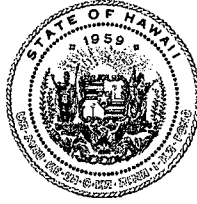
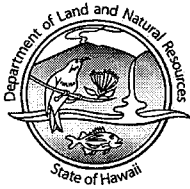


SB 1511

SD 1

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 Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011
9:20 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1511, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO AQUACULTURE**

Senate Bill 1511, Senate Draft 1 amends subsection (b) of Section 171-59, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to increase the maximum term for aquaculture leases from thirty-five (35) to a maximum term of sixty-five (65) years; and provides aquaculture lessees in good standing the right of first refusal. The purpose of this bill is to encourage commercial aquaculture production in the State by providing favorable terms for leasing of public lands. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) respectfully opposes this bill.

The amendments proposed by the bill affect direct negotiation leases that, pursuant to Section 171-59(b), HRS, already benefit by being exempt from the public auction process and the public participation requirement that would ordinarily be required for such leases. While this bill would provide a benefit to aquaculture operations, it does so at the expense of ensuring fair competition for the leasing of public lands by excluding other potential bidders seeking to participate in the public disposition process.

The Department acknowledges the need for long term leases in order for certain business ventures to be economically viable, however, notes that potential aquaculture lessees are in fact eligible for sixty-five year leases through the public auction process and other public processes, in addition to direct negotiation through subsection (a) of Section 171-59, HRS, which is a form of public process akin to requests for proposals.

A right of first refusal is essentially an option to extend a lease that can be exercised unilaterally by a lessee. Such options have a chilling effect on other prospective bidders' willingness to bid on the property. Many prospective bidders would be reluctant to invest the substantial time, effort and resources to prepare and submit a bid with the knowledge that the existing lessee can exercise his or her right and nullify the bid at any time. Rights of first refusal provide an unfair

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
INTERIM 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
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

benefit to the current lessee by depriving persons awaiting the published termination of the lease a fair opportunity to compete for the use of those lands at public auction. That inherent inequity ensures lower bids and consequently less revenue to the State.

A right of first refusal clearly goes against all the provisions for fairness in the leasing of state land in Chapter 171, HRS, and inappropriately impinges on the Board of Land and Natural Resources' (Board) discretionary authority to control the use of state lands. When seeking public lands for private use, potential lessees are well aware of the benefits and drawbacks of leasing state lands as opposed to conducting their activities on private lands. First and foremost is the knowledge that those lands are public assets that must serve primarily the interests of the general public and the public trust purposes, and secondarily the needs of a private user.

The safeguards and terms for leasing public lands are codified in Chapter 171, HRS, to ensure transparency and fairness in the disposition of state assets. Paramount in that process is the need to ensure and maintain the State's ability to use its land resources when and as needed to meet all of the State's obligations and priorities as well as the greater public needs of all of Hawaii's residents. Fundamental to that responsibility is the preservation and protection of the discretionary authority of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to consider and determine the most appropriate use of state land at any given time, including when and if an ongoing use should continue. The Board's ability to fulfill its fiduciary obligations to promote all five public trust purposes equally should never be compromised by any erosion of this authority.



EAST OAHU COUNTY FARM BUREAU
45-260 WAIKALUA ROAD S 101 KANEHOE, HI 96744

February 28, 2011

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol Building, 415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Committee:

I am sending this testimony to express the **strong support** of the East Oahu County Farm Bureau for **SB 1511 SD1**, "Relating to Aquaculture." Aquaculture is one of the largest and fastest-growing sectors of Hawaii's diversified agriculture industry. Aquaculture and aquaponics farms tend to have substantial infrastructure requirements such as wells, tanks, raceways, pipes, and support structures which in turn require a substantial investment. In order to make this investment, aquafarmers need to have access to long-term loan capital, and need to know that they will be allowed to remain in place long enough to justify not only the financial investment, but the investment of personal time, labor, and ingenuity that is necessary to succeed in a challenging endeavor.

SB 1511 SD1 would increase the maximum lease terms for aquaculture and aquaponics farms, which would encourage investment in farm facilities and allow farmers greater access to Federal loan guarantees. It would allow established farms in good standing the right of first refusal, reducing the risk that farmers who have invested much of their lives in building successful businesses will see their life's labors taken away when their original leases expire. It also encourages more efficient use of resources by specifically permitting supportive activities such as the use of aquaculture effluents to produce secondary crops. We therefore support SB 1511 SD1, and encourage its passage.

I would, however, like to point out the one flaw in SB 1511 SD1: its starting date of 2050. A starting date nearly 40 years from now will not help the current generation of aquafarmers, nor will it encourage the jobs and economic development that Hawaii needs now. I encourage you to amend the date so that the bill will take effect upon its enactment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Mencher
for Grant Hamachi, President



THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2011

TIME: 9:20am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of SB 1511 SD1 - Relating to Aquaculture

Aloha Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association (HAAA), representing Hawaii's aquaculture and aquaponics industry statewide, strongly supports SB 1511 SD1, with only one minor suggested amendment.

Aquaculture is typically a high investment form of agriculture. Long term Federal and Federally guaranteed financing is available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Commerce for up to 40 year loans, but requires remaining lease terms to be in excess of the loan term by up to 50%, eg., a 60 year lease term remaining at time of 40 year loan, as explained in the Section 1. of this bill.

The right of first refusal would allow tenants in good standing the opportunity to renew their lease to continue their aquafarming operations. Without this opportunity to be able to renew leases, as allowed for terrestrial agriculture, future aquaculture investment and industry expansion will clearly be constrained. The right of first refusal is critical to developing and ensuring future sustainable seafood production for Hawaii that currently relies on imports for approximately 90 percent of its seafood supplies. At present, DLNR has means to terminate problematic tenants but no such mechanism to retain demonstrated good tenants. As such, under the current law, the tenants' years of investment and hard-earned site specific operational knowledge could be lost at the auction block to an unknown real estate speculator from outside the State. This represents an unnecessary potential loss to the tenant, the tenant's employees and customers, the State, and the community, and is clearly a disincentive to continued tenant investment in leasehold improvements during the latter years of a DLNR lease.

The right of first refusal will provide the opportunity for Hawaii to keep and support its good aquaculture farmers, encourage their continued investment into this public resource, and ease the transition of such operations to successive generations of family members and employees who helped build and best know the characteristics of the aquafarm site and operations. SB1511 SD1 supports the long term future of the Hawaii aquaculture and aquaponics industry, and helps support a more sustainable seafood future for Hawaii.

The right to engage in supportive activities that are related to or integrated with an aquaculture operation simply makes good economic sense by allowing aquafarmers to develop additional revenue streams so as to maximize farm output and facilitate aquafarm profitability and economic sustainability. As the aquaculture industry evolves and as the global marketplace becomes ever more competitive, the aquaculture and aquaponics industry needs the flexibility to maximize its use and reuse of aquafarm inputs and to develop multiple profit centers. Aquaculture effluents can be used very successfully for aquaponics and the growing of plants, and in the process help the aquaculture farm meet current EPA and DOH discharge requirements. Some of these aquaculture effluent-fertilized plants could include *Azola* (duckweed), forage grasses, algae, or cellulosic crops which in turn could be fed to secondary animals, eg., ducks, poultry, and livestock, or used to produce biofuels to help power the aquaculture operation's water pumps and aeration devices. SB1511 SD1 provides the flexibility to allow aquafarms to pursue such innovative and environmentally appropriate activities.

The HAA's single suggested amendment is a matter of clarification in regards to page 3, line 21, as follows: "raising of animals grown on such forage." By adding the word "such", it clarifies that the intent of this statement is solely in regards to forage grown with aquaculture effluents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald P. Weidenbach". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ronald P. Weidenbach
HAAA President

HAWAII FISH COMPANY, INC.
North Shore AquaFarm

Post Office Box 740
Waialua, HI 96791, USA
Cell Phones: 808-429-3187, 429-3147
E-mail: hawaiiifish@gmail.com

City Bank 2000 TIGR Award
US SBA 2000 Tibbitts Award
US SBA 2001 Small Business Award
Special Congressional Recognition 2001

The Senate
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2010

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Cha

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011
Time: 9:20 am
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Testimony In Strong Support of SB 1511 SD1—Relating to Aquaculture

Hawaii Fish Company is the largest freshwater food fish farm in the state and the recipient of various Federal and local aquaculture grants; however, we have been unable to capitalize on our thirty plus years of dedicated research and hard work and expand our business because we do not have the long-term lease required. To secure long-term Federal and Federally guaranteed financing from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Commerce, we would require a 60-year lease term remaining on our farm for the 40-year loan to be available to us.

It is also only proper that the right of first refusal be given to farmers who have dedicated their lives towards developing the property and who may have trained a next generation of responsible land stewards in their children. Why not support good tenants who are already familiar with and committed to the land?

Certainly, the right to engage in supportive activities is common sense; the affluent from aquaculture should be recycled for other crops and would help aquafarms to thrive. If Hawaii is serious about providing local food and other products to its people and about achieving its goals of sustainability, SB 1511 SDI is necessary.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2011

TIME: 9:20am

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of SB 1511 SD1 - Relating to Aquaculture

My name is John Corbin. I was formerly manager of the State Aquaculture Development Program in the Department of Agriculture and have worked in the aquaculture industry in Hawaii for over 30 years. I strongly support what S,B 1511 SD 1 is trying to do and recommend passage.

My experience with the application of Section 171-59 HRS is land based and ocean farmers would benefit from longer lease terms; 65 years for farmers in good standing. The additional time would provide more time to grow the business and provide for more financing options, particularly federal loans. In addition, allowing complimentary activities such as aquaponics and productive use of aquaculture effluents that can enhance farm profitability is consistent with the Governor's desire to encourage industries that contribute to economic development, jobs and food security. Finally, giving successful aquaculture farmers the right of first refusal to further extend their lease would promote successful farmers and farm families to stay on the land and continue to contribute to Hawaii.

In summary, I believe this is a positive bill that strongly promotes a supportive business environment for aquaculture development, while not costing the State money in these difficult times. Hawaii urgently needs private investment and job generation on all islands and aquaculture provides one activity that sustainably accomplishes that goal. I strongly urge you to pass this bill and allow it to take effect now. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

John Corbin MS, CFP, AICP
Aquaculture Planning and Advocacy LLC
47-215 Iuiu Street
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Phone: 239- 8316

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:18 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: mealaaloha@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daniel Bishop
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mealaaloha@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:47 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shannon Rudolph
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: shannonkona@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Aloha!

I am opposed to this bill. We must protect our ocean - with your help.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 10:15 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: janice palma-glennie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Aloha,
this bill needs to be stopped immediately. Please vote "NO" and help protect our oceans and fisheries.
Mahalo.

ps if you rec'd multiple testimonies from me through this website and one that said i supported this measure, please ignore them. I am OPPOSED to this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:09 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: bcbonse@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bonnie Bonse
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: bcbonse@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Dear Chairman David Y. Ige and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years. Such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:35 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Kanealii
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kanealii@il.hawaii.net
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, These types of operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a significant negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it. We all need to look at the LONG term impact these fish farms WILL have on our State.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 5:58 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: metldoc@mindspring.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM
Attachments: SEIS_Letter.docx

Categories: Green Category

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bob Sterne
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: metldoc@mindspring.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2011

Comments:

Aloha,
I am a resident of North Kohala and strongly oppose the subject Senate bill , which would directly affect me if the proposed HOTI project is approved. It would be about two miles from my home.

I'm writing about SB 1511 which will be heard by Senator's Ways and Means committee tomorrow. I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

The attached letter from he resident of Kohala Ranch HOA summarizes my feelings on Open Ocean Fish Farms.

I was responsible for long range planning for a Fortune 500 corporation, and the longest period we could forecast with any accuracy was ten years.

I can find no justification for a 65 year lease, and urge the ways and means committee to vote no on this bill.

Bob Sterne, North Kohala

The Kohala Ranch Homeowners' Association requests that a supplemental EIS be required for the proposed Hawaii Oceanic Technology Inc.'s (HOTI) project off Malae Point on the island of Hawaii. Additionally, we ask that the Department of Land and Natural Resources require HOTI to amend their Conservation District Use Permit. The justification for these requests is the substantive changes to the proposed project that have been made in HOTI's application to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), dated ----- . Following is a brief presentation of the salient differences between the contingently approved EIS and HOTI's USACE application. The proposed changes are dramatic, significant, and offensive to those of us living in Kohala.

In its USACE application, HOTI has proposed to install two net pens, each 167 feet in diameter and 80 feet in height. Approximately 18 feet of each of these pens would project above the ocean's surface. Each of these pens would have its own feeder buoy measuring 38 feet in diameter and projecting 25 feet above the surface of the water. Each of these would be mounted with a warning light and be powered by a diesel generator producing as much as 160db. It has been scientifically determined that physical pain commences at 125db and permanent damage to the ear results above 140db.

These proposals are the polar opposite from the high tech approach envisioned in the EIS. Aside from the obvious visual and noise pollution impact on the immediate area, the globally negative environmental experience with net pens does not bode well for our wild fish and migrating whales, nor for our fishing and tourist industries. We have already had one failed mariculture project of a similar nature along our coast. We do not need another.

Furthermore, the proposal to raise tuna in surface pens does nothing to support or prove the feasibility of submerged oceanspheres. But it does raise additional questions as to HOTI's intentions. What happens if the 1:20 scale ocean sphere fails, but HOTI is successful in raising tuna in surface pens? Does the BLNR approve 12 surface pens or the ones that are already there? What if the tuna raising project is not successful? Does BLNR approve the ocean spheres anyway?

Despite HOTI's claim that the oceansphere technology is proven, the USACE application requests permission to deploy a 1:20 scale ocean sphere to, inter alia, "collect data on currents and forces on the sphere... and test netting and construction materials and how they respond to potential biofouling."

Apparently, there is no intention to deploy fish in the 1:20 scale sphere. So, it is not clear how they intend to collect data on "potential biofouling". The scale model sphere is 9 feet in diameter, the full sized sphere is 180 feet in diameter. In terms of volume, the model is only 1/8,000th the size of the larger sphere. It seems unlikely that data collected "on currents and forces" on such a small model could be reliably scaled to the larger sphere.

It is impossible to overstate the concern that this community, as well as other organizations, has with regard to HOTI's USACE application. We urge you to require a supplemental EIS and an amended CDUP to assure that all approvals, permits, leases, and any other requirements for this proposed project be consistent with one another and applicable law.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Delaney, President

Kohala Ranch homeowners' Association

CC: Amy Klein, US Army Corps of Engineers

c

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:17 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: arthurfrederick@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frederick Kennedy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: arthurfrederick@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/27/2011

Comments:

"I'm opposed to SB 1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it."

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2011 4:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: clk@quixnet.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carolyn Knoll
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: clk@quixnet.net
Submitted on: 2/27/2011

Comments:

I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:10 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: tane_1@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David M. K. Inciong, II
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: tane_1@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

My family and I strongly oppose this HB 568.

I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing.

It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies.

It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

Sincerely,

David M.K. Inciong, II

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 9:55 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: Rich@GyreCleanup.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard Sundance Owen
Organization: Environmental Cleanup Coalition
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Rich@GyreCleanup.org
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

"I'm opposed to HB 568/SB 1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it."

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:22 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: scoleman34@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stuart Coleman
Organization: Surfrider Foundation
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: scoleman34@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Stuart Coleman, and I'm the Hawaii Coordinator of the Surfrider Foundation. We have more than 4000 members across the state and chapters in each county. I'm opposed to SB1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha, Stuart

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:09 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: rkksmith@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Rachel Smith
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: rkksmith@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/28/2011`

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm writing about SB 1511 which will be heard by the Ways and Means committee tomorrow. Since Senator is Chair of the committee I wanted to let him know that I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 1:02 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: rshumphries@att.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard Humphries
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: rshumphries@att.net
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

I'm concerned about SB 1511 which will be heard by Representative's Finance committee tomorrow. I'm opposed to it because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 12:18 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: bcbonse@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bonnie Bonse
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: bcbonse@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Dear Chairman David Y. Ige and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years. Such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it.

There are other safe, economical alternatives on land such as Recirculating Aquaculture Systems. Our oceans are precious and provide many with our livelihoods; please oppose this bill to protect our fish and our oceans.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:29 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: sheiks2@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: tom & cindy kapp
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sheiks2@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

We are opposed to SB 1511 because it would extend lease terms for open ocean fish farms from 35 to 65 years, even though such operations have been environmentally damaging and could have a negative impact on tourism and fishing. The potential for significant and long term irreversible consequences, water pollution, micro-threats of disease transmission to native Hawaiian fish populations, and harmful effects on native Hawaiian marine species from escaped farmed fish have not been resolved. It's a highly experimental industry that has generated little revenue for the state but has stretched the resources of permitting and oversight agencies. It would be premature to increase lease terms without any studies on the potential long term impacts of the industry or what it could cost the state to continue to support it. Thank you for taking the time to read our testimony and will take our concerns into consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:19 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: green@coffeeofkona.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Barbara Harris
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: green@coffeeofkona.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Offshore Fish Farms are a bad idea. Extending their leases is a worse idea. If you will not be around in 65 years, then I recommend you vote NO.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:12 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: suzanne@ponokai.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Suzanne Shriner
Organization: Pono Kai
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: suzanne@ponokai.org
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Offshore fish farming has been disastrous to wild fisheries in other regions and has put commercial fisherman out of business. Please do not take chances with our wild fisheries. Many of us depend on our catch to feed our families and pay our bills. The extended leases on these experimental fish farms could wreak serious harm to our inshore and offshore catches. The leases they currently have are long enough.

The jobs that the offshore fish farms are promising to provide do not in any way equal the number of commercial fisherman impacted by the farms. There is no equal trade-off. Please protect our native fisheries. Thank you for voting NO.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:03 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: jwikum@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1511 on 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 3/1/2011 9:20:00 AM SB1511

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jacqueline Wikum
Organization: Keoua Honaunau Canoe Club, Big Island
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jwikum@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/28/2011

Comments:

Please DO NOT extend the fish farms' leases on our beautiful oceans. The current 35-year lease is adequate. Offshore aquaculture is experimental technology that our State does not have the resources to oversee. Sixty-five years is a very long time. We have yet to understand how they will impact our environment, and our wild fisheries. Not to mention our tourism dollars with their ugly nets that are visible for miles.