

**Kai Makana, Inc.**  
**Malama I Ke Kai Project**  
***Care For the Ocean***

Dear Senator Chun-Oakland,

Unfortunately, Kai Makana will be unable to attend the legislative hearing scheduled for March 8, 2008 as it coincides with a critical work day on Mokauea Island. Students from Farrington High School, Damien, Radford, Hawaii Baptist Academy, Chaminade University and HPU, children from the Kuhio Park Terrace – PACT program, University of Hawaii graduate students and scientists from the US Fish and Wildlife education specialist will be working collaboratively on Mokauea Island.

Our Project

Mokauea Island is located in Keehi Lagoon, between Honolulu Harbor and the Honolulu International Airport. The overall goal of the *Malama I Ke Kai* project is the environmental restoration of Mokauea Island, the construction of an education center, and creation of a sustainable environment. Once a thriving fishing village supporting 14 families, Mokauea Island's fishpond and coastal areas are now overgrown with mangrove, ocean-borne debris litters the island, and there is no viable farming as long thorn kiawe, mangrove and pickleweed have taken over the island.

*Malama I Ke Kai* has brought together a committed group of individuals (students, parents, teachers, etc.) and organizations (educational institutions, non-profits, local businesses, government, etc.) from throughout Hawai'i. In 2007, project work accelerated and significant progress is being achieved in the removal of invasive species and the cultivation of Native Hawaiian Plants. Volunteers have wide-ranging backgrounds, including those with scientific and technical knowledge, and experience in the identification and sharing knowledge on how to effectively remove invasive species and propagate native species.

In order to achieve the goals of *Malama I Ke Kai*, Kai Makana needs to purchase materials, equipment, supplies, and services for invasive plant removal and management and subsequent replanting of native Hawaiian plant species. Parallel to these efforts will be collaborative work with school groups to develop educational materials, signage, and video media production. Ultimately, our goal is to construct a simple but sturdy structure to serve as an educational center and provide weather protection during workshops.

All funds will be used to purchase and/or rent invasive species removal equipment and supplies such as loppers, saws, herbicide, chipper/mulcher, trash bags, etc. As an **all-volunteer** 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization, our project maximizes the use of all funding.

Sincerely,  
Lois Hashimoto