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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**

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

OPPOSED

**Before the House Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

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

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 9 –
URGING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER THE MERITS OF
CREATING IN OR NEAR HANA, MAUI, A MONUMENT TO QUEEN KA'AHUMANU
IN COLLABORATIONS WITH HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATIONS, RESPECTED
KUPUNA IN THE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Concurrent Resolution 9 urges the convening of a task force to consider the merits of creating in or near Hana, Maui, a monument to Queen Ka'ahumanu. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the valued contributions of Queen Ka'ahumanu, the Department nonetheless cannot undertake an unfunded mandate or task force study as called for in this concurrent resolution, as it would detract from core public management responsibilities.

The Department's general fund appropriations have dropped over 32% in less than three (3) years. The Department's special fund revenues have also dropped over 35% in the same period. Additionally, the Department has lost over 80 positions, or more than 10% of our staff just this past year. Accordingly, the Department is unable provide the requested service on this task force.

SUPPORT
WITH AMENDMENTS

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Representative Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 10:00am, Conference Room 329

Support of HCR 9, with amendments, Urging the Convening of a Task Force

To the Honorable Chair Carroll and Honorable Vice Chair Shimabukuro:

I am writing in opposition to HCR 9.

I am honored to be a member of `Ahahui Ka`ahumanu (Chapter I), Daughters of Hawai`i, `Aha `Iolani, the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu, and other Hawaiian organizations; this is my personal testimony on this Resolution.

I am in strong support of the testimony provided by `Ahahui Ka`ahumanu, Chapter XI, on this bill, which asks the Committee to defer to the will of the community and recognize the community group that already exists and is currently working on this project, instead of creating a new task force.

I am in strong support of the intent of this Resolution, yet as noted in `Ahahui Ka`ahumanu, Chapter XI's testimony, a community group already exists that is currently working on this important initiative. I am concerned that the task force created through this resolution would undermine the work that has already been done in the community and delay completion of this project. Therefore, this resolution should be held in committee.

Conversely, it would be more appropriate to urge DLNR to work with the community on the completion of their existing project.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important Resolution.



Trisha Kehaulani Watson, JD, PhD

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair

Representative Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

OPPOSED

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

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

Ref: HCR 9, Urging the Convening of a Task Force

The Ahahui Ka'ahumanu of Honolulu, Chapter I will be 105 years old in June 2010 and our Chapter XI in Hana was 20 years old in January. We continue to carry on our traditions passed on from our founders Princess Victoria Kamamalu and Lady Lucy Kaheiheimalie Peabody.

We, therefore, support a monument to the great Kuhina Nui and Queen Ka'ahumanu. In fact, under President S. Nani Smith of the Ahahui Ka'ahumanu Hana Chapter, she and the members have been working many years to do this. They have an artist that would fashion a statue of the Queen, they have worked in the community towards placing this in the correct spot. They would not only place the statue but would be also coordinating an education program around the statue and its location and they have the full support of the community and Maui Councilman for Hana, William Medeiros. Kumu Hula and educator, Dr. Pua Kanahale, has been their advisor on this project so that the Queen's legacy lives on. President Smith and the Chapter have also worked with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and have presented plans to them already.

Currently, the problem holding this project up is a land problem which needs to be resolved. This is where assistance is needed. The Hana Chapter and the Hana community feel it is only right that the statue and all it will encompass be placed in Hana.

At this time, it seems unnecessary to create a task force when so much work has gone into the Queen Ka'ahumanu statue project already done by the Ahahui Kaahumanu Hana Chapter. I would suggest that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Department of Land and Natural Resources work with the Ahahui Ka'ahumanu Chapter XI of Hana to kokua them to complete this project. Funding will also be a problem but we, the Ahahui Ka'ahumanu of all islands, know that with help from the communities, this project will be accomplished.

We then stand opposed to HCR 9. Mahalo for your consideration of our point of view.

Donna Lei Smythe, President

Ahahui Ka'ahumanu of Honolulu, Chapter I



IOLANI PALACE

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OPPOSED

TESTIMONY OF KIPPEN DE ALBA CHU

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

Wednesday, February 10, 2010
10:00 am

HCR 9

Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to this measure.

The Friends of 'Iolani Palace continues to work in strengthening the relationship between us and the four royal benevolent societies (*The Royal Order of Kamehameha, 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu, Hale O N' Ali'i O Hawai'i, and M' makakaua*). This relationship is symbiotic, and by working together we further the mission of honoring all of our ali'i and perpetuating the Hawaiian monarchy. We carry this responsibility lovingly because each of our entities traces its origins to a past ali'i.

Unfortunately, no matter how well intentioned this measure may be, HCR 9 seeks to circumvent an ongoing initiative by the Hana, Maui chapter of 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu. This group has been working with the local community and has already accomplished much. It makes no sense at this time to create a task force that would replicate past efforts and ultimately delay the project's completion.

We stand in support of our sister organization, 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu, and respectfully ask that this concurrent resolution be held in committee.

Thank you.