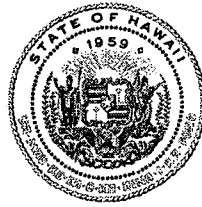


HB 496

SD1

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Friday, April 01, 2011
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 496, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO LAKE WILSON**

House Bill 496, Senate Draft 1 would establish a pilot project within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to demonstrate the effectiveness of phyto-remediation using native plants to remove pollutants and improve water clarity in Lake Wilson, to submit a report on viability of technologies by the 2012 Legislature, and to appropriate an unspecified sum for a demonstration pilot project.

The Department supports the intent of the bill and notes other bills have been introduced in this Session to advocate for the development of an overall plan for the use of Lake Wilson and its water resource. As such, the Department would prefer that the Lake and its resources be comprehensively evaluated to maximize its potential.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING

FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



HB496 SD1
RELATING TO LAKE WILSON
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

April 1, 2011
Room 221

9:00 a.m.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs strongly **SUPPORTS** HB496 SD1, which would establish a pilot project within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to demonstrate the effectiveness of phytoremediation using plants that are native to Hawai'i to remove pollutants and improve water clarity in Lake Wilson.

The low water quality in Lake Wilson has limited the public's desire to engage in recreational and subsistence (fishing) opportunities and contributes to the lack of suitable agricultural water for a wider variety of crops on O'ahu's central plains and north shore.

Like the Native Hawaiian relationship with 'āina, the varied ecosystems across Ka Pae 'Āina o Hawai'i have evolved over time to achieve a homeostasis, bio-cultural uniqueness and richness recognized worldwide for its priceless beauty and service to the people of Hawai'i and humanity. The DLNR should be lauded for its work in promoting bioremediation approaches that maximize the potential of our native resources and strives to respect and work within these unique (sometimes fragile) ecosystems before looking outside for solutions.

Therefore, OHA strongly urges the committee to PASS HB496 SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.