



## LATE TESTIMONY

LAND USE RESEARCH  
FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

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February 15, 2011

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair and Representative Isaac W. Choy, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business

**Support of and Comments to HB 1529 Relating to Planning**  
**(Task Force to review and update Hawaii State Planning act and the planning, programming and budgeting system)**

**Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in CR 312**

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. Since 1979, LURF's mission has included advocating for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF **supports the intent of HB 1529**, which establishes a temporary task force within the Governor's Office, for administrative purposes, to review and update the Hawaii State Planning Act and the planning, programming, and budgeting system of the State ("Task Force").

However, LURF respectfully recommends that **this bill should be amended to include additional Task Force members to adequately address the important themes, goals, objectives and policies specifically noted in the Hawaii State Planning Act and Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") Chapter 226, as follows:**

- The Hawaii State Plan provides a basis for determining priorities and allocating limited resources, such as land (HRS §226-1); and the State Plan involves a variety of land uses. Since 1979, LURF has represented Hawaii's major land owners and developers and the State's largest supplier of electrical energy, with respect to various land uses, including, but not limited to conservation (HRS §§226-11, 226-12), agriculture (HRS §§226-7, 226-103(c) and (d)), housing (HRS §§226-19, 226-104, and 226-106), and energy (HRS §§226-18) and 226-103(f)). Thus, LURF should also be a Task Force member;
- The **chairperson of the State Board of Land and Natural Resources/director of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources**, who is responsible for the State's physical environment, including, but not limited to land-based, shoreline and marine resources (HRS §226-11) and scenic, natural beauty and historic resources (HRS §226-12), or the chairperson's/director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Transportation**, which is responsible for all state highways, airports and harbors (HRS §226-17), or the director's designee;

- The **chairperson of the State Board of Agriculture/director of the State Department of Agriculture** (HRS §§226-7, 226-103(c) and (d)), or the chairperson's/director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism**, (HRS §§226-6, 8 and 10), or the director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Health**, which is responsible for health and land, air and water quality (HRS §§226-13 and 20), or the director's designee;
- The **executive director of the Hawaii State Foundation for Culture and the Arts**, whose mission is to promote, perpetuate, preserve, and encourage culture and the arts, history and the humanities as central to the quality of life of the people of Hawaii (HRS §§226-25), or the executive director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Public Safety** (HRS §226-26(c) and 105), or the director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Civil Defense** (HRS §226-26(a) and (d)), or the director's designee;
- The **director of the State Department of Defense** (HRS §226-26(a) and (d)), or the director's designee;
- The **Superintendent of Education** (HRS §§226-21, 226-107), or the superintendent's designee;
- **County Directors from each of the four counties, responsible for the following areas:**
  - **County Planning and Zoning** (HRS 226-58)
  - **Budget and Finance**
  - **Economic Development** (HRS §§226-6, 8 and 10)
  - **Solid and liquid waste** (HRS §226-15)
  - **Boards of Water Supply** (HRS §§226-16 and 226-103(e))
  - **Transportation** (HRS §226-17)
  - **Public safety, including the Fire Department, Emergency Services and Civil Defense** (HRS §226-26(a) and (d))
  - **Crime and criminal justice, including the County police departments and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney** (HRS §§226-26(c) and 105)
- **Elected officials of each of the four counties who are the chairpersons of council committees relating to:**
  - **County planning and/or zoning**
  - **Budget and Finance**
  - **Economic Development** (HRS §§226-6, 8 and 10)
  - **Solid and liquid waste** (HRS §226-15)
  - **Boards of Water Supply** (HRS §226-16)
  - **Transportation** (HRS §226-17)
  - **Public Safety** (HRS §226-26)
- Representatives of the **agriculture, diversified agriculture and aquaculture industries**, which is, along with Tourism, one of the major industries in Hawaii (HRS §§226-7, 226-10(b)(1) and (7), 226-103(c) and (d));
- Representatives of the **federal government and/or military**, which is, along with Tourism, one of the main industries in Hawaii (HRS §226-9);
- Representatives of the **housing and construction industry**, which is, along with Tourism, one of the major industries in Hawaii (HRS §§226-19, 226-104, and 226-106);
- Representatives of the **energy industry**, which is, along with Tourism, one of the main industries in Hawaii (HRS §§226-18) and 226-103(f));
- Representatives of the **telecommunications industry** (HRS §226-18.5); and
- Representatives of the **information industry** (HRS §226-103(g));

**HB 667.** This bill appears to be well meaning, however, it lacks a purpose clause, so its purpose and the particular issues to be addressed are not disclosed. Nevertheless, HB 667 proposes to establish a temporary Task Force within the Governor's Office, for administrative purposes, to review and update the Hawaii State Planning Act and the planning, programming, and budgeting system of the State. HB 667 further provides that the Task Force shall be composed of the following:

- (1) The chairperson of the Senate Ways and Means Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (2) The chairperson of the House Finance Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (3) The chairperson of the Senate Water, Land, and Housing Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (4) The chairperson of the House Water, Land, and Ocean Resources Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (5) The chairperson of the Senate Economic Development and Technology Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (6) The chairperson of the House Economic Revitalization and Business Committee or the chairperson's designee;
- (7) A member appointed by the President of the Senate;
- (8) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (9) The director of Budget and Finance or the director's designee;
- (10) The comptroller or the comptroller's designee;
- (11) The director of the Office of Planning or the director's designee;
- (12) The chairperson of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii or the chairperson's designee;
- (13) The executive director of the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii (UHERO) or the executive director's designee;
- (14) The chairperson of the board of directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority or the chairperson's designee; and
- (15) The president of the Tax Foundation of Hawaii or the president's designee.

HB 1529 also provides that

- The chairperson of the Task Force shall be selected by the Task Force members from among its members;
- Additional Task Force members may be selected at the chairperson's discretion;
- The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance of their official duties under this Act;
- The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session, beginning with the 2012 regular session; and
- The Task Force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2015.

**LURF's Position.** Since 1979, LURF has had extensive experience and involvement with land use and planning issues directly relating to the Hawaii State Plan. Thus, LURF possesses the qualifications and experience to identify and address the issues and concerns relating to the Hawaii State Plan, and respectfully suggests that it be included as a member of the Task Force.

LURF is in **support of the intent of HB 1529**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration of its request to be a member of the Task Force. The opportunity to present our testimony regarding this matter is greatly appreciated.