



Meredith Berg &lt;mberg@crossroadscampaigns.com&gt;

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**[TEST] Our sound funding solution for Turtle Bay**

1 message

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**David Ige** <info@davidige.org>  
To: mberg@crossroadscampaigns.com

Fri, Mar 7, 2025 at 11:48 AM



Friend,

With the final days of the Legislature upon us, there has been much confusion with the last minute request from the governor for the House and Senate to fund \$40 million for the Turtle Bay Conservation Easement, and who has and has not been supporting this effort.

This is a disservice to those who care so deeply and have worked for years on this issue. If this is an issue you are following, I urge you to look at my, and the Senate's, voting record on SB 894, which shows our support for the conservation of the Turtle Bay/Kawela Bay area and our efforts to collaborate on a solution.

Here is a part of today's Star-Advertiser story:

*Sen. David Ige, the lead Senate negotiator on the budget, told reporters that the Senate had come up with a creative solution to fund the Turtle Bay deal.*

*The state, Ige said, could restructure the debt on the Hawaii Convention Center and use a portion of the interest savings about \$3 million to cover debt service in the state budget for the \$40 million in bonds for Turtle Bay.*

*"It would be an opportunity for us to within the existing resources acquire the easement," said Ige (D, Pearl Harbor-Pearl City-Aiea).*

*Ige, who is challenging Abercrombie in the Democratic primary, rejected claims by some conservationists that he was holding up the money for the deal.*

[Read the entire story here](#)

Through this proposal, we avoid having to cut funding from other important projects in our capital improvement budget while still investing in land preservation. This is a solution that works within existing resources, is smart financing, and creates an opportunity for the state to avoid any additional appropriation, taxes or fees.

Respectfully,

David Ige

3/7/25, 12:04 PM

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