

**Testimony before the
House Committees on
Water, Land, & Ocean Resources
and
Energy & Environmental Protection**

H.B. 850 -- Relating to Fishing

**Tuesday, February 15, 2011
9:30 a.m., Conference Room 325**

**By Robbie Alm
Executive Vice-President
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.**

Chairs Chang and Morita, Vice Chairs Har and Coffman, and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is being submitted on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiary utility, Maui Electric Company.

We support H.B. 850 which is intended to incorporate indigenous resource practices in establishing a community-based fishery resource management area for the island of Lanai. During community meetings on the proposed wind farm project and in discussions during the community's visioning process we heard concerns about over-fishing and how it threatened the island's subsistence lifestyle. This bill will help to address those concerns by creating an advisory committee of Lanai residents with knowledge of traditional practices in the management of fishery resources. It enables the committee to develop and implement a community-based fishery resource management area program for the island to promote the sustainable use of marine resources.

This bill is among several bills that have been introduced this legislative session which address some concerns and desires raised by residents during community discussions on the wind farm project. If the wind farm is built on Lanai and the power sent to Oahu, it seems only fair to provide the island with the resources necessary to meet critical community needs. We strongly urge this committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

har3 - Megan

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 5:09 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB850 on 2/15/2011 9:30:00 AM

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Testimony for WLO/EEP 2/15/2011 9:30:00 AM HB850

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carl P Jellings Sr.
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/10/2011

Comments:

This Bill references the Hawaiian Kapu system, which goes hand and hand with sustainable living, not many today know how or choose to live in this manner,

Kapu's were placed on resources not so much as to protect the resource it self but to protect it, so it would be there in perpetuity to sustain Life, this is why punishment for breaking kapu's were often grave. because it threatened an entire society.

today's kapu's very basically are in place to protect resources from extraction and over harvesting, and does exactly that. But a lawaia who understand's the interconnectedness that sustain these resources that make them tick. and who is dependant on these resources has learned that to "protect" comes more than mere limits or preservation. it mean's to look beyond these protection's it means to look at a resources well being, NOT just pass a law and We did Our job so We can feel good and say we've insured sustained use for future generation's "Aole", You must continue to monitor these resources and if there are additional impacts that are causing declines You must create strategies to restore what lack's.

example)10 years ago limu manuea on Oahu's South shores were suffering immense declines law's to protect were in acted 1 pound per person per day and in addition an area designated as Kapu, today the manuea still haven't rebounded anywhere near it's baseline.

Today with shipping and air freight it's too easy to dismiss major deficiencies within the ecosystem We have become a society that our lives no longer depend's on these resources. eating fish has become a personal choice not a necessity.

People today look at a broken water main as wasting water when actually water that flow's into estuaries is an essential part of the ocean environment, without out it the clock stops ticking.

So I understand what the bill reads and understand that every island is different But coming from the Waianae Coast I also understand how it feel's when every Tom Dick and Kaneala wants to visit or fish your ko'a's.

Take serious Your resources and why you implement Kapu's it will eat away your own sustainability. but why should We care we have become a complacent society and take our blessing's/resources for granted because someone else 4000 miles away can produce it for You.

Mahalo For allowing me to testify.

Carl Pao Jellings Sr.

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