

TESTIMONY
HB 2518 HD1
LATE

LATE TESTIMONY

testimony

From: Kent Fonoimoana [kent@trisland.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 2:52 PM
To: testimony
Subject: HB 2518,HD1 (HSCR1007-08) Committee on Water and Land

Chairman Hee and Committee members:

I support HB 2518, HD1 and its intent to offer tax credit incentives to those who choose to assist in preservation efforts. I support the preservation of Hawaii's open spaces. Our most precious resource, the beauty of these islands, is in current need of all available measures to protect it from further loss of what makes it special.

I support all groups that support the true spirit of this bill.

Kent Fonoimoana
Citizen of Hawaii

THE SENATE

THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2008

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 414

3/11/2008

HB 2518, HD1

(HSCR1007-08)

RELATING TO LAND CONSERVATION.

Provides a tax credit to encourage the preservation
and protection of

conservation land in the state. (HB2518
HD1)

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"For your peace in paradise"

testimony

From: sunsetyards@mac.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 9:36 PM
To: testimony
Subject: HB 2518, HD1 (HSCR1007-08) RELATING TO LAND CONSERVATION. NOTICE OF HEARING DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 TIME: 2:45 p.m. PLACE: Conference Room 414

LATE TESTIMONY

To :The COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair

"I am a North Shore resident and registered voter of Hawaii. I live on the beautiful North Shore of Oahu and I am in favor and support HB 2518,HD1 (HSCR1007-08)
This bill will encourage land owners to put their land into conservation. Many States already have such tax credits and it is time for Hawaii to join in this Nationwide need. I support this bill because it will encourage more to protect and preserve more open spaces for now and for generations to come.
Thank you and Aloha

Joy McDougall

testimony

From: scoleman34@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 6:15 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Support for HB 2518

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for HB 2518 from THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Dear Chair Ito and Committee Members:

My name is Stuart Coleman, and I am the Vice Chair of the Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter. I am writing to urge you to support passage of HB 2518 because this bill will help in our efforts to reserve more land for the public, including the purchase of the lands at Kawela Bay.

As development and urban sprawl increase, concern about the future of land use and its relation to Hawai'i's natural resources, economy and heritage have come to the forefront of community concern. Some of these concerns are protected and embodied in recent laws providing funding for the acquisition of private lands for public conservation purposes. The recent State Legacy Lands Act is but one example. Funding from programs such as the Legacy Lands Conservation Program yield great benefits to the people of Hawai'i, but further incentives are necessary to provide alternatives to the tremendous financial pressures to convert needed agricultural or conservation land to other uses that generate greater revenue. It is also impossible for the government to acquire and take care of all of these lands.

HB 2518 provides a voluntary incentive for private landowners to protect our precious lands and offers an alternative to acquisition and government management. It advances conservation by creating a competitive class of land use in an economy where conversion by private landowners to other uses are an attractive or economic necessity. I urge you to support HB 2518.

Mahalo, Stuart Coleman

LATE TESTIMONY



WINDWARD AHUPUA'A ALLIANCE

From the Peaks of *Na Ko'olau* to the Outer Reefs

*Community-Based Planning
Sustainable Economic Development
Restoration, Preservation, Protection & Public Access
Educational & Cultural Programs*

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair

Sen. Russell Kokubun, Vice Chair

Public Hearing

2:45 PM

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Conference Room 414

HB 2518 HD1 - RELATING TO LAND CONSERVATION SUPPORT

Aloha, my name is Shannon Wood, speaking on behalf of the *Windward Ahupua'a Alliance*, a 501c3 Hawai'i non-profit corporation, which was established in July, 2002, to create the Ko'olau Greenbelt & Heritage Trails System in order to restore, protect & provide public access to the *mauka* (mountain) lands on the Windward side of O'ahu along the base of *Na Ko'olau* up to the North Shore and Kawela Bay as well as to support locally-owned sustainable economic activities in the more developed areas. Over time, however, its mandate has expanded well beyond these vitally important regional issues.

Too often, conservation lands are purchased with the new owners' intentions of going through land use designation changes in order to make huge profits. I know of one piece of land with a mix of conservation and AG-1 designation in Windward O'ahu which was purchased in 2001 for \$11.5 million whose owners plan to subdivide into five-acre lots once the development moratorium expires which could result in a gross profit of well in excess of \$100 million.

WAA supports HB 2518 HD1 because it will reward private landowners for doing the right thing.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER IS
PLEASED TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ACT 132 OF 1970 WHICH CREATED THE CENTER.
AUTHORS ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.**

RL: 2180

HB 2518 HD1
RELATING TO LAND CONSERVATION

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Public Hearing – March 12, 2008
2:45 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 414

By
David Duffy, Botany
Peter Rappa, Environmental Center

LATE TESTIMONY

HB 2518 HD 1 provides a tax credit to encourage the preservation and protection of conservation land in the State. We emphasize that our testimony on this measure does not represent an official position of the University of Hawaii.

We agree with the intent of this bill. Tax credits have been used in other states very effectively to conserve land. This practice can potentially save the state millions when trying to preserve conservation lands as it will allow the state to choose whether or not to purchase all the land it wishes to preserve. This can work to the state's benefit especially when leveraged with NGO or Legacy Land Conservation Commission funds to preserve trying to preserve contiguous tracts of land.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

TESTIMONY

HB 2518 HD1

LATE

(END)