

LATE TESTIMONY

Charles St. Sure
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29 March 2010

TO: The Honorable Ken Ito, Chair of the Water, Land & Ocean Resources Committee
The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair of the Water, Land & Ocean Resources Committee

Re: HCR 243 Requesting the DLNR to make the Haleakala Trail available to the people of Hawaii

In Support

I simply want to make two observations relative to the request under consideration. First there has been a tremendous resurgence of interest and activity, not only locally, but nationally, with historic trails. One only has to look at the work that has already been, and continues to be, done restoring the 175 mile Ala Kahakai Trail on the Big Island. Nationally the National Trails System Act became law in 2002 to "provide for the ever increasing outdoor recreation needs of an expanding population and in order to promote the preservation of, public access to, travel within, and enjoyments and appreciation of the open-air, outdoors areas and historic resources of the Nation...".

Second I would like to point out that there was a report to the Legislature in 2005 by the DLNR in response to Section 198D-9(7), HRS. In that report on page 17 under Trail and Access Management Issues of the Maui Branch the report stated that the DLNR "Continued to investigate the possibility of developing the Old Haleakala Bridal Trail (Kalialinui)."

I believe the time has arrived to renew efforts to settle this matter. The people of Hawaii are asking and deserve the effort.



Charles St. Sure

har3-Megan

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 9:41 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: Rep. Joe Bertram III
Subject: Testimony for HCR243 on 3/29/2010 10:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 3/29/2010 10:45:00 AM HCR243

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rep Joe Bertram III
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Submitted on: 3/29/2010

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of this resolution.

The Haleakala Ranch purchased the land which includes the old Haleakala Trail in 1888. The trail continued to be popular with the public for some 50 years after. With the advent of the automobile the old trail was mostly forgotten, but with renewed interest in alternate modes of transportation and more specifically ancient Hawaiian trails, the public has been asking for access for cultural reasons as well as recreational.

If Haleakala's challenge to the ownership of the land with the State is based simply on liability, they could simply acknowledge the State's ownership claim.

I urge you to pass this resolution to encourage the DLNR to resolve this matter as soon as possible with Haleakala Ranch so that the public can soon enjoy again one of Hawaii's treasured ancient trails.