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Conservation Council for Hawaii

Bill No. HB 281

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Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
and House Committee Water, Land and Ocean Resources

Hearing: Tuesday, February 17, 2009

900 am

Room 325

Support for HB 281 HD 1 Relating to Environment

Aloha. My name is Marjorie Ziegler, and I am testifying on behalf of the Conservation Council for Hawaii and its 6,000 members.

We support HB 281 HD 1, which creates the emergency environmental workforce to provide employment to persons who have lost their jobs in the economic downturn and prioritizes the allocation of federal economic stimulus funds for the operation of this program.

We are very concerned about the loss of staff working on invasive species control resulting from the economic downturn, decrease in conveyance tax revenues in the Natural Area Reserve Fund, and budget cuts. State employee who currently work in the Natural Area Reserves, with the invasive species committees, and with the watershed partnership programs and who lose their jobs this July could be among the first to be re-employed under this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Working Today for the Nature of Tomorrow!

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