**LATE**

THE SENATE
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE 2008

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

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

Tuesday, February 12, 2008
2:45 pm, Conference Room 224 State Capitol

SENATE BILL NO. 2483
Relating to aquatic resources

Chairman Hee, Vice Chairman Kokubun and members of the committee, my name is Linda Paul and I am testifying behalf of the Ocean Law & Policy Institute of the Pacific Forum CSIS in favor of the Hawaii Aquatic Stewardship Act SB 2483, with the following amendment:

“§ -3 Native Hawaiian advisory group. (a) The chairperson of the board of land and natural resources shall appoint a native Hawaiian advisory group to advise the board of land and natural resources on traditional Hawaiian aquatic resource management practices. The native Hawaiian advisory group shall consist of one representative each from native Hawaiian groups with long-standing and thorough knowledge of traditional native Hawaiian aquatic resource management practices, including but not limited to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the West Hawaii Fisheries Council, the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, the Aha Kiolo Advisory Committee/Aha Moku Council Commission, regional community-based aquatic resource management groups, and other appropriate native Hawaiian organizations.”

Currently there are several existing native Hawaiian advisory groups and more are being proposed in various bills during this legislative session. The suggested amendment would give these groups and other appropriate groups a seat at the board of land and natural resources advisory table without overwhelming the board with a plethora of advisory groups.

The **§ -2 Scientific advisory group** would provide a much-needed second opinion to augment staff submissions on aquatic resource management measures, which involve such

science-based questions such as appropriate sample sizes included in permit applications. This group has been requested by members of the board of land and natural resources.

§ -1 Purposes. The purpose section of the Aquatic Stewardship Act should be viewed as an important and much needed part of the 2050 Sustainability Plan, as well as the recently-revised Hawaii Ocean Management Plan. The Act calls for the incorporation of ecosystem considerations into the management of watershed, coastal, and ocean resources using the best scientific information available, with the priority of protecting and restoring Hawaii's aquatic ecosystems, and it authorizes the application of any scientifically-valid management measures that may be needed in furthering the goal of perpetuating healthy and productive ecosystems.

We would like to encourage you to adopt the Aquatic Stewardship Act and make it your own.

Thank you.



Linda Paul, Director
262-6859

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land
Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Senator J. Kalani English
Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, 02-12-08 at 2:45 pm
Conference Room 224.

LATE

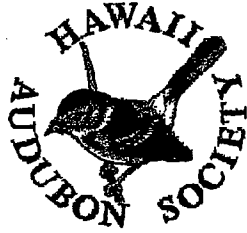
Opposition to SB 2483 Relating Aquatic Resources

Chairs Hee and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Kokubun and English, respective committee members, I am Roy Morioka, a retiree and fisherman from Waialae-Iki, Oahu. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in opposition to this bill on two counts. First, while I find the proposed Hawaii Aquatic Stewardship Act as an admirable approach to improved stewardship of our precious aquatic resources with the formation of a scientific advisory group and a native Hawaiian advisory group, I find it unusual that a user advisory group is not included in the measure. It is urged that a user group be added as it is important to know what the current activities and impacts of our aquatic resources are if we are to effectively manage them.

Secondly, with the legislature's passage and subsequent approval by the governor of the aha kiole council measure in 2007, it is urged that all measures proposing the formation of advisory groups for the purpose of improving citizen involvement in the management of our aquatic resources be deferred until such time that the report is received from the aforementioned group and their recommendations studied and discussed and recommendations developed. Should the outcome of that effort not achieve the expected goals and objectives of an improved system of citizen participation in the effective management of our aquatic resources, then alternative processes should be explored.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify, and your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,
Roy N. Morioka



For the Protection of Hawaii's Native Wildlife

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY

850 Richards Street, Suite 505, Honolulu, HI 96813-4709

Phone/Fax: (808) 528-1432; hiaudsoc@pixi.com

www.hawaii-audubon.com

LATE

February 12, 2008

**TO: Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Jill Okuda, Chair and Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair**

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

HEARING: Tuesday, February 12, 2008; 2:45 P.M., Conference Rm. 224

RE: SB2483, Relating to Aquatic Resource

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Chairs Okuda and Hee, and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Hawaii Affairs; as well as the Committee on Water and Land. My name is George Massengale, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB~~2443~~²⁴⁸³, which establishes the Hawaii aquatic stewardship Act.

The Hawaii Audubon Society was founded in 1939, and is Hawaii's oldest conservation group, with over 1,500 dedicated members statewide. The Society's primary mission is the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife and habitats. This includes protecting our aquatic resources as they are critical to the protection and sustainability of several of our endangered marine and wetland bird species.

We believe that establishing a public policy that incorporates ecosystem perspectives into the management of watershed, coastal, and ocean resources using the best scientific information available, with a priority of protecting and restoring watershed, coastal, and ocean ecosystems is a sound policy. However, we would offer comment with respect to the Native Hawaiian advisory group. We believe that the Native Hawaiian advisory group as proposed should not exceed the specified number of nine, and should include a representative from the following organizations; the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Aha ki'ole, the West Hawaii Fisheries Council,

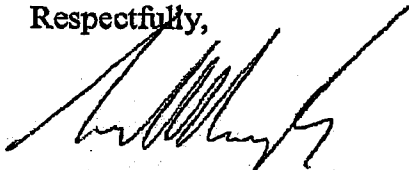
the Nui Marine Resources Council, and other members of community-based aquatic resource management groups.

We also believe that the Scientific advisory group is a wise provision. This groups including would not only augment resource management recommendations made by DLNR., but would provide scientific advice on acceptable biological harvest and sampling methods and levels, and allowable catch totals for all species harvested in state waters.

Finally, the Aquatic Stewardship Act call for the inclusion of ecosystem considerations into management of watershed, coastal, and ocean resources using the best scientific information available, whit the priority of protecting and restoring Hawaii's aquatic ecosystems. It authorizes the application of any management measure which may be needed in furthering the goal of perpetuating and maintaining healthy and productive ecosystems.

The Society urges the committee to pass this measure.

Respectfully,



George Massengale, JD
Legislative Analyst

LATE

Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair, Committee on Water and Land

Tuesday, February 12, 2008
2:45 p.m., Room 224

In Support of SB 2483 Relating to aquatic Resources

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Chair Hee, and members of the committees:

My name is William J. Aila Jr., I am an employee of DLNR however the testimony that follows is that of my own, as an individual.

Within the last several years we have observed the rise of Native Hawaiians coming forward to advocate on many resource issues. There is clearly no one group that is widely accepted by the majority of Native Hawaiians to speak on their behalf. There are many community based groups, the Aha Ki'ole Council, OHA, and others. SB 2483 assists DLNR with an inclusive framework to bring everyone to the table.

We have also witnessed the contrasts between Native Science and Western Science in differing testimonies given on resource specific bills.

SB 2483 seeks to identify these different groups and attempts to bring them together, to advise DLNR on important management issues, hoping that consensus and creative solutions can be developed for implementation.

Please support SB 2483 with the suggested amending language from the Ocean Law & Policy Institute of the Pacific Forum CSIS.

Mahalo, for the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 2483.

testimony

LATE

From: Linda Paul [linpaul@aloha.net]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 10:24 PM
To: testimony
Subject: SB 2483 testimony

THE SENATE
 TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE 2008

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Linda Paul, Director
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