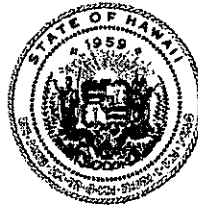
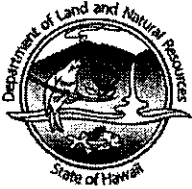


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**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, March 10, 2010
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329**

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 109/HOUSE RESOLUTION 59
REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE
TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES
WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS**

House Concurrent Resolution 109/House Resolution 59 requests that state departments use traditional Hawaiian names when identifying fishponds. The Department of Land and Natural Resources respects this aspect of Native Hawaiian culture, and has no objections to these measures.

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

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KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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LAND
STATE PARKS



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March 9, 2010

To: House Committee on **Hawaiian Affairs (HAW),
and Water Land, and Ocean Resources (WLO)**

Fr: Herb Lee, Jr.
Executive Director, Pacific American Foundation

Re: Testimony in support of HCR 109

Hearing Date: Wednesday, 10 March, 2010 @ 10:00AM
Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol

Aloha. Mahalo for the opportunity to share my support for HCR 109. The Pacific American Foundation is 501c3 non-profit organization founded in 1993 to help improve the lives of Pacific Americans. As part of that mission, we have been involved in the restoration of the Waikalua Loko fishpond in Kaneohe for the past 15 years.

The primary purpose of the restoration effort has been to develop innovative new curriculum to teach all the core subject areas of science, math, social studies and language arts, aligned to standards while doing cultural stewardship. Through the culture-based curriculum approach, we have taught and trained many teachers over the last 10 years statewide.

In our journey, our Hawaiian host culture continues to share and teach many wise and important things that are very applicable to the challenges we face today as stewards of this special place. Hawaiian names of places, persons and things are cultural windows to the past that help us to understand a sense of place, responsibility and purpose. To replace those names further disconnects us from cultural knowledge that has been vital in how we educate our children today and for generations to follow.

Why fishponds? Fishponds reflect a connection to the past that involved a highly regarded food source. It was life giving and its function and management represented some of the highest forms of Hawaiian science and engineering utilizing sustainable practices.

Today we see a tremendous disconnect in how our children relate to the production of food. Of greater concern is how that has contributed to a disconnect to the land, the sea, community and the world.



**PACIFIC
AMERICAN
FOUNDATION**

While replacing a name of a fishpond may not first sound significant, I believe it further represents a continuing disconnection which we absolutely can no longer afford.

Fishponds in our lifetime are on the verge of vanishing from the landscape. Yet over the last couple of decades, there has begun a resurgence to reclaim these feats of Hawaiian engineering as places to learn, teach and give back. We have seen first-hand how teachers, parents and students have used the knowledge of the fishponds (loko i'a) in creative ways to motivate a new generation of learners that are not afraid to embrace traditional knowledge with the modern.

In the case of Waikalua Loko, this "community classroom" has been visited by students for over 10 years at a rate of 4 to 5,000 per year. And there are many others on the neighbor islands that are enjoying the same resurgence.

We live in the greatest community classroom in the world due to our climate.

Think about it.

Names matter.

Your support of this resolution will be another critical link to our past as well as our future.

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: Fred Takebayashi [ftakebayashi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 9:09 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: Herbert Lee
Subject: Fw: HCR 109 testimony

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON Hawaiian Affairs (HAW), Water Land, and Ocean Resources (WLO)

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

Date: Wednesday, 10 March, 2010 @ 10:00AM

Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol.

HCR109: REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS

My name is Fred S. Takebayashi, Kupuna and Docent at Waikalua Loko

I am submitting testimony in support of HCR109 that requests state departments to use traditional Hawaiian names when identifying fishponds.

Our Hawaiian fishponds are unique, not only to the Pacific Islanders, but to the world. Their existence reflect the ingenuity and resourcefulness of ancient Hawaiians.

Our school curriculum includes Hawaiian Studies, not only in the elementary schools, but in the secondary schools as well. Therefore, in keeping with preservation of that uniqueness it is most appropriate to use traditional Hawaiian names to preserve that culture and recognize the legacy of the early Hawaiians and their legends, traditions and lifestyle.

Each new street, when built given a Hawaiian name. Why would we not continue that practice and preserve Hawaiian names for Hawaiian fishponds?

For these reasons I fully support passage of HCR109.

Sincerely:

Fred S. Takebayashi

44-705 Alakai Street

Kaneohe, HI 96744

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: Willis Motooka [motookaw001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 6:29 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Subject: HCR 109 testimony

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON Hawaiian Affairs (HAW), Water Land, and Ocean Resources (WLO)

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

Date: Wednesday, 10 March, 2010 @ 10:00AM

Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol.

HCR109: REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS

My name is Willis Motooka, Docent at Waikalua Loko

I am submitting testimony in support of HCR109 that requests state departments to use traditional Hawaiian names when identifying fishponds. Fishponds were built well over 600 years ago and represent one of the first forms of aquaculture technology being used in Polynesia. Their existence underscores the ingenuity and resourcefulness of our host culture. It is also appropriate that the use of traditional Hawaiian names is one means of recognizing the legacy of Hawaiian art, legends, traditions and language. "Sites of Oahu," a book authored by Elspeth Sterling and Catherine Summers, Bishop Museum, 1978 provides a compilations of traditional names of places and legends derived from various historical, anthropological societies, the Bishop Museum as well as governmental agencies which highlights the importance our historical and cultural sites to our present day knowledge. Our fishponds are some of those important cultural sites. We, therefore, should support all efforts by the people of Hawaii to preserve and perpetuate the use of traditional names for fishponds so we can all celebrate the legacy of the Hawaiian culture.

For these reasons I fully support passage of HCR109.

Sincerely:

Willis Motooka

44-125 Mikiola Drive

Kaneohe, HI 96744

THE HOUSE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

COMMITTEE ON **Hawaiian Affairs (HAW), Water Land, and Ocean Resources (WLO)**

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

Date: Wednesday, 10 March, 2010 @ 10:00AM

Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol.

**HCR109: REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE TRADITIONAL
HAWAIIAN NAMES WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS**

My name is Clyde Tamaru and I am an aquaculture specialist with the Department of Molecular Biochemistry and Bioengineering that is within the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). While I am a faculty member of the University of Hawaii the views being presented are not those of the University of Hawaii and am doing so as a private citizen.

I am submitting testimony in support of HCR109 that requests state departments to use traditional Hawaiian names when identifying fishponds. Fishponds were built well over 600 years ago and represent one of the first forms of aquaculture technology being used in Polynesia. Their existence underscores the ingenuity and resourcefulness of our host culture. However, these cultural treasures are also threatened because of changes in land tenure, economics many of these are no longer in use and have also fallen into states of disrepair. There is resurgence and tremendous amount of interest in restoring these units as they have been demonstrated to be of particular importance as educational resources as well as cultural icons to the concept of sustainability. This is particularly true when fishponds are discussed as part of their respective ahupuaa, the ancient land division that was then a completely sustainable geographical unit. This proposed measure is an important means in which we will be able to maintain the continuity of these cultural treasures that are on the verge of being lost forever.

For these reasons I fully support passage of HCR109.

Sincerely:



Aquaculture Specialist

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2010 8:11 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR109 on 3/10/2010 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 3/10/2010 10:00:00 AM HCR109

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeannine Johnson
Organization: Individual
Address: 5648 Pia Street Honolulu, HI
Phone: 808-373-2874
E-mail: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/8/2010

Comments:

Before Westerners arrived in Hawai'i, native Hawaiians lived a life of self-subsistence and harmony with the land and sea. Native Hawaiians understood that by caring for the land and sea, they too, would be cared for by the land and sea. A great example of this is a native Hawaiian fishpond (loko i'a or loko kuapā) which were first built around the fifteenth century. Hawaiians built 488 fishponds statewide, however only about 60 fishponds remain recognizable today. O'ahu alone had 97 fishponds, but only six accessible ponds remain today and all are located on the windward side. Thirteen fishponds have been restored statewide, with six ponds currently in use: three on Moloka'i, one on the island of Hawai'i, and two on O'ahu.

Currently, the Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center is working to stop the sale of two remaining fishponds at auction by the Department of Transportation. They are Kanewai Fishpond, a royal pond assessed to have the properties that make it eligible for listing on the National Historic Register, and Kalauha'iha'i (Lucas Spring and Fishpond) reported to be the location of a summer home of Kamehameha I and where Ka'ahumanu was said to have stayed.

Requesting that State Departments use the traditional Hawaiian names when identifying fishponds will help them be recognized for the important cultural significance these fishponds represent. Mahalo for your support.