

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

LAURA H. THIELEN  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI  
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Testimony Transmittal Cover Sheet

Date Submitted: February 9, 2010

OPPOSED

Testifier's Name/Title: Paul Conry, Forestry and Wildlife Division Administrator

Committee Name: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS (HAW)

Day and Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2010  
Time/Location: 10:00 AM, Conference, Room 329

Measure Number: HB 1778 RELATING TO WALKING TRAILS

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
LAURA H. THIELEN  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2010  
10:00 am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1778  
RELATING TO WALKING TRAILS**

**LAURA H. THIELEN**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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KAIHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**OPPOSED**

House Bill 1778 request the Na Ala Hele Program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Pi'ilani Trail from Kaupo to Kapalua as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor and opening the Trail to the public. This trail corridor from Pi'ilani Trail to Kapalua would go through numerous private lands, historical and archeological sites, and has not been determined and difficult and costly to establish. This bill also directs the Department to inventory public lands, incorporate public and private partnerships, and provide cost assessment to repair, acquire land for maintaining the Trail for public use, and designate it as a cultural heritage corridor. While the Department acknowledges the Pi'ilani Trail as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor, the Department nonetheless cannot support this unfunded mandate.

The Department's general fund appropriation has been cut 32% in less than three years, special fund revenues have dropped over 35% over the past three years, and the Department lost over 80 positions this past year. The Department does not have the staffing or the resources to support a new unfunded mandate and expansions of our workload beyond our current core mission.

The Department encourages respective private landowners and community groups to work together to pursue this corridor.



**SUPPORT**

**WITH RESERVATIONS**

**HB 1778**  
**RELATING TO WALKING TRAILS**  
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 10, 2010  
Room: 329

10:00 a.m.

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS WITH RESERVATIONS** HB 1778, which requests the Nā Ala Hele program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Piʻilani trail from Kaupō to Kapalua as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor and opening the trail to the public.

While OHA is cognizant that increased access throughout the islands is directly correlated to an elevated enjoyment of the outdoors for residents and visitors alike, we do retain some concerns with regards to the opening of some areas of high natural and cultural sensitivity. The potential exposure of important components of the traditional cultural landscape and the increased likelihood of damage or desecration to these sacred and spiritual areas by unscrupulous individuals is an ongoing concern of the Native Hawaiian community.

OHA requests that hoā 'āina from lands surrounding the proposed trail alignment and the broader Native Hawaiian community be consulted during the investigation and study process. In addition, some form of archaeological surface reconnaissance should also be conducted to assess the absence or presence of cultural sites within or adjacent to the access corridor to assist in planning purposes to best maximize education opportunities while minimizing opportunities for intentional or negligent desecration of Native Hawaiian cultural sites.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



Council Chair  
Danny A. Mateo

Vice-Chair  
Michael J. Molina

Council Members  
Gladys C. Baisa  
Jo Anne Johnson  
Sol P. Kaho'ohalahala  
Bill Kauakea Medeiros  
Wayne K. Nishiki  
Joseph Pontanilla  
Michael P. Victorino




**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov/council](http://www.mauicounty.gov/council)

Director of Council Services  
Ken Fukuoka

**SUPPORT**

February 9, 2010

TO: The Honorable Mele Carroll, Chair  
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Danny A. Mateo   
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2010; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1778,  
RELATING TO WALKING TRAILS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Pi'ilani Trail, from Kaupo to Kapalua, as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor and opening the trail to the public.

The County Council supports this measure for the reasons stated in the attached Maui County Council Resolution No. 09-10, adopted by the Council on February 20, 2009.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council supports this measure.

Attachment

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# Resolution

No. 09-10

URGING SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1778  
RELATING TO THE PI'ILANI TRAIL FROM KAUPO  
TO KAPALUA

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1778 currently pending before the Hawaii State Legislature, requests the Na Ala Hele program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawaii, to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Pi'ilani trail from Kaupo to Kapalua as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor and opening the trail to the public; and

WHEREAS, designating the Pi'ilani trail as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor will allow the State of Hawaii and the County of Maui to protect and share this historic resource; and

WHEREAS, Edna Farden Bekeart, a Lahaina community member, has spent many years working to officially create this trail, in an attempt to protect this cultural resource and the history of the Hawaiian people; and

WHEREAS, designating the Pi'ilani trail is an important step toward the inclusion of the trail in the National Scenic Byways Program; and

WHEREAS, the National Scenic Byways Program is a voluntary, grassroots program that recognizes and supports outstanding roads, their stories and culture, and treasured places; and

WHEREAS, a National Scenic Byways Program designation will provide resources to help manage the intrinsic qualities within the corridor to be treasured and shared; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby urges support of House Bill No. 1778, which will protect the Pi'ilani trail from irreparable harm; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Charmaine Tavares, Mayor, County of Maui; the Honorable Linda Lingle, Governor, State of Hawaii; the State House of Representatives; the State Senate; and Ms. Edna Farden Bekeart.

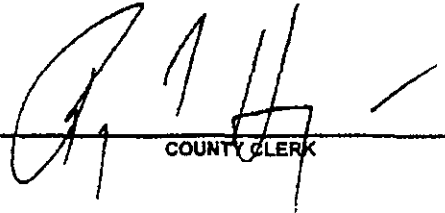
**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

**WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793**

**CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION**

**It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 09-10 was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 20th day of February, 2009, by the following vote:**

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>Dennie A. MATEO Chair</b>	<b>Michael J. MOLINA Vice-Chair</b>	<b>Gladys C. BAISA</b>	<b>Jo Anne JOHNSON</b>	<b>Solomon P. KAHO'OHALANALA</b>	<b>William J. MEDEIROS</b>	<b>Wayne K. NISHIKI</b>	<b>Joseph PONTANILLA</b>	<b>Michael P. VICTORINO</b>
<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye</b>

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY CLERK

✓  
1/8/10

Testimony for HB1778

SUGGESTED  
AMENDMENTS

Date: February 9, 2010

TO: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Hawaiian Affairs  
Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Representative Joe Bertram III

Re: Amendments to HB 1778

The following are suggested amendments to HB 1778:

Page One, Line 13: delete Edna Behert  
Add Edna Pualani Farden Bekeart

Page Two, Line 8: Add: use shall be explored to include:

Page Two Line 9: delete entire line

Page Two, Line 21: delete entire line  
Page Two, Line 22: delete entire line  
Page Three, Line 1: delete entire line  
Page Three, Line 2: delete entire line

Page Three, Line 3: change to amend date

Report Title Section: Delete "Feasibility Study"

Description Section: Delete "to conduct a study on the feasibility of"  
Add after: natural resources to designate the Pi'ilani trail

The original draft called for a feasibility study and some language referring to the study were inadvertently left in the new document. The bill intends to simply request that the DLNR designate the public lands of the Pi'ilani Trail as an important Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor. It is expected that funds needed for costs such as initial studies and future maintenance of the trail will be financed through private sources.