



Governor Signs Bill Protecting Turtle Bay Lands

"There are times for planning, and there are times for acting. Now is the time to preserve open spaces at Turtle Bay ..."

– Gov. Neil Abercrombie, State of the State Address, Jan. 21, 2014



Yesterday at Kawela Bay on Oahu's North Shore, Gov. Neil Abercrombie followed through on his State of the State call to action by signing House Bill 2434 (Act 81), a landmark proposal to establish a conservation easement preserving 665.8 acres of land owned by Turtle Bay Resort (TBR). Act 81, which takes effect July 1, authorizes the Hawaii Tourism Authority to issue \$40 million in revenue bonds and use the proceeds to acquire a conservation easement at TBR.

The measure will allow for the preservation of nearly 79 percent of the open space land owned by the resort. The total value of this agreement is \$48.5 million; \$40 million will be provided by the state, \$5 million will be provided by the City and County of Honolulu, and \$3.5 million will be provided by The Trust for Public Land.

"Today marks the culmination of years of effort among the state, city, The Trust for Public Land and Turtle Bay Resort to protect the future of the North Shore for future generations," Gov. Abercrombie said. "I am pleased my administration was able to play a positive role in bringing the Turtle Bay issue to a successful conclusion. The result will keep the country, country. It will protect pristine coastlines from development, and

provide open space and access for everyone.”



Following the bill signing, participants took part in a ceremonial planting of a young hala tree near the site. Indigenous to Hawaii, hala trees are ideal for stabilizing sandy soil along coastal and beach front properties.

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