

February 4, 2008

The Honorable Representative Jerry Chang, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Har, Vice Chair
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony supporting HB 1405 and a statewide system of greenways and trails

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and Members of the Committee:

The Outdoor Circle (TOC) appreciates this opportunity to present testimony in support of HB1405

While Hawaii has many wonderful venues for hiking and experiencing the unparalleled beauty of our islands, a statewide hiking network planned in a systematic, comprehensive manner would greatly benefit visitors and residents alike.

HB1405 proposes that the Office of Planning (OP) develop a plan to create such a system in conjunction with the counties, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Land and Natural Resources. While TOC is not certain whether the OP is the appropriate agency for this effort, we unequivocally support the intent of the legislation.

We therefore urge the committee to investigate the best possible mix of agencies and to consider including a citizen's advisory committee capable of developing such a plan and accordingly move it along in the legislative process toward passage and eventual implementation.

Please vote in favor of HB1405.

Respectfully,

Bob Loy
Director of Environmental Programs

har3 - Megan

From: Windward Ahupua`a Alliance [info@waa-hawaii.org]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 6:58 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HB 1405 Testimony

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND OCEAN RESOURCES

Representative Jerry Chang, Chair
Representative Sharon Har, Vice Chair

9 am
Monday, February 7, 2011
Conference Room 325

HB 1405 - RELATING TO PLANNING

Requires the Office of Planning to establish a statewide system of greew\ways and trails.

Submitted by:

Shannon Wood, *President & Co-Founder*

Windward Ahupua`a Alliance

PLANT A NATIVE TREE CAMPAIGN

P.O. Box 6366

Kane`ohe, HI 96744

Voicemail: 808/247-6366; Cellular: 808/223-4481 or 808/224-4496 (personal)

Website: <http://www.waa-hawaii.org>; E-mail: <mailto:info@waa-hawaii.org>

Website: <http://www.plantanativetree.org>; <mailto:info@plantanativetree.org>

In the summer of 2002 a small group of hikers, bicyclists and environmental activists established the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance* after several of us had experienced somewhat similar situations while exploring the areas along the base of *Na Ko`olau* in Windward O`ahu.

For the next four legislative sessions, we tried to get a bill similar to this one passed and found that the **Office of Planning** back then really was not interested in it, and, in fact, suggested that I work with the *State Department of Transportation's Highway Division* or the *Department of Land & Natural Resources* since the **Office of Planning** felt that **Smart Growth** is primarily a transportation or recreational issue rather than an economic development matter.

A *Senate* version of the bill in 2006 tried to get the greenbelt concept assigned to the *DLNR*, but their lack of \$\$\$\$ required them to speak in opposition to the bill.

Frankly, at that point, I gave up on the concept because *WAA* had become deeply involved in several other major issues.

I do want to see this bill move forward, but I also recognize that there are still money issues to consider which is why I would like to see this bill consolidated with two others asking that the **Sustainability 2050 Task Force** recommendations be implemented. All three bills were submitted by *Representative Jordan*.

Even if you decide to keep this separate, I urge that you include language in the bill to create an advisory group or even a task force made up of individuals and organizations who have been working on these issues for

a very long time to help the **Office of Planning** come up with legislative proposals and administrative recommendations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on **HB 1405**.

February 5, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Chang, Chair
and Members of the House Committee on
Water, Land and Ocean Resources

RE: In SUPPORT OF HB 1405 – “RELATING TO PLANNING”

Hearing Date: Monday, February 7, 2011, 9:00 a.m., Conference Rm. 325

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources:

My name is Pauline Sato. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1405.

This bill will require the Office of State Planning to work in cooperation with other State departments, specifically Transportation and Land and Natural Resources, to establish a statewide system of greenways and trails following the principles of smart growth.

Sadly, much of the growth our islands have experienced would not be considered “smart.” Urbanized communities have largely become disconnected from the shorelines and forests. Walking is not encouraged and greenery is sometimes hard to find in a place blessed with perhaps the best and most welcoming climate in the world.

Having a network of greenways and trails will allow people young and old to become more connected to their environment, communities, and each other. And, these trails will present opportunities for citizens groups to become volunteer caretakers.

The tasks outlined in this bill would require collaboration with community groups and other interested stakeholders, and likely require additional funding, which I would also support as an addition to this bill.

For these reasons, I humbly ask you to support the passage of HB 1405. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Aloha,



1173 Alewa Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

har3 - Megan

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 05, 2011 11:05 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB1405 on 2/7/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/7/2011 9:00:00 AM HB1405

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marjorie Erway
Organization: Individual
Address: PO Box 2807 Kailua Kona, HI 96745
Phone: 324-4624
E-mail: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/5/2011

Comments:

Hawaii desparately needs a statewide system of greenways and trails. Please support this bill which requires the Office of Planning to establish such a system. Mahalo for your consideration.