

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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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
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Monday, February 7, 2011
9:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 585
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Bill 585 appropriates \$1,000,000 in general funds in each of the Fiscal Years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) for staffing and operating expenses for the Department's Dam Safety Program. The Department supports the intent of this measure to protect the public by ensuring the safety of dams; however, we have concerns regarding the cost implications it may have on the Administration's Biennium Budget request.

Prior to Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the Dam Safety Program was fully general-funded. Currently, staffing and operating expenses for the Dam Safety program are funded through departmental special funds and dam related fees collected.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.