

March 22, 2008

LATE TESTIMONY

The Hon Ken Ito  
Chair, Committee on Water Land and Hawaiian Affairs  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

[WLHtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WLHtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov) (30 copies please)

Re: HR130/HCR157 RELATING TO CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 24, 2008 – Rm 312 10:30AM

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Paula Helfrich and I am presenting testimony as a senior at University of Hawaii at Hilo, majoring in Anthropology. I will be leaving the state shortly to teach and to enter an international certification/MA program in Cultural Resource Management. I urge your enthusiastic support for this measure for all Hawaii's students of culture, history and applied science.

Many of us have been personally and professionally involved in contentious hearings processes over many development projects throughout the state where modern economics and ancient cultural values have clashed unnecessarily. It is essential to pursue cultural resource management in an applied, scientific and cultural context in order to achieve balance on these issues, to protect cultural resources, and to ensure collaboration and understanding on matters of mutual interest. This is a local, national and international problem.

Although the record notes that UH Manoa has a Master's program in Anthropology, the focus there is on general Asia-Pacific studies and unfortunately does not have the hands-on, applied context that is relevant in at least 30 active sites on Hawaii Island. As a comparative example, I will be working on examples that share contextual theory with some 20+ major World Heritage Sites and 5 universities, using cultural resource management models. Ironically, most of these sites, and many of the sites in Hawaii, share a common concern for hydrology, both ancient and modern. This is another way in which Hawaii's examples can lead world learning, and with your help it will happen....sooner rather than later for all our Hawaii anthropology students!

I respectfully urge your support for this measure and thank you for your consideration.

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