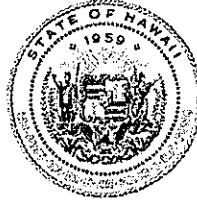
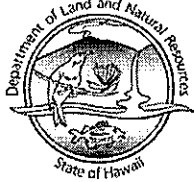


SCR117

REQUESTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE, NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15, 2011, ON THE PROGRESS OF THE KOKE'E STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Kokee State Park Advisory Council; Report to Legislature

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
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

**Tuesday, April 05, 2011
1:20 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 117
REQUESTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD
OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE,
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15, 2011, ON THE PROGRESS OF THE KOKE'E
STATE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The purpose of Senate Concurrent Resolution 117 is to request a report on the progress of the Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council (KSPAC). The KSPAC was established under Act 223, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008 to assist in updating, revising and implementing the Master Plan for Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks; assist in the management of the recreation residences and enhance community education and cultural awareness of the parks natural and cultural resources. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure as it may expedite the finalization of the Master Plan and allow the Department to focus on park user programs and limited physical improvements within the existing developed corridor to enhance park user opportunities, health and safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for the adoption of this concurrent resolution.

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
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

To: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Mālama Solomon, Vice Chair

Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2011; 1:20 PM

Subject: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR 126

Submitted by: Alexander Alika Jamile, Executive Director and President, Moanalua Gardens Foundation

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Solomon, and committee members. My name is Alexander Alika Jamile, Executive Director and President of Moanalua Gardens Foundation. I am here to testify in **strong** support of SCR 126, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF KAMANANUI (MOANALUA) VALLEY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.

For 41 years, Moanalua Gardens Foundation (MGF) has served as a vital link in preserving and protecting our environmental and cultural resources, especially Moanalua Gardens and Kamananui (Moanalua) Valley. A non-profit organization founded in 1970, MGF was instrumental in protecting the valley from construction of the H-3 freeway thus preserving in perpetuity over 3,700 acres of land for the recreation and enjoyment of the people of Hawai‘i.

Once closed for over a hundred years, Kamananui Valley was opened for public use in 2008. In just two short years, the popularity of this special place has grown significantly with an estimated 10,200 persons visiting the valley on an annual basis. During this time, MGF has been working with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) to make needed improvements to the valley to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors and to enhance their enjoyment of this stunning place.

In the past two years, MGF has secured \$75,000.00 in funding to produce and install interpretive signs, construct and install a new security gate at the entrance to the valley, and to grade, level and lay gravel on Kamananui Valley Road, the valley’s main access route. Volunteer labor to install the signs and improve the road is estimated to be \$85,000.00.

As it has for the past 41 years, MGF is committed to continuing its stewardship of Kamananui Valley in concert with DLNR. **However our prospects for obtaining funding for additional improvements are seriously compromised without a**

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from DLNR recognizing MGF's stewardship role.

The preservation of this last undeveloped valley in urban Honolulu is MGF's top priority. Over its 41-year history, MGF has served as the guardian of Kamananui Valley conducting cultural and educational programs in this sacred ahupua'a. MGF remains committed to help care for these lands. We are most willing to work with DLNR to ensure that this spectacular site is preserved for the people of Hawai'i and our future generations and humbly ask for your support of SCR 126.

Thank you all very much for your kōkua.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alike Jamile". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Alexander Alike Jamile
Executive Director and President
Moanalua Gardens Foundation