

**TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Russell Kokubun, Vice-Chair & Member of the  
Committee on Water and Land**

**FROM: Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell Sr.  
Pukalani, Maui Hawaii 96768**

**SUBJECT: Hearing on SB2154**

**February 11, 2008 at 2:30pm.**

**Conference Room 414, State Capitol**

**TRESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

**Dear Chair Hee and members of this committee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify on this bill regarding a pilot community conservation program.**

**I fully support this program to place enforcement officers in specific districts throughout Maui County. The public would truly benefit from this program because the officer would be familiar with the needs of the community and could understand better the problems that arise within a specific district.**

**Speaking from the experience of having served as a Police Officer for 5 years on Molokai. The community could respond better to me and having a personal knowledge of their particular problems, was better equipped to serve their needs.**

**I would strongly recommend the passage of this legislation.**

**Mahalo Charles K. Maxwell Sr.**



HAROLD K.L. CASTLE  
FOUNDATION

*Building  
Resources for  
Hawaii's Future*

Hon. Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Hon. Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
Hawaii State Senate  
For hearing at 2:30 pm Monday, February 11, 2008  
Room 414, Hawaii State Capitol  
Re: SB2871 and SB2154

Dear Senator Hee, Senator Kokubun, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Terry George. I am Vice President & Executive Director of the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation. I am writing to provide expert testimony on SB2871 Relating to Aquatic Resources and on SB2154 Relating to a Pilot Community Conservation Program. Since 2002, the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation has invested just over \$2 million to strengthen the capacity of communities to co-manage the nearshore areas in the main Hawaiian Islands. We have been by far the biggest single funder of this community work, but much more money and other kinds of support is needed to ensure that communities can play their central role in taking care of the health of our coral reef ecosystems. In my expert opinion, these community efforts give our state the best bang for a buck possible in nearshore marine management; they make enforcement by DOCARE and management by DAR more effective, they keep both agencies on their toes, and they know their communities better than anyone else.

The 20 communities on five islands that have benefited so far from our funding through the opportunity to network and learn together through the Makai Watch program and the Managing Better Together Learning Network are amazing examples of volunteer dedication, building public awareness of the need to take better care of our nearshore fisheries, proposing concrete solutions to DOCARE and DAR regarding effective management, conducting good research on the health of their coral reef ecosystems and the extent of human use of their areas, and reconnecting us with the traditional knowledge that is so vital to effective stewardship of the 'aina and the kai. Most of the leaders of these community efforts are native Hawaiians; many are based in rural areas; and most are from families that continue to fish sustainably for subsistence purposes and for pure enjoyment. All of them are worried about the health of the resource, and all of them want to make sure that the keiki of their community will have the chance to teach their own grandchildren how to fish well, just as their own grandparents taught them.

The Harold K.L. Castle Foundation's largest investment in community nearshore co-management has been a suite of grants totaling \$2,015,087 for the 2002-2010 period that has enabled The Nature Conservancy,<sup>1</sup> the Community Conservation Network<sup>2</sup>, the Maui-based

146 Hekili Street  
Suite 203  
Kailua, Hawai'i  
96734

tel 808-262-9413  
fax 808-261-6918

www.castlefoundation.org

<sup>1</sup> \$500,000 over two years in 2003, \$750,000 over three years in 2005, and \$300,000 over three years in 2007 to The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii.

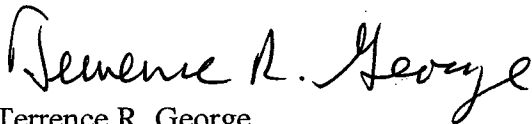
<sup>2</sup> \$150,000 over one year in 2007 to The Community Conservation Network, which also received partial support from the Foundation through our grants to The Nature Conservancy in 2003 and 2005.

Hawaii Wildlife Fund<sup>3</sup>, and West Hawaii UH Sea Grant<sup>4</sup> to increase capacity for community-based marine conservation in two dozen communities on six islands. This network of four groups, which forms the nucleus of the Managing Better Together (MBT) Network, has established the DLNR-supported Makai Watch program that allows communities to become re-engaged in community co-management. The MBT Network meets 8-10 times per year, gathers community leaders twice per year, gives frequent technical assistance to coastal volunteer groups throughout the Islands, and is highly regarded by grassroots communities and by DAR and DOCARE. Communities involved in recent Network meetings include (but are not limited to) Milolii, Hookena, Honaunau, and Puako from Hawaii Island; Moomomi from Molokai; Hana, Honolua, and Ahihi Kinau from Maui; Maunaloa, Heeia, Ewa Beach, Pupukea, and Waianae from Oahu; and Haena, Waipa and Hanalei from Kauai.

At their June 2007 meeting, the Foundation's Directors endorsed this community-based approach and directed staff to focus the Foundation's nearshore grantmaking effort even more tightly around one overarching theme: **the development of a critical mass of communities that enhance marine resource protection through co-management and form the core of an effective constituency for marine conservation in the state.** If this approach is successful, we expect to see a doubling of fish biomass and a doubling of catch per unit effort over the next decade in all nearshore areas that have strong community co-management in place.

Both SB2871 and SB2154 head us in the right direction toward a better partnership between communities and the state. You can be sure that the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation would be a likely source for a local match of monies called for in SB2871 and a keen student of the success of the pilot community conservation program on Maui as proposed in SB2154.

Sincerely,



Terrence R. George  
Vice President & Executive Director

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<sup>3</sup> \$225,000 over three years in 2005 to the Hawaii Wildlife Fund, which also received partial support from the Foundation through our grant to The Nature Conservancy in 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Four grants totaling \$348,817 since 2002 to University of Hawaii Foundation, Sea Grant College, including a 2007 grant of \$90,087 to replicate Kona's successful citizen engagement program in Waikiki.

LATE TESTIMONY  
**Community Conservation Network**

*Working with People to Sustain their Natural Surroundings*

February 10, 2008

TO: THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND  
RE: Hearing Monday, February 11, 2008, 2:30 p.m., Room 414

**SUPPORT OF BILL 2871, WITH AMENDMENTS**

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Kokubun, and Committee Members:

The Community Conservation Network supports coastal communities to improve marine resources management and fishing across the Hawaiian Islands. We work directly with five communities that are implementing programs similar to the Maka'i O Ke Kai program discussed in SB2871. We applaud the Committee's efforts to support community-based marine management and **SUPPORT SB 2871, with amendments.**

First, we encourage you to consider changing the conjunction under paragraph 188-C (a)(5) from "and" to "or." Because communities are addressing marine resources management in many different ways, including but by no means limited to the activities discussed in this bill, changing the conjunction to "or" would allow a greater degree of flexibility. An alternative would be to allow the advisory board that would be created through the bill to determine the requirements of projects wishing to be considered a Maka'i O Ke Kai project.

Second, we are concerned about the feasibility of paragraph 188-D. While we would certainly like to see additional DOCARE support for community-based projects, we are also aware that DOCARE resources are stretched thin. We would not like to see DECREASED DOCARE support for non-approved community projects or areas as a result of the Maka'i O Ke Kai projects.

Third, under paragraph 188-F, it is unclear who is to provide the baseline biological assessment and annual monitoring component. If DAR is responsible for this level of monitoring in all involved communities, we are again concerned about the feasibility given DAR's resources. However, if individual communities are solely responsible without assistance from DAR, we are concerned that the requirement will unduly burden some community projects that are focusing on more traditional methods of monitoring rather than more Western methods. It would be very helpful to clarify in the bill who is responsible and whether "monitoring" includes traditional and Western methods.

Finally, we hesitate to endorse the advisory board discussed in paragraph 188-G unless additional parameters are included. We believe this board should focus on the Maka'i O Ke Kai program but not create an additional layer of bureaucracy for other community-based marine management efforts. For example, a community that wishes to recommend new fisheries rules for an area should not have to go through this advisory board but would undergo the current rulemaking process under chapter 91. We also recommend that term limits be added, including term limits for the NGO that participates so that a variety of NGOs be given an opportunity to participate over time.

We commend the authors of this bill and support its general intent. Mahalo for the opportunity to share our mana'o.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Gowensmith, Hawai'i Program Director  
808-528-3700

**Board Members:**

*Alan White, Ph.D.  
Kem Lowry, Ph.D.  
William Tam, Esq  
Kevin Weng, Ph.D.  
Sheila McKenna, Ph.D.  
Kitty Courtney, Ph.D.  
John Parks*