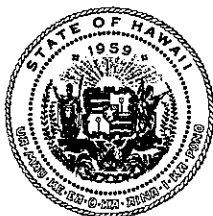
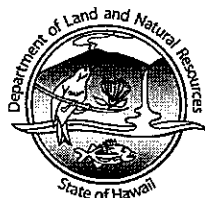


HB 2373 HD1

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

On House Bill 2373, House Draft 1 – Making An Appropriation For Mookini Heiau

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

March 11, 2008

House Bill 2373, House Draft 1 appropriates an unspecified sum out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii to install a full sprinkler system at Mookini Heiau, and the nearby Kamehameha Birthsite, that are used for education and cultural practices. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) is aware of the need for a sprinkler system. The Department however is unable to support this measure due to the budgetary implications it will have on the Executive Supplemental Budget request.



Legislative Testimony

HB 2373, HD 1, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR MOOKINI HEIAU
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

March 11, 2008

2:45 p.m.

Room: 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** H.B. 2373, H.D. 1, which would appropriate an unspecified amount of money to install a full sprinkler system to cover the grassy area of the Mo'okini Heiau, and the nearby Kamehameha Pai'ea Birthsite.

In traditional times, Mo'okini Heiau was a focal point for religious events. It undoubtedly deserves the utmost respect, and every measure should be taken to afford protection and preservation for this sacred site. In modern times, countless visitors from keiki to kūpuna, kama'āina and malihini alike have benefited from the educational opportunities offered at Mo'okini Heiau. These educational opportunities are not only limited to the history of Mo'okini Heiau specifically, but also expose the visitor to a broader sense of Hawaiian culture, history and traditional values.

The installation of a full sprinkler system would provide healthy grass groundcover around Mo'okini Heiau and the Kamehameha Pai'ea birthsite. This groundcover would not only provide an area for groups to meet, but would also help control erosion problems caused by wind and rain, which have the potential to damage the sites and expose other cultural sites and items.

OHA seeks assurances that the provisions of Act 59, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2007, which require the Department of Land and Natural resources to consult with the kahuna nui of Mo'okini Heiau on any alterations or improvements to the Kohala Historic Sites State Monument, be adhered to.

OHA seeks further assurances that the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) be allowed to review and comment on the installation of the sprinkler system pursuant to §6E-8, HRS. OHA would also like the

opportunity to review and provide comment on the installation of the sprinkler system. The ability for the SHPD and OHA to review and provide comments is critical in ensuring that the larger Hawaiian community is provided the opportunity to participate in decision making that affects a traditional cultural landscape.

OHA urges the Committee to Pass H.B. 2373, H.D. 1, taking the above concerns into account. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**LATE****Mo'okini Quakini, Inc.***A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Foundation Dedicated to the Preservation of the Mo'okini Complex*

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2373, HD-1
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
2:45 pm, March 11, 2008
Conference room 224**

Chairperson Tokuda . . . and members of the Senate Committee on . . .
Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am Leimomi Mo'okini Lum, Kahuna Nui of the Mo'okini Heiau located in North Kohala on the Island of Hawaii. I am a direct descendent of Kahuna Nui Kuamo'o Mo'okini, the first Kahuna Nui and director of the building of this artifact, some 1,500 years ago.

I concur with proposed House Bill 2373, HD-1, the intent of which is to make an appropriation for the installation of a sprinkler system to cover the grassy area of the Mookini Heiau, and the nearby Kamehameha birthsite.

I noted that Bill 2373 indicates that this appropriation will be expended by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. I assume that the subject executing department will be required to follow the requirements of ACT 59 regarding the consultation of all matters with the Kahuna Nui of the Mookini Heiau, such as design and methods used for the installation of this sprinkler system.

I fully support the intent of House Bill 2373, HD-1 as currently written.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.