


Testimony for HCR181 on 3/29/2010 10:45:00 AM

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 9:37 AM

To: WLOtestimony

Cc: Tracy.S.Oshiro@hawaii.gov

Attachments:  HCR181_LNR-03-29-10_WLO.pdf (118 KB) [Open as Web Page]

Testimony for WLO 3/29/2010 10:45:00 AM HCR181

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: oppose

Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Tracy Oshiro

Organization: DLNR

Address: 1151 Punchbowl Street Honolulu, HI 96813

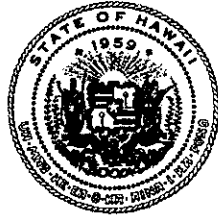
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Submitted on: 3/25/2010

Comments:

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
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Testimony Transmittal Cover Sheet**

Date Submitted: March 25, 2010

Testifier's Name/Title: Morris Atta, Land Division Administrator

Committee Name: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES
(WLO)

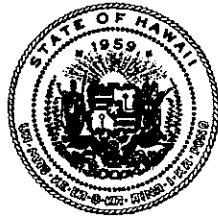
Day and Date: Monday, March 29, 2010

Time/Location: 10:45 AM, Conference Room 325

Measure Number: HCR 181 -- REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND DIVISION, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO REDIRECT STORM WATER RUNOFF FROM STATE LANDS ADJACENT TO THE HANAPEPE SALT PONDS AWAY FROM THE SALT PANS.

Requested Copies: 1 (including original) to Room 438 in the State Capitol

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Testimony of
LAURA H. THIELEN
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND AND OCEAN RESOURCES

March 29, 2010
10:45 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 181
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND
DIVISION, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO REDIRECT STORM WATER RUNOFF FROM
STATE LANDS ADJACENT TO THE HANAPEPE SALT PONDS AWAY FROM THE
SALT PANS

House Concurrent Resolution 181 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (Department), Land Division develop a plan to redirect storm water runoff from state lands adjacent to the Hanapepe Salt Ponds away from the salt pans. Given the State's current fiscal situation, the Department regrettably opposes this measure. Due to the recent severe funding reductions, the Department simply does not have the resources to undertake any new unfunded mandates, despite the meritorious intent of such endeavors. In less than three years, the Department's general fund appropriations have decreased 32%, and the Department's special fund revenues have declined over 35%. In the past year, the Department has lost over 80 positions, which constitutes approximately 10% of the Department's workforce.

Moreover, the Department has made several previous unsuccessful attempts to address the concerns of the interested parties in the area and on at least one occasion has proposed a plan to address the water runoff issues. In 1998, the Department's Historic Preservation program received a Capitol Improvement Program appropriation (Act 289, Session Laws of Hawaii 1993, Item H-2) for \$70,000 to prevent runoff from flowing into the area. The Department's Engineering Division (then known as the Division of Water and Land Development) designed and contracted improvements that called for protective berms to be constructed around the salt ponds. However, due to objections from Kauai County, the project was cancelled and the plan was never implemented.

Due to the complexity of issues and number and diversity of parties with conflicting or competing interests in the area, any resolution of the water runoff problem cannot occur in a vacuum and must be addressed in a comprehensive manner with the full involvement of all interested parties.