

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, OCEAN RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Ken Ito, Chair

Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu, Vice Chair

PUBLIC HEARING

9 am

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Conference Room 312

SB 3206 SD2 - RELATING TO KAWAI NUI MARSH  
STRONGLY SUPPORT

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, OCEAN RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN  
AFFAIRS

Although some opposition to establishing the Kawai Nui Marsh Advisory Council has been raised by a few people representing organizations which have been involved over the years in planning the restoration of the *Marsh*, the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a 501c3 Hawai'i non-profit corporation which has several *on-the-ground* projects in *Kawai Nui Marsh*, continues to support SB 3206 - SD2. Their opposition seems to focus on their belief - albeit mistaken - that a Council is not necessary.

Although we appreciate their concerns that a Council might get caught in a bureaucratic morass, in fact this measure will help provide the necessary resources both human and financial for groups such as *Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi*, the *Kailua Bay Advisory Council*, the *Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club*, and the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance* to continue our work in and around *Kawai Nui Marsh*.

WAA suggests that the dollar amount to be inserted in SB 3206 - SD2 should come from the Department of Land & Natural Resources since they will be the government agency providing oversight for the entire *Marsh*.

*Mahalo* for the opportunity to submit our testimony in support of SB 3206 - SD2.

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