

TESTIMONY

SB 2378

LATE

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Kent Fonoimoana [kent@triland.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2010 10:09 PM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: SB 2378

Kent Fonoimoana
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

Implementing this process will provide the voting public with greater exposure to those candidates nominated for the general election. In an effort to make OHA a more transparent and reputable agency, this process will allow candidates more opportunity to conduct outreach and establish platforms on which they can run for the position of trustee. Currently, the general election is, at best, a free-for-all process that is based mostly on name recognition. If a primary election is implemented to narrow the field of candidates for the general election, the community will be afforded a much greater opportunity to make an educated vote based on the qualifications and intent of those candidates listed in the general election.

Kent Fonoimoana
TRILand Home Inspections
#808-294-9991
www.TRILand.com
"For your peace in paradise"

LATE TESTIMONY

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice-Chair
Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

Senate of the State of Hawai'i

Lance D. Collins, Esq.

Wednesday, February 3, 2010
Support SB No. 2378, Relating to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

My name is Lance D. Collins. I am an attorney in private practice on the island of Maui and testify on my own behalf. I submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378.

The importance of primary elections and/or run-off elections cannot be understated in any election process purporting to operate by majority rule. Such electoral plans allows a broader base of support for candidates who are elected into office and it allows those who vote for less popular candidates the opportunity to support one of the top two contenders if their candidate fails to be a top finisher. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

The most important purpose of this bill is to allow for a broader base of support for elected officials and, therefore, broader based support for the decision-making. With this broader base of support for elected officials, it hopefully will encourage better accountability.

Currently, the general election is, at best, a free-for-all process that is based mostly on name recognition. If a primary election is implemented to narrow the field of candidates for the general election, the Hawaiian community will be afforded a much greater opportunity to make an educated vote based on the qualifications and intent of those candidates listed in the general election.

Given the diversity of view points in the Hawaiian community both geographically and ideologically, future reforms in the electoral process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs might be single member districts, proportional representation, or mixture of both to ensure the broadest diversity of viewpoints is represented in the decision-making process. At this time, this change will allow the electoral to adjust and to determine whether further reform is needed.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

LATE TESTIMONY

Office: 905
Honolulu, HI 96813
E-mail: kananikb2@hawaii.rr.com
Phone (808) 888-0369
Cellular: (808) 783-9302
Fax (808) 696-1654

Kanani Kaiauwaha Bulawa

TESTIMONY – SUPPORT SB 2378: OHA; TRUSTEES; ELECTION

TO: Sen. C. Hee, Chair, J. Tokuda, Vice Chair, and the members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

HEARING: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 3:00 PM CR: 229

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice-Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee:

Mahalo piha for the opportunity to provide my written testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustee’s election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

Implementing this process will provide the voting public with greater exposure to those candidates nominated for the general election. In an effort to make OHA a more transparent and reputable agency, this process will allow candidates more opportunity to conduct outreach and establish platforms on which they can run for the position of trustee. Currently, the general election is, at best, a free-for-all process that is based mostly on name recognition. If a primary election is implemented to narrow the field of candidates for the general election, the community will be afforded a much greater opportunity to make an educated vote based on the qualifications and intent of those candidates listed in the general election.

I commend the committee members and chair for taking on a process that will only enhance election procedure for the candidates that will represent our Hawaiian community.

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Walter Kawa'a [wkawaa@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 5:05 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Cc: Kupuaina Coalition
Subject: i, Walter K. Kawa'a, Jr., Support SB 2378

Walter K. Kawa'a, Jr.

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs:

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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TESTIMONY

From: robyn@hawaiiantel.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 6:43 AM
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: Senate Bill 2378

Robyn Williams
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: Jazmine Enos [kapu.heaven@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 6:44 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: SB 2378

Jazmine Enos
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: Ka`iana Haili [kaianahaili@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 7:25 AM
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: SB 2378

Ka`iana Haili
PO Box 4001
Hilo, HI 96720

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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I appreciate being made aware of and an opportunity to participate in the constitutional right to testify. The outer island communities are unable to submit testimony or even know of the legislative process until it is usually overdue.

Never cease to act because you fear you may fail." *Queen Lili`uokalani*

`O wau ha`aha`a
Ka`iana Haili

LATE TESTIMONY

From: George [protrade@teleport.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 7:25 AM
To: WTLTestimony
Subject: Election Bill Testimony

George Heiligman KS `66
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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LIFE TESTIMONY

From: Judy Mick [ppchawaii@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 8:18 AM
To: WTL Testimony
Subject: S.B. 2378

Aloha

Please vote in favor of S.B. 2378 so there will be more knowledge by the public of the people running for office in OHA and we can elect candidates who will actually help our indigenous people of Hawaii. Mahalo.. Judith Mick

LATE TESTIMONY

From: drhanz@att.blackberry.net
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 8:51 AM
To: WTL Testimony
Cc: Sen. Clayton Hee; Sen. Jill Tokuda

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Hawaii State Capitol
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Support of SB2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs:

Aloha no!

I am writing to express my support of Senate Bill 2378.

This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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A me ka ha'aha'a,

Hanalei

Hanalei Y. Aipoalani
89-308 Mokiawe Street
Waianae, Hawaii 96792

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

LATE TESTIMONY

Lehua Ka`uhane
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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LATE TESTIMONY

Colin Kippen
1276 Aloha Oe Drive
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda
and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian
Affairs:

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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Sincerely,

Colin Kippen

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Sylvia Spalding
2171A Kauloia Place
Honolulu, HI 96816

To: Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

Regarding: Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm **SB 2378**

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 2378. This bill will reform the Office of Hawaiian Affairs board of trustees election process so that candidates will be nominated via a primary election and subsequently elected at the general election. Currently, all candidates that run for office of trustee are listed on the ballot for the general election. Under this bill, candidates listed on the primary election ballot will be narrowed down to the two candidates receiving the most votes for each available seat. Those two candidates will be nominated and listed on the ballot at the general election.

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LATE TESTIMONY

Davis Price
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

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The current election process for OHA seems to be flawed in that it is mostly based on name recognition, with very little informative dialogue taking place amongst candidates and the voting public. Holding a primary election and narrowing down the field of candidates for the general election will give candidates greater opportunity to engage voters and present ideas that will earn votes. This will also create a higher level of expectation and accountability for those candidates elected to office and ideally, would lead to consistent transparency on the part of OHA's Board of Trustees.

Thank You.

LATE TESTIMONY

Desiree' Lee
94-502 Kipou Street
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 3:00pm
SB 2378

Dear Committee Chair Clayton Hee, Madame Vice-Chair Jill Tokuda and members of the Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

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Mahalo,
D.Lee

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Tamar deFries [tamardefries@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 11:41 AM
To: Sen. Brian Taniguchi; Sen. Clayton Hee
Subject: SUPPORT TESTIMONY FOR SB2378

The Senate
Hawaii State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawai'i

February 3, 2010

To Senate Committees:

Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs
Chair Clayton Hee and Vice-Chair Jill N. Tokuda

Judiciary and Government Operations Committee
Chair Brian T. Taniguchi and Vice-Chair Dwight Y. Takamine

Subject: Testimony in *SUPPORT for SB2378* that provides for the election of the office of Hawaiian affairs board members through a system of nonpartisan primary and general elections.

Supporting SB2378 will allow our communities more time and with more time the opportunity to learn about the OHA candidates, along with allowing candidates the opportunity to reach out to the community to earn their votes.

The current OHA election process seems to be flawed in that it is mostly based on name recognition, with very little informative dialogue taking place amongst candidates and the voting public. Holding a primary election and narrowing down the field of candidates for the general election will give candidates greater opportunity to engage voters and present ideas that will earn votes. This will also create a higher level of expectation and accountability for those candidates elected to office and ideally, would lead to consistent transparency on the part of OHA's Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Tamar deFries

Hotmail: Trusted email with powerful SPAM protection. [Sign up now.](#)

TESTIMONY

SB 2378

LATE

(END)