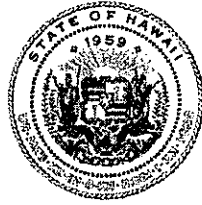


NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
AGRICULTURE**

**Friday, March 11, 2011  
11:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 83  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGRICULTURE  
WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INCLUDING PERFORMING A STATEWIDE  
WATER DEVELOPMENT STUDY**

The purpose of House Concurrent Resolution 83 is to lay the groundwork for implementation of the agriculture water development program including performing a statewide water development study. The Department of Land and Natural Resources' Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) supports the intent of this resolution. However, the proposed study is unnecessary.

Section 174C-31(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the State Water Code, requires the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (DOA) to prepare a State Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP). The Commission's *Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan* (2000) recommends additional plan elements for the AWUDP. As such, the State Water Code and Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan already includes and addresses the study elements proposed in House Concurrent Resolution 83.

**WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
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  
KAIKOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



Hawaii Farm Bureau  
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819  
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

March 10, 2011

## TESTIMONY

**RE HCR83: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONDUCT A STUDY LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGRICULTURE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INCLUDING PERFORMING A STATEWIDE WATER DEVELOPMENT STUDY.**

Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of commercial farm and ranch families and organizations in the State appreciates the intent of HCR83, requesting a study to lay the groundwork to implement the agricultural water development program. However, we **instead request your support of SB145** which includes funds to complete the AWUDP as it crosses over from the Senate.

First, we would appreciate the support by the House to pass HB1277 which provides funding to complete the Ag Water Use and Development Plan as required by the State Water Code. The Plan is an important document for the State Water Commission, Legislators in setting priorities for agricultural water development and Counties for their County Water Plans.

This resolution seeks to lay the groundwork for implementation of the Plan. The Plan must be completed before this can be done. The Department of Agriculture is struggling through loss of staff and other budget cuts. We need to allow them to focus on critical functions. We ask for your continued support of HB1277 and advocacy of SB145 which includes the AWUDP as it crosses over.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter. If there are questions, please contact

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2011 4:49 AM  
**To:** AGRtestimony  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR83 on 3/11/2011 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for AGR 3/11/2011 11:30:00 AM HCR83

Conference room: 312  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Olinda Aiwohi  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
Phone:  
E-mail:  
Submitted on: 3/10/2011

Comments: