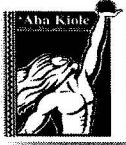


# LATE TESTIMONY



## Aha Kiolo Advisory Committee

Legislative Testimony

### HB 396: Relating to OHA

Submitted to: Committee on Judiciary

February 17, 2011

2:30 p.m.

Room: 325

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Submitted by: The Aha Kiolo Advisory Committee: Vanda Hanakahi, Moloka'i (Chair), Leslie Kuloloio, Kahoolawe, (Vice-Chair); Timmy Bailey, Maui; Winifred Basques, Lana'i; Pi'ilani Ka'awaloa, (Po'o) Hawai'i; Charles Kapua, O'ahu; Sharon Pomroy, Kaua'i; Keith Robinson, (Konohiki) Ni'ihau.

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 396 which would require certain councils, boards, and commission members to take a training course offered by OHA relating to native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural resource protection and access rights, and the public trust.

The Aha Kiolo Advisory Committee as the pass-through for members of the 43 traditional moku and Native Hawaiian customary resource practitioners, support this bill because nothing is more important to Native Hawaiians as the land, the ocean and the natural and cultural resources upon which they depend. Over the years, practitioners have watched their resources diminished and impaired even though boards and commissions state that they work towards the best interests of the host culture. We believe these members would be better equipped to make better judgments if they had accurate knowledge of the Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural resource protection and access rights, and the public trust.

We urge you to support HB 396.

Mahalo nui loa,

Vanda Hanakahi, Chair, Moloka'i, Aha Kiolo Advisory Committee

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