**SAMPLE TESTIMONY FOR HAWAIʻI COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

Leeward Planning Commission  
Attn: Brandi Beaudet, Chair of Leeward Planning Commission  
74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Building E  
Kailua-Kona, H.I. 96740

RE: Kamehameha Schools Kahaluʽu Ma Kai Project

Special Management Area Use Permit

Kahaluʽu, North Kona, Hawaiʽi

Tax Map Key: 7-8-013: 002, 013, 042, and 043

Aloha Planning Commission,

My name is and I live in the ahupuaʽa of .

I’d like to voice my strong support for Kamehameha Schools’ effort to remove the last remnants of the property’s resort use and to re-commit the future of Kahaluʽu Ma Kai as a cultural-education hub for Hawai‘i island.

The cultural resources located at Kahaluʻu Ma Kai are related to prominent figures in Hawaiian history and played a significant role in pre-contact Hawaiʻi’s socio-political landscape. Because of this along with the adaptive reuse of these cultural sites for cultural-education purposes, I encourage you to support the proposed public and managed access plan, as submitted by Kamehameha Schools, as it ensures that the cultural and historical integrity of those resources are maintained.

I believe Kamehameha Schools has balanced the need for shoreline access against the need to protect valued historic resources and the safety of children who will be learning on site.

I support the Kahaluʻu Ma Kai project and feel that it will foster a “sense of place” for all members of our community through cultural education, aina-based learning, and community engagement. It will serve as a 21st-century facility for learning, and provide a bridge between cultural practitioners, the academic world, and the community.

Kahaluʽu Ma Kai embodies a fundamental shift toward a learning and experiential destination that will have a positive impact on the social, economic, cultural, education, and environemental aspects of our community and connect Hawai‘i’s people to the rich cultural, historical and natural resources present on the property.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.