

har2-Samantha

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 9:30 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: tony@pop-hawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2793 on 2/13/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/13/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2793

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tony Costa
Organization: HAWAII NEARSHORE FISHERMEN
E-mail: tony@pop-hawaii.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:
Testimony in support
HB2793

My name is Tony Costa and I represent Hawaii Nearshore Fishermen - a loosely organized yet tight knit organization of nearshore fishermen. Hawaii Nearshore Fishermen are in strong support of HB2793

We have long advocated and called for our nearshore marine resources and nearshore fisheries to be better represented at the various policy making and government levels - fishing and marine resource issues require specialized understandings and are dependent on ever changing data, interpretation of data, stock assessments and fisheries management sciences.

Fishing rules and regulations are generally developed in two different venues - 1. Legislatively, and 2. Through the chapter 91 Administrative rule making process.

Chapter 91 rule changes are reviewed at the Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Board.

Currently, the Board does not require or have any ocean/fisheries related board members.

We are adamant that our marine resource issues are so vitally important and valuable that fisheries management should be addressed through as much science and empirical knowledge and expertise as possible and we also feel our policy makers should have as much information as possible to best make those judgments.

We feel, in order for the Land Board to effect Fishing Rules and Regulations in an honest, informed and justified way, rather than a political way, it would make sense that a certain percentage of members be cognizant of or have the marine resource affinity.

Is it for this reason, we are in strong support of HB2793

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this important measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Costa

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 9:15 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: captcoon@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2793 on 2/13/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/13/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2793

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: James E. Coon
Organization: Ocean Tourism Coalition
E-mail: captcoon@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

The OTC believes that the current BLNR is adequate to resolve all ocean issues. We think that this sets a dangerous precedent where special interest groups (such as the Ocean Tourism Industry) would have undue influence on the board. If you do decide to pass this legislation, we would ask that the OTC be represented on the board.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President; OTC

LATE TESTIMONY

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair
Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

HB2793 RELATING TO BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Aloha Chairs Chang and Hanohano, Vice Chairs Har and Lee and members of the Committees on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources and Hawaiian Affairs. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2793.**

This measure expands the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to include four (4) members to represent the ocean on matters involving marine resources. None of the current seven (7) BLNR members have a marine background. The BLNR hears both land and marine issues including matters such as the dredging of channels for development and rules/regulations for marine fisheries.

The urgency of reconfiguring the BLNR to include these members to address marine specific matters comes at an opportune time with the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) being moved under the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) and the recent legislative focus on food security should the State experience a natural disaster that impacts our ports and airports. All too often we forget that our host culture included FISH and POI in their diets that sustained a population number near that of today. Perhaps we are too spoiled today to return to such basics but let us NOT forget that FISH represents our marine resources that must be sustainably managed along with our land-based agriculture and ranching activities. We have a Department of Agriculture that is specifically charged with the production and protection of farmed and ranched goods and products while we marginalize and subordinate the Division (DAR) specifically charged with the oversight and management of our precious and vital marine resources.

The importance of our ocean that surrounds us and its resources, requires specific knowledge and expertise and the proposed members of marine representatives ensures that key segments of the marine community are represented and shall be "considered in determining quorum and majority only on issues relating to ocean resources and may vote only on issues related to ocean resources."

Your support of this important measure is critical to the future of our State's marine resources sustainability and management and our food security.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roy N. Morioka
February 12, 2012

har2-Samantha

From: Neil Kanemoto [neil@pop-hawaii.com]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 6:20 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: testimony in support of HB2793

Water Land & Ocean Resource Committee
Representative Chang, Chair WLO
Representative Har, Vice Chair, WLO
Committee members

Dear Representaive Chang/Representative Har:

Please accept my testimony in support of HB 2793. I am a lifelong ocean user and with all the ocean and marine resource and management issues faced by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, the BLNR has never had members with a true ocean resource background. Expansion of the board to allow members with the proper credentials will provide useful valuable insight that can help the board make the proper management decisions.

Again I ask for your humble support of HB 2793. Thank you hearing my testimony.

Sincerely,

Neil Kanemoto
1128 Ala Napunani #1604
Honolulu, HI 96818

PO Box 638
Honokaa, HI 96727

LATE TESTIMONY

House Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources

Hearing Date: Monday, February 13, 2012

Time: 9:00 am

RE: HB 2793 – Relating to Board of Land and Natural Resources

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and members of the Committee, my name is Brooks Takenaka of United Fishing Agency (aka the Honolulu Fish Auction).

I am in strong support of HB 2793 that will expand membership on the Board of the Land and Natural Resources from 7 to 11. The additional 4 members will make determinations ONLY on ocean resources matters.

The 4 “ocean resources” members will represent specific sectors of Hawaii’s fishing community. Currently the Board members are from each land district and 3 at large.

DLNR has moved the Division of Aquatic Resources to Division of Forestry. This concerns many in the fishing/ocean community as the ocean provides many resources and recreation for our citizens and visitors. Having these 4 members on the Board addressing ocean resources issues will ensure that our ocean resources will be addressed by members with specific qualifications in fishery science, fishing industry, fishing community, and maritime industry.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and share my views.