



March 30, 2013

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
Hawai`i State Capitol, Room 206
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 98613

RE: Letter of Support for Capital Improvement Grant-in-Aid Request for a Community-based Planning Process, Acquisition and Funding Plan for the former Coco Palms Resort, Kaua`i

Dear Senator Kouchi:

The Wailua-Kapa`a Neighborhood Association (W-KNA) strongly supports the Grant-in-Aid request submitted by the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust (HILT) that is pending before the State Legislature.

We believe HILT is uniquely qualified to work with community members, government and the private sector towards acquiring and protecting one of Kaua`i's most important cultural treasures – the Coco Palms resort property. Twenty years of neglect has sparked the community's desire to secure the property for public benefit and to pay tribute to the rich heritage and traditions of this area.

The property owner has publicly stated his intention to sell the property. To that end, the Grant-In-Aid funding will enable HILT to conduct a detailed site assessment, create an acquisition, fundraising and management plan for the site, and facilitate a community-based planning process.

We appreciate your efforts to secure approval for this grant-in-aid request that will launch the necessary partnerships of government, private funders, community groups and residents to take action to secure a positive future for the property formerly known as the Coco Palms Resort.

Sincerely,



Rayne Regush, Chairperson
On behalf of the W-KNA Board

cc: Rep. James Tokioka
Rep. Derek Kawakami

Rep. Dee Morikawa
Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr.

Jennifer Luck, HILT

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