

**HB377,HD2,SD1**

**Testimony**



Aha Kiole Advisory Committee

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 377 HD 2, SD 1**  
**Relating to Public Lands**

Submitted to: Committee on Judiciary and Labor

March 31, 2011

9:45 a.m.

Room 016

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Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee, we thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 377, HD 2, the bill that now has three parts – the state lease preferences for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds; issues on permitting for Moku Oloe (Coconut Island); and the initiation to establish a public lands information system.

We strongly support the loko'ia restoration as we believe these assets continue to be one of the most important cultural and natural resource to each of the islands of Hawaii and to the moku and ahupua'a communities now active in the restoration of the Aha Moku System.

We believe that the work done on Moku Oloe (Coconut Island) is important to our state and should be maintained regularly.

Finally, we are in full support of a public lands information system to include the inventory of ceded and submerged lands in the State of Hawaii to be undertaken by the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 377 HD 2 SD 1 and we urge the passage of this bill.

Vanda Hanakahi, Kiole, Moloka'i, Chair

Aha Kiole Advisory Committee

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**U N I V E R S I T Y   O F   H A W A I ' I   A T   M Ā N O A**

School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology  
Department of Geology and Geophysics

Testimony of  
Neil Frazer, PhD<sup>1</sup>  
Professor of Geophysics

Before the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

In consideration of

House Bill 377 HD2 SD1

Thursday March 31, 2011, 9:45 a.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Hee and Committee Members:

I strongly support Part I of this bill.

Parts II and III of this bill do not seem bad to me, but others may object to Part II as setting a dangerous precedent, and Part III requires expenditure of funds which may prevent passage because of the current budget shortfall. It would be unfortunate if Part I, which I think is very desirable and does not seem to me to require expenditures, failed to pass because of difficulties with Parts II and III. Also, the effective date should be changed from 2030 to 2012.

Loko i'a are of great scientific importance because they epitomize both ecological engineering and integrated multitrophic aquaculture, but in order for industrial aquaculture to learn from loko i'a it is necessary that they be operated. A slide show comparing industrial aquaculture with loko i'a can be viewed here: <http://www.sites.google.com/site/aquapono/home/powerpoint>

In addition to their scientific importance, loko i'a contribute to food security, to education, to community cohesion, to the Hawaiian cultural renaissance (which benefits all of us), to the restoration of coastal fish populations and to the environmental monitoring of stream and coastal waters. And they are fun!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify, and for your service to the people of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,



Neil Frazer  
Professor of Geophysics

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<sup>1</sup> The signer is solely responsible for the views expressed in this letter. As an academic institution, the University of Hawaii does not take positions on the scholarship of individual faculty, and this letter should not be interpreted or portrayed as reflecting the official position of that institution.