

LATE TESTIMONY

har2-Samantha

From: Robert Harris [robertharris@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2012 10:55 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Sierra Club Testimony on HB 1981
Attachments: HB 1981 (PLDC).pdf; ATT00001.htm

Thank you for considering the Sierra Club's testimony on HB 1981 with proposed amendments.



Sierra Club

Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

LATE TESTIMONY

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

January 27, 2012, 9:00 A.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1981 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Aloha Chair Chang and Committee Members -

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with 9,000 dues-paying members and supporters, supports HB 1981 with proposed amendments. This bill would balance the Public Land Development Corporation by ensuring cultural concerns are evaluated and impacts are mitigated before proceeding with a development project.

This bill could also recognize the importance of protecting Hawai'i's fragile natural resources. While these issues frequently overlap with cultural considerations, they sometimes stand apart (specifically impacts to clean water, clean air, etc.). Additional language could be added to section 3 on page 5.

(7) An environmentally-sensitive development plan that shall include:

- (A) An assessment of the project's potential effects on the natural resources, agricultural lands, marine resources, water resources, and the environmental quality of the area in and around the project.
- (B) Proposed mitigation measures for those effects.

We suggest further amending Section 171C-3 to include more specific direction, such as the language proposed in SB 2925. This bill requires the PLDC to, among other things, "protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of this State and promote the sustainability of the State's resources"

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.