

SCR87/SR38

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**

**Before the Senate Committees on
EDUCATION AND HOUSING
and
HUMAN SERVICES**

**Monday, March 15, 2010
1:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 87/SENATE RESOLUTION 38
URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH
HOMELESS SAFE ZONES**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 87/Senate Resolution 38 requests that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) lease or contract with the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) any available public lands for the purpose of establishing homeless safe zones. The resolution also requests that the Department provide assistance to HPHA and any provider agencies contracting with HPHA, in identifying, contracting, and conveying land and improvements available for use by provider agencies as homeless safe zones. Given the State's current fiscal situation, the Department opposes this measure.

The Department's general fund has been cut 32% over the past 3 years, special fund revenues have declined 35% over the past 3 years, and the Department has lost 80 positions in the recent Reduction-in-Force this past year. Any further cuts or additions of new unfunded mandates will likely result in loss of staff and maintenance and operations of core departmental.

Moreover, the Department's workload continues unabated while its available workdays have been reduced by two days a month due to furloughs. Any additional demands and responsibilities imposed upon the Department's over burdened staff will further diminish the Department's ability to carry out its core functions and seriously debilitate its ability to generate sufficient revenues to meet its minimum budgetary requirements to operate effectively.

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

sakamoto2 - Erin

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2010 6:17 PM
To: EDH Testimony
Cc: erinann815@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR87 on 3/15/2010 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for EDH/HMS 3/15/2010 1:45:00 PM SCR87

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: erin rutherford
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: erinann815@aol.com
Submitted on: 3/12/2010

Comments:

I support this bill. Establishing a safe zone sounds like it may help with cutting down crime in certain areas. It will also give the homeless people a safe place to go so they are not affected by crime from other people on the streets. it may spark more of an initiative to build more housing for the homeless