

TESTIMONY
HCR 117

Kawaihapai Ohana
c/o Thomas T Shirai Jr
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Hearing Notice
Wednesday, April 9, 2008
2:45 PM
State Capitol Conference Room 414

Senate Committee on Water & Land
Senator Clayton Hee, *Chair*

RE: Testimony Supporting HCR 117 (Requesting the Department of Land & Natural Resources Land Division to Assemble Various State, County & Community Agencies to Meet and Develop a *Hanapepe Salt Pond Resource Management Plan*)

Aloha Senator Hee & Committee Members,

The *Kawaihapai Ohana* supports HCR 117. The *Kawaihapai Ohana* is a *Native Hawaiian Organization* recognized by the *Department of Interior*. The *Kawaihapai Ohana* and its *kuleana* regarding *Waialua Moku* has an emphasis on the Northwest Coastline encompassing the *Ahupua'a* of *Kamananui, Mokule'ia, Kekahi, Auku'u, Kawaihapai, Kealia and Kaena*. The *Kupuna of Kawaihapai Ohana* made and gathered *pa'akai* at *Kaena Ahupua'a*.

The intent of HCR 117 has guidelines in *PASH (Public Access Shoreline Hawaii)* and is part of an *Ahupua'a System*. *Hanapepe Salt Pond* is a surviving place where *pa'akai* is made for commercial and subsistence purposes. Therefore, HCR 117 encourages communities to develop similar *Resource Management Plan* where *pa'akai* was gathered and made within their area. Currently the *Kaena NARS (Natural Area Reserve System) Fencing Project* is in progress. Gathering and making *pa'akai* for subsistence purposes may be incorporated into its *Resource Management Plan*. The excerpts below are from *The Hawaiian Annual (Thrum 1905)*:

Salt Pans

"The salt likely came from Kaena Point from salt water evaporation in the holes of rocks so plentiful on that stormy cape. Or it may have been made on the salt pans of Paukawila, near the stream of that name, where a few years ago this industry, on a small scale existed."

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting HCR 117 which protects *Hanapepe Salt Ponds* for future generations. *Malama Aina*.

Thomas T Shirai Jr
Kawaihapai Ohana - Po'o

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Aloha Senator Hee & Committee Members,

I support HCR 117. Although I'm a lifetime resident of *Mokule'ia* with lineage dating back several generations in *Waiialua Moku*, HCR 117 will develop a Resource Management Plan needed for the protection of *Hanapepe Salt Pond* where *pa'akai* is made for commercial and subsistence purposes which confirms with *Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights* contained in *PASH (Public Access Shoreline Hawaii)*.

My *tutu kane (David Peahi Keao Jr)* and his elders made *pa'akai* on *Ohana* owned land at *Kaena Ahupua'a (Grant 1665)* where the *Kaena NARS (Natural Area Reserve System)* is situated. I was fortunate enough to experience *holoholo* to *Kaena* with my Grandparents and among this was gathering *pa'akai*. However, we stopped going to *Kaena* in the early 1970's because the area became undesirable to make and gather *pa'akai* along with the depletion of seafood resources thru over fishing, usage and continued *opala*. Aggressive efforts led by the *Mokule'ia Community Association* coordinating with the *Army* along with overwhelming *kokua* from *North Shore Neighborhood Board #27* and the *North Shore Community* resulted in massive removal of derelict vehicles along with other *opala* at *Kaena Ahupua'a*.

If passed, HCR 117 would not only protect *Hanapepe Salt Pond* but also encourage revival of other places throughout our state where *pa'akai* was gathered and made. This would include *Kaena Ahupua'a* and enhance the *Kaena NARS Fencing Project* in protection and restoring this *wahi pana*.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting HCR 117 protecting *Hanapepe Salt Pond* now and future generations. *Malama Aina*.

Thomas T Shirai Jr
Mokule'ia, Waiialua



***Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha
Learning Center***

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Brian K. Gerardo
Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Charter School
808-337-0481

Hearing Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 2:45 PM

Testimony in support of H.C.R. NO. 117 requesting DLNR to assemble various agencies to meet and develop a Hanapepe Salt Pond Resource Management Plan

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land

I am a student at KKNOK and I'm 17 years old in the 12th grade. My school is KKNOK and we are here to support HCR #117. The reasons why I support this is so that someone can sit down and talk so somebody can take care of the place and we don't lose salt or pollute the place with something else.

Not only that is because malihini come to our island from the mainland and build helicopter runways then later on in life they might take away our salt and build something over it.

These are the reasons I really support HCR #117.

Brian Gerardo

Brian K. Gerardo



***Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha
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Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
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Kelsey Anuenuenaniokalani Kanahale
Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Charter School
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Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land

My name is Kelsey Anuenuenaniokalani Kanahale and I go to Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha and I'm supporting the HCR # 117.

The reasons why I think that you guys should have somebody to support that beach because there's too much tourist going over there. Most of them think that they own the land, and they belong here. I think that you guys should put a sign on the outside of the park by the main highway to tell the tourist not to go over there. And that's not a good thing that they should build houses close by the salt beds because that's not a good thing for the salt beds. Because that's not a good thing for the salt.

These are the reasons why you guys should stop it.

Kelsey Anuenuenaniokalani Kanahale



***Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha
Learning Center***

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Kuuleimomi Gampong
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Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land

Aloha, my name is Kuuleimomi Gampong. I am in the 11th grade at Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha. I am writing this in support of the HCR # 117.

Some reasons for my support is because we grew up around the beach. Me and my family have parties and family meetings there. Salt Pond Beach Park means a lot to a lot of people. We also made a movie about salt making at Salt Pond. The Nobrega family has been making salt at Salt Pond for many years and it's part of our culture and history.

These reasons are why we as Hawaiians must take care of our land, beaches, and family. Culture and history means a lot to me and so does Salt Pond. This beach is full of memories.

Tiffany K. Gampong



***Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha
Learning Center***

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Shaina Kuuleialoha Kanahale
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Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land

Aloha, my name is Shaina and I go to Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha charter school and I am a supporter for HCR # 117.

The reason I am a supporter is to sit down and talk about the people who drink and smoke who throw their cigarette butts and beer bottles by the beds. And another reason is the helicopters that fly pass and pollute the air. And my last reason is because some people don't know how to malama the aina.

These are the reasons why we should support HCR # 117 and to make sure that it is taken care of.

~~Shaina K. Kanahale~~

Shaina K. Kanahale



Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Haunani Seward
Director/Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha Charter School
808-337-0481

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Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land

I serve as the Director and Curriculum Coordinator of Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha located in Kekaha, Kaua'i. I support H.C.R. NO. 117 and the need to develop a comprehensive Resource Management Plan for Ku'unaka'iole or the salt pans at Hanapepe.

I support this resolution for two reasons.

1. As an educational resource for students throughout the State
2. To perpetuate the Hawaiian culture for future generations

Last summer our students began work on producing a video documenting the legend of how salt making came to be at Ku'unaka'iole at Hanapepe. The legend is told in both standard English and the Ni'ihau dialect. Further, the process of making salt today was also filmed in English. Upon its completion, the intent is to share it with students throughout the State through of school's library system.

My family does not have ancestral rights to the haloko ulu pa'akai or salt beds, but friends provide me with the salt which I use on a daily basis. I have used salt from Ku'unaka'iole as a ho'okupu (offering) when visiting sacred places like Kaho'olawe, Northwest Hawaiian Islands, Ni'ihau, and many wahi pana(storied place) throughout Hawaii nei.

I support a resolution to develop a Resource Management Plan for Ku'unaka'iole, Hanapepe that will preserve this precious wahi pana for the future generations.

Me ka mahalo

~~Haunani Seward~~

TESTIMONY
HCR 117
(END)