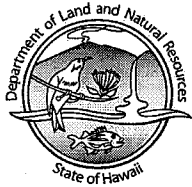


SB 1220

SD 1

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

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

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011
9:20 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1220, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO FISHING**

Senate Bill 1220, Senate Draft 1 would establish a community-based fishery resource management area around the Island of Lanai, an advisory committee within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), to develop traditional fishery management practices, and to advise the Department on proposed rules for the take of fishery resources. It also proposes that support for the Committee come from private sources. While the Department agrees that developing management philosophies to account for best and indigenous practices would benefit the natural resources management of the State, it is nevertheless concerned that establishing another committee within the Department would conflict with the statutory responsibilities of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The Department recommends that existing statutory provisions in Section 188-22.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to provide for the establishment of a subsistence-based management area is an appropriate avenue to pursue relative to the needs and concerns of this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
INTERIM 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

**Testimony before the
Senate Committee on Ways & Means**

S.B. 1220, S.D. 1 -- Relating to Fishing

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011
9:20 a.m., Conference Room 211**

**By Robbie Alm
Executive Vice-President
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is being submitted on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiary utility, Maui Electric Company.

We support S.B. 1220, S.D. 1 which is intended to incorporate indigenous resource practices in establishing a community-based fishery resource management area for the island of Lanai. During community meetings on the proposed wind farm project and in discussions during the community's visioning process we heard concerns about over-fishing and how it threatened the island's subsistence lifestyle. This bill will help to address those concerns by creating an advisory committee of Lanai residents with knowledge of traditional practices in the management of fishery resources. It enables the committee to develop and implement a community-based fishery resource management area program for the island to promote the sustainable use of marine resources.

This bill is among several bills that have been introduced this legislative session which address some concerns and desires raised by residents during community discussions on the wind farm project. If the wind farm is built on Lanai and the power sent to Oahu, it seems only fair to provide the island with the resources necessary to meet critical community needs. We strongly urge this committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: Jon Olsen [joliyoka@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 11:41 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: joliyoka
Subject: commercial fish farms

Aloha from Jefferson Maine (from a former 36 year resident of Oahu), I was notified by email of a bill to promote a very long term lease of the ocean for commercial fish farming and wanted to tell you of our experience here in Maine in that regard, raising salmon in Penobscot Bay. Vitrually everyone is in favor of rational aquaculture as a sensible way to promote fish protein without further decimating ocean resources. However, our experience has been that, like the atrocious confined animal feed operations (CAFO's) where thousands of pigs or cattle are sequestered in horribly unsanitary conditons, a similar fate awaits salmon in ocean pens. The results are the same. The salmon produce significant amount of waste daily which provided unsanitary, murky water that will affect people and marine organisms negatively.

The salmon were also afflicted with sea lice from time to time.

Generally the salmon are fed some additives that reddens their flesh to make it appear more attractive. As a result, being a careful purchaser, I avoid farmed salmon because I don't trust it.

Accordingly, there is not need to rush into existence a lease comparable to what were the standard property leases--65 years--without much more long term evidence. Leases can certainly be renewed, if all goes well, but to give someone that amount of time without safeguards? Not a good idea! Small scale fish farms well spaced out to avoid overcrowding, with strong water circulation sounds like a winning plan. But be cautious about approving anything that could bring about a profoundly negative turn concerning water quality.

I suspect that a Google search of "Penobscot Bay salmon farming" will provide you with ample additional and more specific information.

Jon Olsen