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for governor

## **HONOKOHAU HARBOR**

*A message from Neil Abercrombie*

*June 1, 2010*

On a recent visit to Honokohau Harbor, I was appalled, like many residents and small business owners, to see how we've let the harbor deteriorate. To make matters worse, I was disappointed to hear about the state's proposal to institute parking fees at Honokohau Harbor.

How can we create an additional financial burden for 200 small businesses by raising their parking fees? And how can we expect to charge visitors more money to visit a dangerous and dilapidated harbor with a collapsed pier in a public area that doesn't provide basic comforts like shade while waiting for boats? The state is only now getting around to a minor capital improvement project that doesn't address the basic issues.

There has been a collapse of leadership at the highest levels on basic government services from improving our public schools to maintaining our harbors. Instituting the parking fees at Honokohau Harbor does not solve the problem. My position is that the parking fees should be set aside. Should they be imposed, when I'm Governor, I will rescind the fees until we can prove to the public that their dollars are being well spent.

We should be focusing our efforts on getting federal funds to improve our state's infrastructure. That will spark revitalization of our economy and generate the business activity that we need. People deserve to feel proud of our harbors and public spaces.

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