



The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
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Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817

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nature.org/hawaii

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2871 Relating to Aquatic Resources
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Monday, February 11, 2008, 2:30PM, Room 414**

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawai'i's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i supports S.B. 2871 Relating to Aquatic Resources, including:

- The māka'i o ke kai program which reflects a collaborative and effective way to truly engage local communities in near shore marine resource management; and
- The community based marine resource management advisory committee as a balanced way for the DLNR to benefit from the advice of all stakeholders in marine resource and fisheries management.

Healthy reefs and fisheries have many economic, environmental and cultural benefits. We all have a stake in their future. Furthermore, fishing is integral to our cultural heritage and our island way of life. However, as anyone who has spent time in Hawaiian waters knows, many of our reefs and fisheries are at serious risk from a variety of threats and a precipitous decline in near shore populations of fishes. In fact, scientists estimate that our near shore fisheries are merely one-quarter of what they were a century ago—that is a decline of 75% over 100 years.

This bill supports broad-based community input and direct management of local fisheries and marine resources. It engages local community members in the management of the resources on which their lifestyles and livelihoods depend. It also helps to build true partnerships between DLNR and local communities by engaging them in a rule making process that *they* develop, enabling them to manage near shore marine resources surrounding their communities, and requiring them to monitor the effectiveness of their management actions to ensure they are having the desired effect of restoring degraded resources.

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testimony

From: Makaala Kaaumoana [makaala@hawaiian.net]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2008 5:42 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony SB 2871

Committee on Water and Land
Hearing Monday: February 11, 2008
2:30 pm Room 414

Testimony in strong support of SB 2871

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and Honorable Committee members,
Our organization implements a community authored Watershed Action Plan which address issues including the fishery of Hanalei River and Bay.

We have provided testimony in support of community based subsistence fishery management areas and support this legislation which provides a mechanism for more communities to develop community based efforts to manage their resources.

The kuleana for this work belongs to the ahupua'a and communities. This work does not need more bureaucracy or hurdles, it needs your support and kokua.

Mahalo for this opportunity to lend our voice on behalf of those without; the limu, the i'a, the kai and wai.

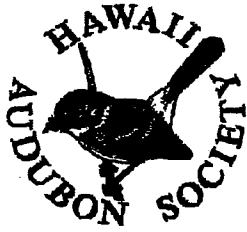
Me ka pono, aloha
Makaala

Maka'ala Ka'aumoana
Executive Director
Hanalei Watershed Hui
P.O.Box 1285
Hanalei, HI 96714
808-826-1985

The Hanalei Watershed Hui mission is to support and protect the ecology, cultures and sustainable economies of Hanalei.

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Version: 7.5.516 / Virus Database: 269.19.21/1265 - Release Date: 2/7/2008 11:17 AM

2/8/2008



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.hawaiiadubon.com

LATE TESTIMONY

EMAIL: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

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

HEARING: **Monday, February 11, 2008; 2:30 P.M., Conference Rm. 414**

RE: **SB2871, Relating Aquatic Resources**

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and members of the Committee on Water and Land My name is George Massengale, I a member of the Hawai'i Audubon Society and during session I serve as their Legislative Analyst. Thank you for the opportunity to submit our testimony in strong support of SB2871, which encourages DLNR to work with local communities to manage near shore reef resources.

The Hawaii Audubon Society was founded in 1939, and the States oldest conservation organization. The Society's primary mission is the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife and habitats. This includes protecting our aquatic resources. The Society has an established and active partnership with the Pacific Fisheries Coalition, together they've advocated for various measure that would further protect our near coastal ocean resources.

Having reviewed the provisions of SB2871, we believe the buy-in from local communities is one of the very best ways to ensure appropriate management of our states near shore reef resources and ecosystems. SB2817 is sound and well thought out measure and we urge the committee to pass it on to Ways & Means.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify here today.

Sincerely,

George Massengale, JD
Legislative Analyst



LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony of Mālama Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2871 Relating to Aquatic Resources
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Monday, February 11, 2008, 2:30PM, Room 414

Mālama Hawai'i, a hui of organizations and individuals, whose shared mission is to inspire the people of Hawai'i to care for their island home, **supports** S.B. 2871 Relating to Aquatic Resources.

For the past three years, we have been actively involved in developing a community-based program at Maunalua Bay, O'ahu (Mālama Maunalua) and have helped start a "makai watch" program there consisting of approximately 25 volunteers and a part-time coordinator. While the Maunalua Makai Watch program is less than a year old, it is showing great potential to develop into a sustained program involving residents from students to senior citizens, fishers, surfers, and anyone who loves and respects the ocean.

But without a strong partnership with the State DLNR and grant funding, programs such as this could become ineffective and short-lived. S.B. 2871 wisely offers a grant program to registered maka'i o ke kai community programs and a direct connection to the DLNR.

The community-based marine management advisory committee could be an effective tool in engaging ocean stakeholders in marine resource and fisheries management throughout the state. Mālama Hawai'i, which specializes in social marketing and effective communications, has experience in stakeholder outreach and would be honored to assist in this effort.

The quality of our lives clearly depends on the health of our living reefs. In this International Year of the Reef, let us do all we can to demonstrate that we ALL are stewards of the ocean and reefs.

Aloha,

Pauline M. Sato
Acting Coordinator



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Aloha,

**Pauline M. Sato
Acting Coordinator**

Emailed to: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

HUI MĀLAMA O PŪPŪKEA-WAIMEA



LATE TESTIMONY

February 10, 2008

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hearing Monday Feb. 11, 2008
2:30 p.m., Conf. Room 414

Board of Directors

Denise Antolini
Bob Leinau
Cora Sanchez
Juliana Simone
Drew Wheeler

SB2871 – Maka`i O Ka Kai

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Members:

On behalf of Hui Mālama o Pūpūkea Waimea, a community group committed to stewardship of the marine life conservation district and ahupua`a of Pūpūkea and Waimea, I write in **SUPPORT of SB2871 with amendments.**

The Hui supports the intent of the bill, which would strengthen much-needed community based management of Hawaii's precious near-shore marine resources through a stronger state-wide framework and important matching financial assistance. The proposed Community Marine Management Advisory Board could provide an important, genuinely representative, and inclusive stakeholder process.

The Hui hesitates, however, to endorse the parts of the bill that could unintentionally or unwisely impose an unduly burdensome layer of state control over existing and future community efforts to steward nearshore areas. While willing communities would definitely benefit from new financial support and from a stronger commitment by DLNR to this effort, the creative energy and grassroots strengths of such efforts could be depressed by state requirements for uniformity in order to qualify for funds or, especially, for some kind of recognition even if funds are not sought or received. The Hui recommends, for example, that under 188-C, instead of an "identification and definition" process, a more flexible and fair general criteria and application process be considered. In addition, under 188-D, the assignment of one DOCARE officer to each approved program is problematic given currently stretched DOCARE resources; it may also unfortunately cause DOCARE to give lower priority to non-approved programs.

The Hui commends the authors of the bill, supports its general intent, and particularly endorses the proposal for matching financial support for hard-working community groups that effectively supplement state management and enforcement efforts. Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Denise Antolini, Board of Directors
638-5594

testimony

From: Makaala Kaaumoana [makaala@hawaiian.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2008 4:32 PM
To: testimony
Cc: Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Gary Hooser; Sen. Russell Kokubun
Subject: SB2871 2-11-08 2:30 Rm 414

LET TESTIMONY

Testimony in support
SB2871
Committee WTL; WAM

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun and Honorable committee members,

The Hanalei Watershed Hui testifies on this bill because this work is what we do.

Facilitating pono process requires collaboration and commitment.

This legislation seeks to support community process that will succeed in the sensible, sustainable management of our resources.

This bill provides direction and support to DLNR for work it wants and needs to do. It supports a "support system" for communities embarking on the most important job they have, their kuleana.

We stand ready to work with DLNR to develop this program in a way that is sensitive to the peoples and places that express interest in this vital work. Our community has much experience to offer and much to gain from this legislation.

Mahalo for your support and vote to pass.

Me ka pono,

Aloha,

Makaala

Maka'ala Ka'aumoana
Executive Director
Hanalei Watershed Hui
P.O.Box 1285
Hanalei, HI 96714
808-826-1985

The Hanalei Watershed Hui mission is to support and protect the ecology, cultures and sustainable economies of Hanalei.

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2/10/2008

kokubun3 - Miya

From: Sen. Russell Kokubun
Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2008 7:49 PM
To: kokubun3 - Miya
Subject: FW: SB2871 2-11-08 2:30 Rm 414

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY

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To: testimony
Cc: Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Gary Hooser; Sen. Russell Kokubun
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Testimony in support
SB2871
Committee WTL; WAM

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Makaala

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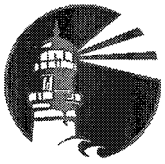
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2/11/2008



Ocean Tourism Coalition

The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
820 Mililani Street, #810
(808) 205-1745 Phone (808) 533-2739 Fax
office@oceantourism.org

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

DATE: Monday, February 11, 2008

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 414

LATE TESTIMONY

Speaking in Conditional Support of SB 2871

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair; Senator Russell S. Kokubun. Vice Chair and Members of the WTL Committee:

My Name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC) Hawaii's State wide organization representing the Ocean Tourism Industry for the past 25 years. We represent the 300 small commercial passenger vessels operation out of State Harbor and Launch Ramp facilities. We speak in **Conditional Support of SB 2871 with proposed amendments:**

We agree with the intent of this bill and wish to participate on the board level. Many of the areas which may be considered are also primary destinations for Ocean Tourism. These are important stakeholders whose livelihoods depend on access to these areas and should have representation on this committee. We would like to **add one more seat representing the Ocean Tourism Industry**. We would suggest that OTC would be the appropriate organization to fill this seat.

If you pass SB 2871, we humbly request that you amend the bill to reflect the **addition of one Ocean Tourism seat**.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President
OTC