

**LATE TESTIMONY**

March 9, 2010

Re: **Testimony in Support of HCR 109 and HR 59**  
To: **Hawaiian Affairs (HAW), & Water Land, and Ocean Resources (WLO)**

Aloha HAW and WLO Committees,

I am writing to express our support for using traditional names when identifying Hawaiian fishponds. This is urgently needed at a time when traditional fishponds such as Kalauha'ihā'i and Kanewai have been threatened with auction as "remnant lands".

Traditional Hawaiian names serve many purposes. They describe the unique geography and stories of a region often dating back centuries. They also serve to reinforce the Hawaiian language as well as connect us to a history that links Hawai'i to the ancient Polynesian migrations. Many of the same names found in Hawai'i can still be found in other Polynesian countries.

Fishponds were built to provide food often in conjunction with springs. Using solely TMK numbers or terms such as ditch, lagoon etc. reflects none of this and obscures the life giving functions of fishponds.

Below are a few examples of fishpond names from the Maunalua region that have been changed recently to names that have no cultural significance or larger geographical meaning.

- 1) *Ka Loko (named the pond) is often mislabeled as Allen Davis*
- 2) *Kalauha'ihā'i (named for when Queen Ka'ahumanu renounced the ancient kapu to the Kalauha'ihā'i Assembly, as well as a break in the reef fronting the pond has been labeled "remnant land".*
- 3) *Kanewai (named for the sacred life giving water of Kane) has been labeled "remnant land"*
- 4) *Kuapā (named for the massive pond wall) or Ke-āhu-pua-o-Maunalua (named for the shrine of the juvenile mullet) is often mislabeled Koko Marina or Hawaii Kai Marina (Henry Kaiser)*

The problem of losing traditional Hawaiian names is not limited to Maunalua however. On the leeward side Pu'uloa, often called Pearl Harbor hosted an extensive amount of fishponds that provided the home for enormous mullet schools that circled O'ahu. Ka'elepulu Fishpond otherwise known as Enchanted Lakes similarly sustained a large population of fish that nourished the windward side of O'ahu.

Your help in keeping the correct names for Hawaiian fishponds would help tremendously in raising awareness of Hawaiian fishponds as well as assist the communities who are restoring them.

Mahalo nui loa,

Chris Cramer  
President  
Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center

**TO: Hawaiian Affairs (HAW) & Water Land & Ocean  
Resources (WLO)**

**RE: Testimony in Support of HCR 109 & HR 59 (Utilizing  
Traditional Hawaiian Fishpond Names)**

**LATE TESTIMONY**

I am in support of HCR 109 & HR 59 - Utilizing traditional Hawaiian fishpond names. There have been too many attempts over more recent years to change traditional Hawaiian place names (including fish ponds) to names that are meaningless or are not Hawaiian. This trend must stop or else the true essence of what is Hawaii will be lost.

Mahalo,  
Kimo Franklin  
Born/raised in Niu & current resident & community member of  
Maunalua

Testimony for the  
House Committee on **Hawaiian Affairs**  
Hearing March 10, 2010

Regarding

**HCR 109: REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE  
TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS**

Chairperson Carroll, Vice-Chairperson Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

I write to ask your **support** for this resolution. (I will not be present at the hearing for the same reason this testimony is late: the flare-up of chronic asthma.)

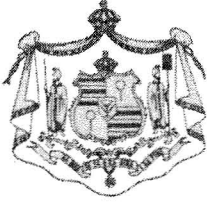
Implementation of this resolution will be educational for all concerned. In fact, it would be appropriate and even more educational if traditional Hawaiian names were used for all places that have them.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this resolution!

/s/

Susan Elliott Miller  
President  
Kawai Nui Heritage Foundation  
P. O. Box 17  
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734-0017

*Na Kia'i Pono 'O Kawai Nui*  
**KAWAI NUI HERITAGE FOUNDATION  
P.O. BOX 17 KAILUA, HAWAI'I 96734-0017**



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs  
P. O. Box 1135  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

TESTIMONY OF LEIMOMI KHAN, PRESIDENT  
IN SUPPORT OF

**HCR 109 AND HR 59, REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE  
TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair  
Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 329

Aloha Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HCR 109 and HR 59, Requesting State Departments To Use Traditional Hawaiian Names When Identifying Fishponds.

Traditional Hawaiian names are rich in history and genealogy. By learning and using the ancient names of places, we honor those who came before us and their intimate knowledge and relationship with mother earth. Ancestral knowledge provided insight into the history of a place and its natural elements. Some examples:

It is Keawalauopu`uloa, not Pearl Harbor, that was considered the "breadbasket of O`ahu" in ancient time, and it is Moku Umeume, not Ford Island, an islet in Keawalauopu`uloa, where the `iwi of Ali`i Peleiholani was buried with his ancestors;

It is Pu`uokapolei, and not Fort Barrett, that is a heiau and home of Kamaunuanoho, mother of Hina and grandmother of Kamapua`a, that served as a traveler`s landmark and a place of solar observation;

It is Kualaka`i, not Nimitz Beach, where a Tahitian Chief named Kaha`i planted the first breadfruit tree in these islands.

Much of the history of these islands were lost due to the overthrow where land was illegally confiscated and renamed, where development caused many of Hawaii`s natural landmarks to be destroyed leaving names, stories and history forgotten, and where much of the history rests with those kupuna who now sleep from season to season. Thus, we applaud your initiative and fully support the passage of HCR 109 and HR 59.

**We recommend that the distribution clause include the Mayors of all counties, the Native Hawaiian Historic Preservation Council, the University of Hawaii Kamakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Kanaka'ole Foundation, the 'Aha Kiole, and the Bishop Museum, as a minimum, so that they may know of this initiative and serve as a resource to State Departments.**

This legislation is consistent with AHCC resolutions 01-1, Urging the State of Hawaiian Counties of Hawaii to Preserve and Use Hawaiian Place Names and 01-12, Urging the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs to Research, Learn, and Use Ancient Hawaiian Place Names.

#### **About the AHCC**

The Association is a growing national confederation of fifty-eight Hawaiian Civic Clubs, located throughout the State of Hawai'i and in the States of Alaska, California, Colorado, Illinois, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, Washington State, Tennessee, and Texas. It initiates and works to support actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities, and in particular, the culture and welfare of the Native Hawaiian community.