching the operator of this E-Foil operation questioning this operation and saying that this individual has been rude and some what threatening.

After 5 decades and a personal frightening close encounter with an E-Foil I will no longer swim in this area and enjoy the meditative quietness that swimming brings. A hit I feel could be fatal – (there is no air bag to protect you such as in a car. It would be a full on hit and a lawsuit will not bring a persons life back who may have just perished or gets seriously injured. Recently in Rhode Island I was told a young boy wass hospitalized due to being hit by an E-Foil.

I urge all who read this letter to write, call DO something. Don't just say "Oh that's to bad". Do something to eliminate this operation so that other E-foil operations do not appear.

PLEASE, PLEASE DO SOMETHING, OR THINGS WILL ONLY GET WORSE.

Here are some addresses, so please take the time to write, call – make copies of this letter and forward, call but again DO SOMETHING.

Maui County Council, Kalana O Maui Bldg. 200 S. High Street, 8th Floor Wailuku, Maui 96793

Tamara Paltin, Maui County Council Representing W. Maui, same address as above.
Tamarra.Palltin@mauicounty.us

Elle Cochran, House of Representatives, 14th District - Maalaea, W. Maui, Kahakuloa, Waiehu
415 S. Beretania st. #315, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 808-586-6160
repcochran@capitol.hawaii.gov

State DLNR-Division of Aquatic, 130 Mahalani st. Wailuku, Maui 96793 808-243-5294
DLNR Main office, Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson 808-587-0400 dlnr@hawaii.gov

DLNR Division of Boating & Recreation, Lahaina Small Boat Harbor, 675 Wharf St.
Lahaina 96761 808-662-4062

County of Maui – Department of parks & Recreation, 700 Halia Nakua St #2,
Wailuku, Maui 96793 Patrick McCall Director, Shane Dudoit Deputy Director 808-270-7230

Love The Sea, 33 Hoe St. Paia, Maui 96779 – Campell Farrell, Executive Director
808-870-6404 (Non-profit organization)

Maui SurfRiders, P.O. Box 790549, Paia, Maui 96779, Nicole Rosen, Marina Scott (Non profit organization)

Division of boating and Ocean Recreation, Maui District Office 101 Maalaea Boat Harbor Road, Wailuku, Maui
96793 808-243-5824 dlNr.bd.mauiidistrict@hawaii.gov

Mr Stephen Hinck, GM Royal Lahaina Resort, 2780 Kekaa Drive, Lahaina, Maui, 96761

IN CLOSING: Thankyou Royal Lahaina for taking away the once Ambience of a quiet, peaceful and safe place to swim for Residents, Visitors and Nature (Sea Turtles, Seals and Whales)

DOES ANYONE REALLY CARE
For the preservation and safety of all life
Above and Below the SEA

Richard Roshon
Lahaina, Maui

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 11:01am 08-01-23

TWO HUNDRED FEET AWAY FROM SWIMMERS AT ALL TIMES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

PLEASE FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC. THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS AS WELL AS THE WHALES, DOLPHINS AND SEA TURTLES THAT TRAVEL BETWEEN BLACK ROCK AND AIRPORT BEACH DEPEND ON YOUR DUE DILIGENCE. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY AND TRANQUILLITY TO THIS SPIRITUAL PLACE ON OUR PLANET AND SHUT DOWN E FOIL HAWAII LLC AT ONCE!

MAHALO,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

I IMPLORE THE STATE OF HAWAII MORE SPECIFICALLY MAUI COUNTY TO FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC BEFORE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH OCCURS FOR THE THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS WHO DAILY TRAVEL BETWEEN AIRPORT BEACH AND BLACK ROCK. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE TO NORTH KAAPALI BEACH WHILE PROTECTING WHALES, DOLPHINS, SEA TURTLES FROM THIS COMERCIALISM E FOIL OPERATION. THE CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF WEST MAUI HANG IN THE BALANCE.

MAHALO.,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:50am 08-01-23

Locations | E-Foil Hawaii

I IMPLORE THE STATE OF HAWAII MORE SPECIFICALLY MAUI COUNTY TO FULLY INVESTIGATE MY COMPLAINT(S) AGAINST E FOIL HAWAII LLC BEFORE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH OCCURS FOR THE THOUSANDS OF SWIMMERS AND SNORKELERS WHO DAILY TRAVEL BETWEEN AIRPORT BEACH AND BLACK ROCK. PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE TO NORTH KAAPALI BEACH WHILE PROTECTING WHALES, DOLPHINS, SEA TURTLES FROM THIS COMERCIALISM E FOIL OPERATION. THE CULTURAL TRADITIONS OF WEST MAUI HANG IN THE BALANCE.

MAHALO,
SCOTT COHN
SEAGALAS@GMAIL.COM
619.335.7709

CORUPTORS OF KAAPALI NORTHSIDE (E-FOILHAWAII) WHERE CALMNESS, TRANQUILITY, NONCOMMERCIAL WATER ENJOYMENT MEETS OLD LAHAINA TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES

RECENTLY A COMMERCIAL E-FOIL LEASE WAS GRANTED BY THE ROYAL LAHAINA TO E-FOILHAWAII. THIS ONCE PEACEFUL STRETCH OF COASTLINE (NORTH KAAPALI BEACH) WHERE ORGANIC WATER ACTIVITIES LIKE OPEN OCEAN WATER SWIMMING, SNORKELING AND PADDLEBOARDING PROVIDE A SAFE HEAVEN FROM GAS OR ELECTRIC POWERED WATERCRAFT HAS NOW BEEN DISRUPTED BY MAINLAND COMERCIALISM. THE OPERATORS OF E- FOILHAWAII WILL CLAIM THAT THEIR PRACTICES ARE SAFE FOR BOTH THE CUSTOMER AND THOSE WHO ENTER THE OCEAN FOR THE ABOVEMENTIONED ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT THE ELECTRIC E-FOIL IS A MOTORIZED WATERCRAFT THAT CAN TOP OUT AT SPEEDS BETWEEN 20 AND 28 MPH. THE DAMAGE THIS WATERCRAFT CAN DO TO BOTH WILDLIFE AND HUMANS IS ENORMOUS AND IN MANY INSTANCES FATAL. REGARDLESS OF THE SUPERVISION PROVIDED BY E-FOILHAWAII WHILE ENTERTAINING GUESTS OUT ON THE WATER IN FRONT OF THE ROYAL LAHAINA, ACCIDENTS, MISHAPS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR DEATH EXIST. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY (LAHAINA, KAAPALI, HONOKOWAI, KAHANA. NAPILI AND HONOLUA) WHO FOR DECADES HAVE MADE THE JOURNEY TO THIS STRETCH OF BEACH WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES STRONGLY REJECT, OPPOSE AND INSIST THAT THE ROYAL LAHAINA AND DLNR REVOKE ALL PERMITTING FOR E-FOILHAWAII IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO RESTORE SAFETY, PEACE, CALMNESS, TRANQUILITY TO THIS VERY SPIRITUAL CORNER OF THE WORLD.

MAHALO,
SCOTT COHN

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:14am 08-01-23

The ocean is quite large, can we just learn to share? I swim in the water with foilers all the time and I can never seem to get near them since they are operating so far away from shore. I often see dead saline cause by boats traveling a higher rate of speed then an foil which usually operates at 12 miles per hour.

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 10:04am 08-01-23

I am a regular swimmer and efoilers have always been respectful and cautious around other water goers. They are also quiet compared to the boats and jetkis which are loud and dangerous and often operated by individuals under the effects of alcohol.

Manoki Nguyen

Location:
Submitted At: 10:00am 08-01-23

Lets give respect to common sense here. The motor and rudder used in the efoils are also used for fishing kayaks. The motor of an efoil and the motor of a fishing kayak produces the same level of noise. An efoil has underwater wings which is basically rudders of all water vessels. There is no difference between a wings used to steer an efoil and a rudder to steer a fishing kayak. All water vessels need rudders to steer. This modernization of

definition would also put fishing kayaks into this classification and negatively the fishing community which to many is a way of life and embodied in the hawaiian culture.

Since Fishing has been an important aspect of Hawaiian culture for thousands of years. The practice of fishing helped connect people to the natural world and reminded them their actions had a direct impact on it; it was also a societal "glue" that strengthened relationships between seaside and upland communities.

Everyone, please use common sense here.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 7:13am 08-01-23

Aloha, my name is Alika Ferreira and I operate an efoil personally and operate an efoil school commercially on Oahu. I have instructed 1000s of people on how to safely operate an efoil over the past three years and I have ZERO incidents to report. We teach lessons away from the busy locations such as Waikiki.

There is very little audible impact from efoils on marine life. When compared to other powered watercraft, efoils are the most quiet.

If this bill is passed, you would be placing an efoil in the same category as a jet ski. Efoils are much more like a small dingy or pontoon boat than a jet ski. Efoil speeds are capable of 30 mph, similar to a pontoon boat and dingy, but very different from a jet ski with speeds of 60-120 mph. Efoils operate only when the operator is onboard. As soon as the operator falls, the efoil motor shuts off. That is not true for jet skis or boats.

Efoils are classified as vessels by the US Coast Guard. As such, vessels are restricted from surf zones, swim zones, and other vessel restricted areas. This classification is sufficient to prevent accidents with non-powered watercrafts. If this bill is approved, you would put Efoil operators in the same zone as a jet ski which would put the efoil operator in harms way.

Please consider this points and those of all Efoil operators when making your decision. I am available for live testimony if desired.

I have posted this comment on two agenda items since they appear to be the same issue under two different resolutions.

Mahalo,
Alika Ferreira

marcy martin

Location:

Submitted At: 7:10pm 07-31-23

Beach activities in Kaanapali need more regulation

Kai Nishiki

Location:

Submitted At: 3:38pm 07-31-23

see attached legal action submittal to DLNR

JoAnne Winer

Location:

Submitted At: 11:59am 07-31-23

I support this measure to prevent harm to human or marine life.

Guest User

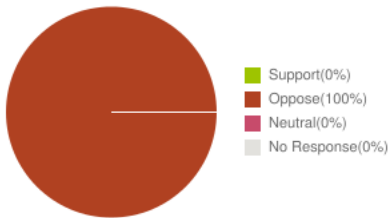
Location:

Submitted At: 12:59pm 07-30-23

I am a regular swimmer at this beach and have great concerns about these E-Foil Operations. They showed up at Airport Beach last year during Whale Season, and set up camp on the North Side of the Pavilion we could not believe a thrill craft with a motor was operating during Whale Season. Several of us swimmers asked them what they were doing and did they have a permit to operate here and they stated they did, which we found hard to believe. They ceased coming to the beach and we thought great they have been stopped. A few months ago they were back now operating out of Royal Lahaina. The process is they leave from the beach zoom out across the regular path of swimmers/ snorkelers and continue to zoom around the area with what appears to be no real boundaries. I understand the instructor is with them but these are beginners on a motorized craft around swimmers and snorkelers- it seems to be madness that this is going on. They wear a helmet and life vest- can you imagine what will happen- not if- but when- one strikes a swimmer. The noise they create in the water is a high pitched screeching that can be heard as soon as you get in the water all the way to Black Rock. Its annoying and distracting to a swimmer - I cant imagine what the destructive sound is doing to the Ocean creatures. I support Maui County Council in urging the State to immediately revoke all commercial permits for this activity to protect the health and safety of the public and pass legislation to regulate this activity, like has been done for jet skis. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-3(7) Reso 23-175 RESOLUTION 23-175, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 HAWAII STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO THE MINIMUM WAGE (GREAT-3(7))

Overall Sentiment



Pamela Tumpap

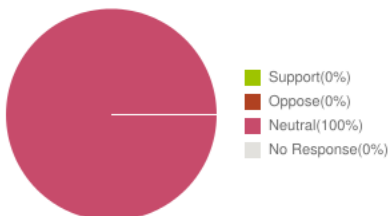
Location:

Submitted At: 1:11pm 08-01-23

Please see attached testimony.

Agenda Item: eComments for GREAT-4(7) Reso 23-172 RESOLUTION 23-172, RELATING TO APPROVING FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2024 MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE A STATE BILL RELATING TO USE OF REVENUE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (GREAT-4(7))

Overall Sentiment



Pamela Tumpap

Location:

Submitted At: 1:12pm 08-01-23

Please see attached testimony.