



Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
 HB No. 1224
 Relating to THE KAO’OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE
 February 2, 2011
 8:30 am
 Rm. 329

Chairperson and members of the Committee,

I’m Chuck “Doc” Burrows, co-president of Ahahui Malama I ka Lokahi, a native Hawaiian conservation organization of 2000 members both here in Hawaii and across the continent that is dedicated to the conservation of indigenous native cultural sites and ecosystems. I am also the 2nd Vice President of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club Ahahui which through the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs of 50 chapters through out the continent and a membership of 4,000 have passed resolutions to support the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission to seek funding in order to continue its kuleana and malama of Kahoolawe Island. I am a member of the OHA Native Hawaiian Historic Preservation Council which has advised the OHA Board of Trustees to give monetary and moral support to the KIRC for its restoration and educational programs. I also had the honor and privilege to serve on the KIRC for the eight years and am well acquainted with the issues and concerns of the KIRC and Kahoolawe Island.

Through my association with the above Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations I and we strongly supports the H.B. 1224, authorizing a portion of the conveyance tax revenue to be used to replenish the Kaho’olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long term restoration of Kaho’olawe. The federal government through our U.S. congressional leaders 16 years ago were able to appropriate \$400 million to begin the restoration of the island by removing unexploded ordinance.

This removal of UXOs is incomplete with only %70 of the surface and only %10 below the surface to a meter depth that has been cleared. The present but depleting monies in the reserve trust fund will not be sufficient to maintain the present cultural, ecological and educational programs of the KIRC and the PKO (Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana) for the next 2-3 years. It is imperative that the State legislature now step up to the plate and support this HB 1224, because it is now their and our kuleana (responsibility) to malama and care for this wahi pana, sacred place for all in Hawaii now and for the generations to come.

Aloha pumehana,

Charles K. Burrows, Ed.D.

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