

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2011 7:53 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: kkb@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for HB1224 on 2/14/2011 9:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for WLO 2/14/2011 9:00:00 AM HB1224

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kim Ku;ulei BIRNIE
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kkb@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/14/2011

Comments:

Aloha. I am a member of Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and serve on the board of Kohemalamalama/Protect Kaho'olawe Fund. I support HB 1224.

Aloha 'aina.

**Testimony of Donne Dawson
Member, Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana
before the
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources**

**Monday, February 14, 2011
9 am.
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325**

**In strong support to House Bill 1224
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE**

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, members of the committee... I would like to offer testimony in strong support of HB1224, which authorizes a portion of the conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe.

My name is Donne Dawson. I am native Hawaiian, born and raised in Hawaii and currently reside in Palolo Valley. I am a film industry consultant and managed the Hawaii Film Office from 2001 to 2010. For the last seven years I have been actively involved with the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and have led numerous volunteer accesses to Kaho'olawe. I have also worked on a number of KIRC volunteer accesses closely with KIRC staff and have witnessed first hand the remarkable job that KIRC staff have done to lead the restoration efforts on Kaho'olawe. The 'Ohana could not do the work it does without the support of the KIRC. Personally, this island has taught me more about my Hawaiian culture and history than I could ever learn anywhere else. At a community level, I have witnessed hundreds of volunteers profoundly changed by their experience on Kaho'olawe.

For 16 years the KIRC has depended on the initial federal appropriation to fulfill the important and challenging work it does to heal and restore an island that was devastated by the US military's 50-year occupation and decades of environmental degradation. This federal funding was never intended to sustain operations and management of Kaho'olawe. If the KIRC is not able to come up with a sustainable funding source within the next two years it will have to look seriously at shutting down its operations which would place Kaho'olawe in grave danger and would quickly undo the decades of hard work of the KIRC and the PKO. I urge you to not allow this to happen.

The state has a trust relationship with Kaho'olawe and therefore a trust obligation to ensure that restoration efforts continue on the island to protect a Hawaiian resource that is unique in all the world. I ask that you vote yes on HB1224 and allow the state to fulfill its obligation to ensure Kaho'olawe is protected for future generations.

Mahalo nui for your time and careful consideration.



Testimony to the Committee on Water Land Oceans
Monday, February 14, 2011; 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Speaking in Support

RE: HB 1224 Relating to Kaho'olawe

Chair Representative Chang, Vice Chair Representative Har and Members of the Water, Land, Oceans Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. We appreciate the efforts being made by the Legislature in addressing the shortfall in revenue to sustain the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

We believe this bill will go a long way in resolving the shortfall that is imminent for the KIRK. This bill raises funds without causing undue hardship on any user group.

Please pass this bill which will make KIRK more effective and solvent.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-870-9115.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President