



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 23, 2012
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 2785 SD1
RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS.

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

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SB 2785, SD1, a priority measure of the Abercrombie Administration to reduce financing costs for inter-island undersea power cables by having a clear regulatory structure in place.

It is the financing mechanism that helps Hawaii build an integrated, inter-island grid network that moves diverse renewable energy power generation sources to the largest electricity market. Such a grid network will reduce the use of imported oil, stabilize and lower energy costs, and provide energy security and grid stability.

SB 2785, SD1 establishes the regulatory structure under which interisland undersea transmission cables can be developed, affordably financed, and constructed on commercially

reasonable terms, such as those upon which successful cable projects have been undertaken in several locations around the world. Any cable to be built in the absence of this measure will cost more to finance, placing an unnecessary burden on the ratepayer.

Renewable resources – solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energies – may all contribute to powering our state, reducing the unpredictable increases in power costs caused by oil prices.

Our state is already interconnected, with inter-island telecommunications cables for telephone and data, and this Administration’s vision is for an integrated electrical grid cable network focused on a long term, statewide renewable energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony and answer any questions you may have.

TESTIMONY OF HERMINA MORITA
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

FEBRUARY 23, 2012

MEASURE: S.B. No. 2785, S.D. 1

TITLE: Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to establish a comprehensive regulatory framework for the development, operation, and potential acquisition of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable (“Interisland Cable” or “Cable”) system or systems. Specifically, the measure outlines the certification process, the cost recovery mechanism and surcharges for parties involved, and aspects of the Cable acquisition process.

POSITION:

The Commission remains in strong support of this measure and would like to offer the following comments for the Committee’s consideration.

COMMENTS:

The clarifying amendments made in the current Senate Draft 1 do not significantly alter the regulatory framework being proposed or the Commission’s ability to effectively oversee the possible establishment of a Cable or Cables in the State.

This measure will give the State a clear and comprehensive regulatory foundation for the development of an Interisland Cable system or systems, which will lower cable development costs that pass through to ratepayers and will encourage the modernization and strengthening of Hawaii’s electric system. Specifically, this measure will:

- Ensure that Cable development risks are borne by the cable company, given that customers pay only after a Cable or Cables have been tested and placed into service.

- Enable Cable project developers to obtain financing independently of electric utilities' financial situations. Credit ratings for Cable project debt would not be affected by the credit situation of electric utilities involved.
- Allow the Commission to allocate Cable costs to electric utility customers on all islands benefitting from Interisland Cable service.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this measure.



Thursday, February 23, 2012

9:00 a.m.

Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

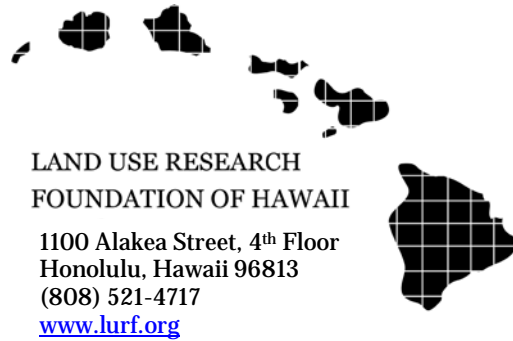
RE: SB 2758 – Relating to Business Registration

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and the members of the committee,

My name is Robert Witt and I am executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide.

HAIS supports SB2758 which contains technical corrections to Hawaii's Nonprofit Corporations Act, which will make clear that nonprofit corporations who wish to take advantage of today's modern technology may do so in order to increase membership participation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



February 22, 2012

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Support of SB 2785, S.D.1, Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems (Establishes regulatory structure for an interisland undersea electric transmission cable system and on-island transmission infrastructure.)

Thursday, February 23, 2012, 9:00 a.m., in Conference Room 211

My name is Dave Arakawa, and I am the Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF), a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. One of LURF's missions is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources and public health and safety.

LURF **strongly supports the intent of SB 2785, S.D. 1**, and encourages the legislature and the State to continue to work with the electric utility companies and other major stakeholders with respect to interisland electric transmission cable projects.

SB 2785, S.D. 1. This bill establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage undersea electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

LURF's Position. Hawaii has an abundance of natural resources which could be used to create alternative energy – the sun, wind, waves, geothermal, etc. Given these natural resources, and being an island state, the State of Hawaii has had a long-standing objective of attaining energy independence from imported fossil fuels. The connection of Hawaii's islands via undersea high-voltage electric transmission cable systems is essential to achieve Hawaii's energy and economic objectives. It would also provide the islands with increased energy security and system efficiencies by enabling the islands to provide each other with backup electrical power.

This bill is to establish the regulatory structure under which interisland undersea electric transmission cables can be developed, financed and constructed on commercially reasonable terms. Establishing such a structure should reduce the costs of financing such projects, and will hopefully limit the impacts on rate payers. While this measure does not guarantee that an interisland cable system will be built; it attempts to ensure the predictability and certainty of the regulatory process in the event that an interisland cable system is built.

Based on the above, LURF is in **strong support of the intent of SB 2785, S.D. 1.**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this matter.



Testimony to Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thursday, February 23, 2012

9:00 a.m.

Capitol Room 211

RE: S.B. 2785 SD1, Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Good morning Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Quinto Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, BIA-Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii.

BIA-Hawaii **supports** SB 2785 HD1, Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems, which establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure.

New data from the federal government shows that Hawaii residents paid the highest rates for electricity in the country in 2010 at 25.1 cents per kilowatt-hour. The national average was 9.83 cents. Most electricity generated in Hawaii in 2010 -- 75 percent -- came from petroleum products.

In these difficult economic times, an undersea electric transmission cable system will create much needed jobs, reduce dependency on foreign oil and provide long term stability to our economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you our views.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 2, 2012, 2:55 P.M.

Room 225

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2785

Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the Committees:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports SB 2785, a measure which, *inter alia*, seeks to establish a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system.

While it appears that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has the authority to regulate the owner or operator of an interisland high-voltage electric transmission cable system as a public utility, this measure brings added clarity that such a project would be under the regulatory auspices and framework of the PUC.

Blue Planet Foundation's mission is to end the use of fossil fuels on Earth, starting by making Hawai'i a role model for energy independence. We support the appropriate development of all of Hawaii's clean, indigenous, and renewable energy sources as quickly as possible. Given Hawaii's population distribution and the landscape of renewable energy potential, the islands cannot "go it alone" to achieve statewide energy independence. The state's electrical grid system requires modernization to accommodate renewable power, and interconnecting the islands provides greater stability while enabling the maximum amount of renewable energy.

Hawaii's islands have varying amounts of technologically acquirable renewable energy resources and an uneven distribution of electricity demand based on population and economic activity. Maui, for example, has surplus wind energy at night, while Oahu has an expanding fleet of electric vehicles that could put that energy to work. Legislation to establish a regulatory framework for the implementation of an interisland cable system can provide more certainty, stability, and oversight in the development process. By providing structure for a statewide electrical grid we can get the most out of our state's abundant solar, wind, and geothermal energy resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
Email: info@gcawhawaii.org
Website: www.gcawhawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

February 23, 2012

TO: HONORABLE SENATORS DAVID IGE, CHAIR, MICHELLE KIDANI, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF S.B. 2785, SD1, RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS.** Establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure. (SD1)

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2012

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members,

The General Contractors Association (GCA) is an organization comprised of over six hundred (600) general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year; GCA remains the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. GCA is **in support** of S.B. 2785, SD1 Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems.

S.B. 2785, SD1 proposes to establish the regulatory structure under which interisland undersea transmission cables can be developed, financed, and constructed on commercially reasonable terms, such as those upon which successful cable projects have been undertaken in several locations around the world. However, this bill is not intended to require the construction of an interisland cable from the islands of Molokai or Lanai to Oahu unless the communities affirmatively request a cable.

Hawaii's reliance on foreign sources of oil has sky rocketed the cost of electricity for island families and businesses and these costs will keep rising. This bill proposes to establish the infrastructure necessary to share different energy resources between the islands and minimize Hawaii's reliance on foreign energy sources. Public campaigns and television commercials by Hawaii's largest utility company has brought this issue to the forefront. This bill allows the state to take the steps necessary to identify and utilize Hawaii's local sources of energy.

For these reasons, we support this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Cherry28tolentino@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:02:01 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charita Tolentino
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Cherry28tolentino@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Frandoctolero@hhsc.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:06:55 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frances Doctolero
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Frandoctolero@hhsc.org
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sjxclemens@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 6:39:16 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jim Clemens
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sjxclemens@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

There are cables laid all over the world. This project is very important for Hawaii and the thought should be what is good for the whole.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sallyclemens@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 6:44:23 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sally Clemens
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sallyclemens@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I am in favor of undersea cable to assist the State of Hawaii in moving forward with alternative energy.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: aaronspark@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:04:35 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Aaron Park
Organization: Individual
E-mail: aaronspark@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Adolph Helm

P.O. Box 391 Hoolehua, HI 96729

Phone: 808-567-6580

Testimony: SB 2785, SD1

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS,

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, Members - Oakland, Dela Cruz, English, Espero, Fukanaga, Kahele, Kim, Kouchi, Ryan, Tokuda, Wakai and Slom

Measure: RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS.

Establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure SD1.

Date: Thursday, February 23, 2012

Time: 9:00 am

Place: Conference Room 211 State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Position: Oppose

Chairperson Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Fellow Committee Members:

Aloha,

My name is Adolph Helm a Molokai resident, homesteader and founding member of Aloha Aina Anahaki Mo'omomi (A.A.M.A). A.A.M.A is a grass roots Hawaiian Homestead organization. Along with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands and the Molokai Homestead community we successfully supported a land use policy change initiative for the Mo'omomi and Anahaki area. This initiative protects the area in perpetuity from industrial and commercial development including large scale wind turbine factories and electrical cables. The land use change also allows the Hawaiian Homestead community to manage the area, its rich cultural sites, and ocean and land resources.

SB 2785 SD1 is not in the best interest for Molokai. The potential impacts of a high voltage cable running through the ocean environment near our island may affect an already pristine marine sanctuary, the longest fringing reef north of Australia and the Penguin Banks. The Whales including other marine life and creatures could be harmed from the undersea cable's electromagnetic waves. The damage and unintended consequences may be beyond repair.

In addition the developer will have the luxury of tax subsidies, grants, low cost loans and higher consumer electric rates to pay for the undersea cable and the big wind proposal for Molokai and Lanai. The financial risk for the developer and the utility company are none while the consumer will be saddled with higher electric rates to pay for this project. The people on Molokai believe the economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts far outweigh the benefits of this

project. We also believe in exhausting every means for each individual island to achieve energy self-sufficiency first before considering interconnecting the Oahu, Maui and Hawaii County electrical grids.

With I Aloha Molokai (IAM) leading the outreach effort to educate the community regarding alternatives to big wind and the undersea cable I hope you take into consideration Molokai's current position. State lawmakers witnessed and heard the Molokai community speak overwhelmingly in opposition. Numerous surveys, petition drives (over 2000 signatures), IAM's 700 plus members, the state wide Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Molokai 'Aha Kiole, the Ke Ala Pono Alliance and others on Molokai, throughout Hawaii, the mainland and around the world are strongly opposed to the big wind and undersea cable proposal.

Amending the original bill and inserting language that somewhat recognizes Molokai and Lanai's concerns are appreciated. With that said SB 2785 SD1 states "Nothing in the Act is intended to require the construction of an inter island cable from the islands of Molokai or Lanai to Oahu unless the communities affirmatively request a cable" The language "unless communities affirmatively request a cable" needs to be defined and narrowed to a specific community or communities. As it reads it is unclear who the communities are and leaves it open for a matter of interpretation.

There are so many alternative ways to help Hawaii become energy self sufficient. Spending billions of dollars on the big wind and undersea cable project to meet our clean energy goals is unnecessary, a waste of our tax payers money and the implication and damage to the last Hawaiian Islands (Molokai and Lanai) will be profound and devastating.

My roof top PV electric system cut my electric utility cost by 80%. Perhaps as lawmakers we should shift the focus from a centralized monopoly utility control system to more of a distributed and decentralized utility. It makes economic sense and directly helps in our effort to reduce our carbon footprint and reliability on imported oil.

A majority of those who submitted testimony for SB 2785 and companion bill HB2523 were in opposition. I humbly ask that you consider opposing SB 2785 SD1 the bill is premature, the cost unaffordable and the negative implications far outweighs the benefits.

Yours truly,

Adolph Helm

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: amorita@clear.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:26:27 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Albert Morita
Organization: Individual
E-mail: amorita@clear.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Much of the language of the bill is confusing to me and I suspect to many others, including you Senators that have to vote on it, can anyone explain it in terms an ordinary citizen and ratepayer can understand?

Especially confusing is: "Nothing in this Act is intended to require the construction of an interisland cable from the islands of Molokai or Lanai to Oahu unless the communities affirmatively request a cable";. How will this "affirmative request" be determined and by whom? Vote, sign waving, petitions??

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Albert Morita

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: amy.b.nacca@boeing.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:06:24 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy Barr
Organization: Individual
E-mail: amy.b.nacca@boeing.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: chooandchoo@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:01:55 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea Choo
Organization: Individual
E-mail: chooandchoo@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:22:00 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea I. Jepson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jepsona001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

There is just too much missing information for this bill to pass. What will it cost - to taxpayer and rate payers. What is the cost to the environment?

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kapalie@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:00:35 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrew E. K. Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kapalie@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: anmevans@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:38:43 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrew Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anmevans@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: anelaevans@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:08:32 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anela Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anelaevans@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sunny.a.m.fitz@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:06:33 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ashley Fitzgerald
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sunny.a.m.fitz@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

This is both incredibly expensive and premature. The cable itself is estimated to cost every O'ahu Resident \$6.25/month. In addition, this to date, neither a single EIS has been prepared nor a single permit applied for.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:05:17 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: B.A. McClintock
Organization: Individual
E-mail: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Too many questions are still unanswered. What will this cost us is the most prominent one, not only financially but environmentally. Please, oppose this bill!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: beverlyzigmond@juno.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:22:01 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: beverly zigmond
Organization: Individual
E-mail: beverlyzigmond@juno.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Please do NOT pass this bill. It is premature -- not a single EIS has been prepared; not a single permit applied for. It is a very expensive waste of taxpayers' money.

Beverly Zigmond, Lana`i City

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: billleach@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:05:56 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bill Leach
Organization: Individual
E-mail: billleach@sbcglobal.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2012 11:18:32 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bobby McClintock
Organization: Individual
E-mail: redahi@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/19/2012

Comments:

Because of the adverse health effects of both undersea cable and turbines connected to them, this technology is already obsolete. We cannot replace fossil fuels with, yet, another harmful source of energy. If health and/or environment are adversely affected, then we should never even consider them. It will only prove to be another mess we will need to clean up in the future. Please stop this bill!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: brendenk@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:51:38 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brenden
Organization: Individual
E-mail: brendenk@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

If this passes, I have lost hope for this state. Wasting our hard earned taxes on silly projects such as these. All while falsely promising the citizens of this state a better life. Hawaii state government should be ashamed of themselves for even thinking this is an option. For the same amount of money it will take to build this cable, the state could put photovoltaic panels on most of the buildings on Oahu. Unfortunately, this will not be an option because of strong lobbying support from Hawaii's electric company and Murdock. Our state is corrupt and sad. Why connect the entire state on one power grid? So when we have the next big earthquake comes, we can all lose power and not just one or two islands.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: bricon@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:33:52 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: BRICE CONQUEST
Organization: Individual
E-mail: bricon@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I object tp the interisland cable in terms of cost and destruction of marine habitat.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: brittnishijo@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:55:45 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brit Nishijo
Organization: Individual
E-mail: brittnishijo@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: buzz.green@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:42:54 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Buzz
Organization: Individual
E-mail: buzz.green@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Having spent time on Lana'i enjoying what I perceive to be "Old Hawai'i" you must halt this project that threatens to destroy the island.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: carlonmaui@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:24:21 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carl Martin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: carlonmaui@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
Each island should meet their own energy needs.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: cahtoong@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:38:47 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carol Ah Toong
Organization: Individual
E-mail: cahtoong@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I am against this bill. Residents will be denied access to a quarter of the island of Lana'i. Native Hawaiian traditional practices, cultural sites and endangered species will be threatened with extinction. The landscape will be marred with these monstrous wind turbines. Lana'i is too small a place to be burdened with these overwhelming eyesores.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: omjanaki@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:16:43 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carol Onuma
Organization: Individual
E-mail: omjanaki@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: naomi711@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:56:48 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cathy Nohara
Organization: Individual
E-mail: naomi711@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: charlieahtoon@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:42:14 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charles Ah Toong
Organization: Individual
E-mail: charlieahtoon@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: charliepalumbo@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:55:51 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charles Palumbo
Organization: Individual
E-mail: charliepalumbo@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please defer further this bill as it is way too premature. All options must be further analyzed prior to a decision rendered. Mahalo!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: geemz7659@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:18:03 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Charley Gima
Organization: Individual
E-mail: geemz7659@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I was born and raised on Lanai and am torn at how this windmill issue has divided our close knit community. I am all for renewable energy but not at the expense of desecrating a good portion of the north end of the island. It is only recently that I saw the map of how vast this project would be and I feel this is too much for an island of this size. I believe they should experiment with smaller projects like the solar farm that will have less environmental impact on the island and more so the residents. Even if this project goes through, how much will the Lanai residents benefit, there will always be unforeseen costs and unexpected problems with a project of this magnitude and I'm sure that these added costs will be spread amongst the customers. I fully realize that this project will bring in some jobs and also sustain jobs for those working for the company but I am pretty sure that there are some that work for the company that oppose this project but have no choice but to support it or face possibly losing their jobs. I truly feel for those that are in this predicament. I would like to see more discussion and studies done before going ahead with this project, not railroad it in because others are for it, the small percent is against this, hear them out fully and give them their full opportunity to voice their opinions. I would hate to see this project tear apart our Lanai community so please be very careful and respectful in all of your decisions.

Thank you,
Charley Gima

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: cpgroup@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:50:30 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: cheryl corbiell
Organization: Individual
E-mail: cpgroup@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please defer this premature bill. There has been no extensive studies and some of the potential parts of the cable going to the Big Island are leading edge technology which is another word for, "no one has done it yet."

If you folks are going to spend our taxpayer money the it would nice if it was a more well thought out and researched project, especially since Hawaii is not the financially stable state and its citizens are incurring ever rising bills.

Please do not use the excuse of getting Hawaii off of fossil fuel to rush throught another boondoggle project. Is the project even needed. HECO doesn't run this state.

Do the responsible action of deferring any action until more is known about alternatives, costs, environmental affects, etc.

Leading utility experts such as Jeremy Rifkin do not believe that centralized generation is the way of the future. Why would Hawaii move in that direction when other leading countries are moving to small scale, localized generation?

Oppose this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: pohai711@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:43:38 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chris Tamura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pohai711@hawaiiintel.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Keep Windmill off our Aina. They spoil the beauty of our Islands. Who wants to look at these awful windmills. Solar panels are nicer and can be hidden.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: paddle@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:53:51 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christine Costales
Organization: Individual
E-mail: paddle@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

The "carriage before the horse". A propaganda again for the electric utility company to recover "reasonable" costs if it elects not to complete the on-island transmission infrastructure. And why all of these tax exemptions on a cable bill? So the added collection of cable sur-charges will not be deemed as "gross income" and not be taxed? Too many hidden agendas in this bill. The electric company has already started to add sur-charges (\$1500) to businesses on Oahu where one business owner says "it's criminal". How much more will the utility company keep doing this to satisfy the corporate CEO's pockets? I am still going to say no even if it says "two or more islands".....ADD WORDING "ISLANDS OF LANAI AND MOLOKAI EXEMPT FROM THIS CABLE BILL. Do your studies first, see if it works on the other islands and let us know in 20 years if it does work before you destroy the last two remaining pristine Hawaiian Islands.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: chris@mumfordfamily.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:39:48 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Christine J Mumford
Organization: Individual
E-mail: chris@mumfordfamily.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose this measure. It lacks any evidence of adequate studies of impact and costs to taxpayer and ratepayers as well as the environment. This is a bad bill and should not be passed.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: d Rodrigues2001@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:33:59 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Darlene Rodrigues
Organization: Individual
E-mail: d Rodrigues2001@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I oppose the proposed bill for the following reasons: The cost of the environmental degradation to Lanai and the US Marine Sanctuary is too great. As a consumer of electricity on 'Oahu I find that the financial cost we have to bear is also too high as well. A more prudent approach is necessary with adequate Environmental Impact Statements being conducted as well. Since this is for the future of Hawai'i, I believe we should take our time before we say yes to such a huge undertaking. We need to explore other alternatives rather than exploiting certain islands to feed the energy needs of another.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: dgtamura@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:46:42 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daurice Tamura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dgtamura@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Don't spoil the beauty of our Islands with Windmills. Keep them away from our Aina!
Windmills are the answer to our Energy Problems, they only spoil the beauty of our Islands.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Maggiedaub@yahoo.ca
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:51:57 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Dean Kinoshita
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Maggiedaub@yahoo.ca
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:
I oppose this bill. It would ruin Lanai

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: yookom@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:47:10 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Deborah dela Cruz
Organization: Individual
E-mail: yookom@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I am a Lanai resident and am opposed to SB2785. The Bill starts off with a lot of generalizations that the cable system would be beneficial. The case has not been made that the cable system would be either effective or efficient and certainly not that it is more effective and efficient than other alternatives. The Bill's only purpose appears to be to provide investors and utility companies with a methodology for calculating/guaranteeing their profits and minimizing their risks. The Bill states, "Nothing in this Act is intended to require the construction of an interisland cable from the islands of Molokai or Lanai to Oahu unless the communities affirmatively request a cable." Aside from mention of a public hearing on each island, there are no details of how the State will determine how our community would "affirmatively request a cable". There is no mention of what would be done with the input from the public hearings. There are details ad nauseam about economic considerations, but community considerations are just glossed over. The passage of this Bill would give the appearance of validating the unproven generalizations about the benefits of the cable system. Please, at the least, postpone this Bill to a more appropriate time, i.e., after the EIS.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: dputhi@me.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:11:56 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Deborah Putnam
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dputhi@me.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: shawdm@alum.urmc.rochester.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:01:11 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diana Shaw
Organization: Individual
E-mail: shawdm@alum.urmc.rochester.edu
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is premature as no EIS has been done, no permits have been applied for. We can expect an increase in HECO rates for Oahu ratepayers for a \$1 billion plus cable through a US Marine Sanctuary for a very inefficient energy plan. I oppose this bill! Diana Shaw

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: diane@jlcbrain.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:04:31 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Jensen
Organization: Individual
E-mail: diane@jlcbrain.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
I oppose and ask that you please defer this premature bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: preza@sandwichisles.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:09:07 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kianas@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:46:26 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Diane Sugiyama
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kianas@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Dhelekunihi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:12:17 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Sterling
Organization: Aha Moku O Maui
E-mail: Dhelekunihi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose this Sb2785. I am a resident of Hawaiian Homestead Kuleana in Kahikinui, Maui for 11 years. In the early 1990's we opposed and stopped the geothermal project running cables from the Big Island under the Alanuihaha Channel to Nu'u Maui. We feel cables under water would disturb the marine environment no studies have been done to check the effects of earthquakes and shifting platelets. Electric cables between islands is dangerous and oppose this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lanaiohana@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:53:17 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Stokes
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lanaiohana@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Do not support this cable bill if you don't know how the high voltage undersea cable will impact our marine sanctuary. High voltage cables do not exist in any of our united states marine sanctuaries. Please do your homework before making any decisions on the cable bills. There are many people in Hawaii who oppose having a high voltage undersea cable for many reasons. Please listen to the people of Hawaii nei. Mahalo!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: dgtamura@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:38:53 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Doreen Tamura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dgtamura@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

These Windmills are eye sores and spoil the looks of our Aina. Solar panels are nicer and can be hidden so it won't spoil the beauty of our Island.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: nohealee@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:37:06 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Douglas Lee
Organization: Individual
E-mail: nohealee@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: [Ed Wagner](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Comments on SB2785 2/23/2012 9:00 AM
Date: Monday, February 20, 2012 8:00:19 PM

Senator Kidani, Senator Ige,

SB2785 and its companion bill, HB2523 establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure. (SD1)

These bills state that interconnecting the islands via high-voltage undersea electric transmission cable systems would provide the islands with increased energy security and system efficiencies and enable the islands to provide each other with backup power.

This bill is highly restrictive and monopolistic in its intent by attempting to create another utility monopoly or enhance the current utility monopoly in power generation by providing a framework for a single technological approach to interconnecting our islands for transmission of electricity.

The bill should be amended and expanded to include a second option; namely, microwave transmission of electricity between islands. By including 2 technologies, we introduce competition to keep costs low instead of having higher costs like we do with our 100 year old monopolistic electric utility. Hawaii doesn't need another monopoly on power transmission. Someone should begin researching the feasibility of microwave transmission of power.

Wireless Power Transmission – A Next Generation Power Transmission System

<http://www.ijcaonline.org/journal/number13/pxc387434.pdf>

Sincerely,

Ed Wagner
Mililani

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lgrove@groveinsight.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 6:18:46 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Elisabeth Grove
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lgrove@groveinsight.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

As a full-time Lana'i resident it is impossible for me to believe that our leaders would put profits before the best interest of our entire state. History will not be kind to those who think an underground cable through a whale sanctuary or 40 foot wind turbines in a sacred place is a feasible thing to do. For our children and our grandchildren, please think of what we're doing. Their legacy is our responsibility. We can't let them down -- we must find other ways to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. Please vote against this legislation. Not in the gods' garden and not in the whales' sanctuary.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: emmy96740@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:00:09 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Emiko Okawa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: emmy96740@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Only high voltage line through any US Marine Sanctuary;
We are living for tourism business. No one like to see big wind mill in Hawaiian nature. Look at economy now and realized that nonsense to spend our tax money for expensive under sea-cable. Save electric rather than develop.

Fairfax Reilly
468 Ahakea Street
P.O. Box 630111
Lanai City, HI 96763

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215
Honolulu, HI

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 228
Honolulu, HI

February 23, 2012

Re: SB2785 SD1 OPPOSE

Dear Chair Ige and Vice Chair Kidani:

Thank you for the opportunity to share ideas related to renewable energy from a ratepayer's/taxpayer's view.

The entire renewable energy portfolio project, including the undersea transmission cable, interconnectivity projects, independent developer projects and costs fails to provide us with any clarity or projections of costs relative to other options.

Only the legislature, not the public utility commission (PUC), has the duty to provide ratepayers/taxpayers the due diligence, transparency and detailed cost analysis to permit us to make informed decisions before the entire concept is transferred to the public utility commission (PUC).

For example, both Hawaiian Electric Co. and Castle and Cooke, Inc. have published in the Star Advertiser several proposed "community benefits packages" for Lana'i if the Big Wind project is approved...by the PUC I assume.

Point: How are these costs included or excluded from any project related to any aspects of the renewable energy portfolio? Ensure these details are worked out well before the dockets appear before the PUC, as the PUC process is very closed.

Point: Liability fund: Should not the legislature ensure that all utilities and developers contribute to a liability fund to provide insurance that any costs of losses to the State or residents impacted by loss of use or damage to environment is established prior to any

damage or loss of use? Only the legislature can ensure that these are covered. How is that included in the “debt obligation” of the utilities and developers?

Many detailed issues remain unclear yet the legislature in my opinion has the ultimate responsibility for the due diligence required as our representatives. Defer this bill until your committee has the answers we all need.

Aloha,

Fairfax A. Reilly

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: fern@corvusco.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:20:46 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Fern P Duvall
Organization: Individual
E-mail: fern@corvusco.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Investigate use of new Solarroadways Technology on Oahu as it could eliminate need for such cables.
See: www.solarroadways.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kekahunakeaweivi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:52:01 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Foster Ampong
Organization: Aha Moku O Maui
E-mail: kekahunakeaweivi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please defer this bill. It is premature to consider legislating such an endeavor without determining and presenting to the public the many inherent impacts to our environment and subsequent ADDITIONAL expenses to Hawaii's taxpayers.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: frank@netsolutionshawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:30:13 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Frank Forentino
Organization: Net Solutions
E-mail: frank@netsolutionshawaii.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

This is the most shameful act of greed I have ever seen. HECO cannot justify this expense for what looks like no real long term return. There should be an investigation into this whole project. The public deserves a responsible utility company.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lumg010@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:21:40 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gail Lum
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lumg010@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: glc86@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:08:44 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gordon Chew
Organization: Individual
E-mail: glc86@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: grantkaye@runbox.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:07:55 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Grant Kaye
Organization: Individual
E-mail: grantkaye@runbox.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose this measure for the following reasons:

- it is unwise and not environmentally conscious to build a high voltage line through any US Marine Sanctuary
- the underseas cable is far too expensive
- no power from wind is provided for Lana'i and Moloka'i
- countless historic sites will be destroyed
- irreparable damage will be done to 1/4 of Lana'i and thousands of acres on Moloka'i
- wind power is too intermittent to safely power O`ahu, at best it could generate only 6-8% of O'ahu's electricity.

This bill is premature, no EIS have been conducted, and no permits have been applied for.

NO TO THIS BILL!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: geekahn@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 6:43:36 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gregory Kahn
Organization: Individual
E-mail: geekahn@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I am opposed to the undersea cable because of the enormous cost to the consumer, as well as the ecological and environmental costs. Oahu-based solar strategies are viable methods with which to adhere to the bill's intent of diminishing our dependence on foreign oil.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: gvroeg@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:43:12 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gregory V. Vroegindewey
Organization: Individual
E-mail: gvroeg@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: gkellogg@68k.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:52:03 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Guy
Organization: Individual
E-mail: gkellogg@68k.org
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: molokaimama@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:49:44 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Hal Newman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: molokaimama@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please stop this plan to sabotage the last, two, truly Hawaiian Islands.....with a very "hyped" type of energy plan for Oahu. Windmills are being phased out, even in the Netherlands....not cost effective and lots of unforeseen problems: bird deaths, noise pollution, uncanny costs to bring in, maintain and to eventually take down, due to their demise within x-number of years.

What are you doing?

As an educator, I've seen bureaucratic top-heavy self-appointed know-it-alls change, change and change again: systems, plans, programs to justify their high paying jobs. It doesn't seem to matter what is best for the people they serve. These folks in high places just need to look like they are doing something to be doing something. So, it's in on 'windmills' now and out on 'windmills' later; and, on to something else, even though the damage has been done.....Get smart! Listen to the people. Hawaiian majorities do NOT want wind power. Look at wave power and geothermal power and stop what you are doing...NOW!

Kill this bill!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: idhall@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:23:11 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Isaac Hall
Organization: Friends of Lanai
E-mail: idhall@maui.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

SB2785 represents the Legislature's premature and ill-advised commitment to an inter-island cable project without having any idea of the environmental impacts or costs in advance. This is the type of legislation that gets relied upon by agencies, such as the PUC, in the future in approving related projects. A bill of this nature should not even be considered until and unless an adequate joint federal and state EIS has been prepared for this project and all of the other projects that it will facilitate.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jmckown@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:29:14 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James McKown
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jmckown@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I believe we are capable of developing clear energy resources on each of our Hawaiian islands sufficient to meet our needs WITHOUT exploiting the resources of our neighbors.

If we allow the energy needs of Oahu or Maui to determine land use on Molokai or Lanai, I am worried that the exploitation will not stop there. Do we next insist that Molokai develop a landfill to replace Waimanalo Gulch?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jsquires7@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:27:40 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jan Squires
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jsquires7@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Testimony from an Independent Voice Of Reason, Janeel T. T. Hew

In Opposition of SB 2785 Inter- Island Cable

Greetings, Senators and Committee Members,

My name is Janeel Hew, and I come before you through words beheld with respect for your positions and responsibilities. I do not underestimate your ability to understand the potential impact of your decision making roles. With that respect I believe that you are all in agreement that in order to make such important decisions, all facts and research should be brought to the table prior to any voting. For in your particular positions an ignorant vote holds a high potential for very negative impacts that have the ability to long surpass your terms in Office.

That having been said, I strongly oppose this Bill as it does not allow for proper decision making evaluation due to lack of much needed oceanic research on the immediate and long term effects. It is my opinion it contains information that is stated as facts, that are in fact not true or have yet to be so proven, once again due to lack of information and/or research. I will not undermined your intellect by assuming that you are not aware of this lack of research as being required prior to your ability to making an informed vote. I do however, understand that the pressure is on by our Governor and those who would profit by this. Therefore, I offer my words as a voice of reason...

“To pass this Bill would be as correct as blindfolding our children and then directing them to walk toward the cliffs, not knowing if their fall is a few inches or to their death.”

I have read the testimonies in support and I am not impressed nor am I moved in my opposition. This Bill asks you to set the framework, yet it offers you none of the proper tools to do so. Your responsibility to protect the environment is not lessened by an Environmental Impact Statement not being required by law for this Bill. On the contrary it has strengthened your responsibility to protect it. Oceanic vulnerabilities can only be defused by anticipating impacts decades before their manifestations. Before you create the framework for a door to be open for developers and financing to the state to inter- connect Islands that were not born connected for the purpose of sharing energy...I challenge you to fulfill your decision making roles with the responsibility of knowledge forthright.

I oppose the Undersea Cable, and Big Wind. Although there are those who would other wise try to give the impression that this Bill is not connected it is public knowledge that our Governor is pushing for the Wind Turbines to proceed and therefore there is a connection for his agenda.

I will not waste my time nor yours with words contained in this Bill, for those words have already been stated and read. But rather I would ask you to seek out the words and information that is truly of importance...The ones you have yet to receive!

SB 2785 , should not be passed. The unknown factors are much too dangerous to allow this door to be opened. There are other options that don't call for blindfolds!

I thank you for your time and consideration of my words. I pray that you will make a decision that is based on facts and study findings and not on financial gains. Please vote against this Bill, make a choice that reflects your responsibility in your role as our Representatives. Let your vote stand as one that you and the people of Hawaii can live with and afford in more

ways than money.

Mahalo.

Janeel T.T. Hew

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jansquires7@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:41:00 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Janet Squires
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jansquires7@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jwallen92@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:43:45 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jason Allen
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jwallen92@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Terrible for Lanai Residents who will get very little benefit, if anything. Will destroy beautiful landscape forever, and disturb underwater landscape and animals. Very expensive project that will cost taxpayers too much money in an already desperate society.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jgill565@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:59:07 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jason Gill
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jgill565@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Wheres the EIS report, Defer SB2785! Save our natural resources before its too late!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jd.mumford@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:26:35 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: JD Mumford
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jd.mumford@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

This will be the ONLY high voltage line through any US Marine Sanctuary. This will have huge cost implications on tax payers and HECO subscribers. The list goes on...

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: houlton2@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:26:27 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeanne Houlton
Organization: Individual
E-mail: houlton2@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Jeannine Johnson, Legislative Sub-Committee Chair

Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2

5648 Pia Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96821

Phone: 373-2874 (h) / 691-7261 (w)

February 21, 2012

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Re: [SB 2785](#), SD1 - Relating to InterIsland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

[Hrg:](#) Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 9:00 pm in Conf. Room 211

Aloha mai kākou,

Under Section 2-14-125 of the Neighborhood Board Plan, I have been appointed as a Delegate with responsibilities to represent the **Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2** on matters approved by the Board. As Committee Chair of the **Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2** Legislative Sub-Committee, I must inform you **Neighborhood Board #2** strongly opposes SB 2785, SD1 which establishes a regulatory structure for the installation and implementation of an interisland high voltage electric transmission cable system and for the construction of on-island transmission infrastructure. **Neighborhood Board #2** represents over 6,000 households, with a population of almost 20,000 people (State of Hawaii Data Book 2002) in East Honolulu.

Hawai'i is a unique and beautiful state - for many, it is an ideal place to live and is second to none for providing a preferred quality of life. But we face a growing number of challenges and pressing issues that threaten our limited natural resources, rich cultural heritage, and precious way of life. The lack of affordable and adequate housing; steady deterioration of our public infrastructure - including roads, parks, schools, health care facilities and other buildings; traffic gridlock and congestion on most islands; and population growth increasing at a rapid rate, particularly on the neighbor islands - all raise questions about the long term limits of growth on these islands and the need for all of us to begin planning and acting now to ensure a positive and sustainable future for the people of Hawai'i, especially our children, youth, and future generations. Our Hawaiian islands are rich in its physical and geographic beauty, its cultural and ethnic diversity, and a Hawaiian tradition and heritage that make our state uniquely special.

On December 7, 2006, **Neighborhood Board #2** voted 12-0-1 to preserve the qualities and characteristics of Hawai'i's unique island lifestyle to every extent possible, to support long-range planning based on sound planning principles with accountability and the Hawaiian concept of the ahupua'a system in which people respect the air, land, water, and other scarce natural resources that make life sustainable from the mountains to the sea. The proposed oceanic transmission cable will be laid in the Hawaiian Islands

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 21, 2012

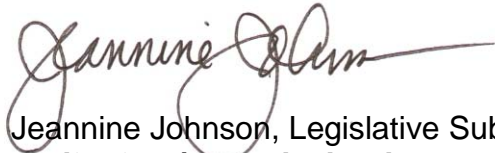
Page 2

Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which Sanctuary regulations prohibit “altering of the seabed” and will impact the endangered Hawaiian monk seals, whales, dolphins and turtles.

Hawai'i's ratepayers will be required to cover the full costs of the \$1 billion undersea transmission cable through a \$3.53 -\$5.13 monthly increase in every household's electric rates. Neither the State of Hawai'i, with a current deficit that exceeds the projected cost of the undersea transmission cable, nor HECO, with a credit rating just one step above junk bond status, can afford to build the cable. On December 1, 2011, **Neighborhood Board #2** voted 10-3-1 to oppose direct or indirect public financing of the proposed undersea cable.

Your opposition of SB 2785, SD1 is respectfully requested.

'O au iho nō me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeannine Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeannine Johnson, Legislative Sub-Committee Chair
Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jesseandjona@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:28:37 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jesse Masagatani
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jesseandjona@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: schaum@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 6:02:22 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John Schaumburg
Organization: Individual
E-mail: schaum@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

One billion dollars for a cable to Lānaʻi and Molokai or maybe even six billion dollars for several cables to many islands. Nobody knows the true cost or even whether the cable is needed. Yet someone feels that it is necessary to spend my, yours, and your constituents money to meet the electrical power needs for Oahu.

This is a lot of money. It is especially a lot of money when a cost/benefit analysis has not been done (proposals and a preliminary feasibility study have been done) and the end cost to the taxpayer (the same as the rate payer) will start at 9% of their current electricity bill and could reach 50% and be considered un-necessary and a complete failure by the time it is completed.

Why should we as taxpayers be required under law to take this kind of risk if HECO and renewable power generators are not willing to take this risk? Why should we ensure a profit to the shareholders of HECO if they are not willing to take this risk?

If you understand that the capacity rating for wind is less than 30% and solar is less than 20%, which means they are both inconsistent and unreliable. And the space used to generate both of these renewables is inefficient. Why would you consider allowing a cable built to link up to this type of energy source?

If the cable were used to connect to the Big Island or Maui for a renewable source that had a capacity rating in excess of 75% then the cable might be a good idea. However, we are a few years if not a decade from that possibility. We should conserve our funding, ensure that the Big Island is self reliant (building 5 more geo-thermal plants with 30 mW's would do that), and then consider networking the islands with an electrical cable.

Until all options are maximized on each island the cable is a waste of precious resources. Big Wind is a waste of money. The developer and HECO will both do all right financially, but the consumer will pick up the tab that will cost at least 9% for only a 4% increase in power. Not a good value at all for inconsistent and unreliable power.

Unless you can limit cable use to reliable base power (capacity rating in excess of 75%) please kill this bill. We can't afford it.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

John Schaumburg

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: preza@sandwichisles.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:09:27 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jonathan Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: hulusamjuanita@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:59:58 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Juanita Hulu
Organization: Individual
E-mail: hulusamjuanita@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Why is SB2785 continuing to be heard if there is no EIS, residents oppose the measure and electric rates will be raised. I live on Molokai and our electrical rates have increased and the State still wants to put undersea cables. Our island will not receive any kind of compensation, just electric rate increases. NO TO SB2785.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: jdougher@fuse.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:59:47 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Judy Dougherty
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jdougher@fuse.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: trappster@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 1:54:23 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kaliko Trapp
Organization: Individual
E-mail: trappster@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

RE: SB 2785 hearing on 2012-02-23

Aloha. Please do not let the undersea cables be laid, and also do not allow for these huge windfarms to pop up around the islands. We have plenty of SUN here in Hawai'i on our leeward sides to provide enough electricity to hugely reduce our reliance upon imported fuels. I think people in general would support more solar on our rooftops, especially if big businesses get involved (like Costco did) FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT in the long term (i.e. reduced operating costs in the long-term). Please also see my short points below:

- (1) users over a certain wattage should be required (subsidised perhaps with money saved from the proposed cable project) to put solar panels on their roofs and reduce electrical use;
- (2) solar-panel equipped buildings/houses should be able to send electricity back into the grid for the good of the whole system;
- (3) O'AHU should solve its own growth problems with RESPONSIBLE and REDUCED growth. There is a limit to the number of buildings and people that should be there - have we not perhaps come close to that limit??
- (4) other islands should NOT have to shoulder the burden that O'AHU has caused for itself by overgrowth in the past several years (eg. Waikiki, 'Ewa plateau, etc)
- (5) windfarms are unsightly, especially on small islands like Moloka'i and Lāna'i; they will provide an ugly memory for tourists, thereby potentially reducing tourism interest in what should be beautiful islands

sincerely, me ka mana'o 'oia'i'o

S. Kaliko Beamer Trapp, Hilo, Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kbrindo@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 6:17:41 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kathleen Brindo
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kbrindo@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I am against the windmills as they will destroy a mind-boggling 1/4 of the island. We have no national, state, or city parks here. No malls, movie theaters, museums...only the island which is getting smaller and smaller to residents. Can this be David Murdock's legacy? Destroy 1/4 of the island for money? The unforeseen consequences could be forbidding, such as noise levels, damage to the whale sanctuary, and loss of tourism. This is a decision that should have more input from citizens. Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: babybird@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:00:54 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Katie Akiona
Organization: Individual
E-mail: babybird@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kaulanad@ymail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:40:48 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kaulana Dameg
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kaulanad@ymail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:
I oppose.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: finnis@ozemail.com.au
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:52:23 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kay Finnis
Organization: Individual
E-mail: finnis@ozemail.com.au
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

The "kickbacks" to Government and Parties involved to be destroying the Pristine Natural Surroundings of Lanai and the waters surrounding it. Heard of Solar - maybe that would be better in some areas.

More and more negatives are being found re Wind Turbines. DO YOUR RESEARCH HONESTLY!!!!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: golfbabe007@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:58:12 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kelly Brock
Organization: Individual
E-mail: golfbabe007@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kkleid@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:30:32 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: ken kleid
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kkleid@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

this costs too much in dollars and sense. lanai & molokai are against this windmill mis-adventure. a billion dollars for a cable that the electric users have to pay for no matter who does the cable and at any amount of money. this is not capitalism. this is feeding in the trough of the public utility users who are mandated to pay if they want electric. I think a billion dollars could buy a lot of solar water heaters, photo-voltaic systems, and windmills on the Island that use the electric. another example of huge corporate greed controlling the electric grid and only looking out for themselves. I can't believe the governor is for it. figures, I guess, as the huge money corps control him on this issue. come on gov, do the right thing. ken

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: KYC-ken@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:58:04 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ken Rakta
Organization: Individual
E-mail: KYC-ken@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: khnakamaru@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:45:22 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kent Nakamaru
Organization: Individual
E-mail: khnakamaru@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: zacherk@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:41:34 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keri
Organization: Individual
E-mail: zacherk@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:
Please listen to the people who live in these communities.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kpurdyavelino@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:54:10 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kilia Purdy-Avelino
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kpurdyavelino@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
I OPPOSE SB2785!

Mahalo,
Kilia

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lailanif@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:49:21 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lailani Kahn
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lailanif@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Where are the studies to educate about the impact this will have on our environment and the ratepayers? Please defer this premature bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lakiona@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:03:07 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lea Akiona
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lakiona@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: dleimomi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:19:02 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Leimomi Detillion
Organization: Friends of Lana'i
E-mail: dleimomi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

- Premature -- not a single EIS has been prepared; not a single permit applied for.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kay@okamotorealty.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:24:02 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Kay Okamoto
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kay@okamotorealty.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

We cannot afford to spend this kind of money for a cable through the ocean. Tax credits to the suppliers are taking money from other needs of our community. Paying the price of this cable is not worth the benefits, if there really are any.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: worleygig@cox.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:55:16 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Worley
Organization: Individual
E-mail: worleygig@cox.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: caleb555kepa@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:14:20 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lorraine Dyer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: caleb555kepa@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Lou@Maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:30:41 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Louis DiLiberto
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Lou@Maui.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: levinlynnla@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:53:49 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynn Matsukawa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: levinlynnla@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: slosako@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:01:12 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: S. Lynn Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: slosako@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

This bill prematurely supports an expensive cable before alternative energy venues have even been established. It is putting the cart before the horse and will cost the taxpayers and rate payers dearly.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Maggiedaub@yahoo.ca
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:58:53 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Maggie Daub
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Maggiedaub@yahoo.ca
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill

On reading previous submissions, the majority of supporters appear to be corporations that would benefit financially

I frequently travel to Oahu, I've asked cab drivers, hotel workers, people who work in stores, about their thoughts on the cable and the increase this would cause in their electric bill. I have not met one person who is aware of any of this.

Destroying one quarter of Lanai for the gain of a few is tragic.

Where's the EIS?

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: preza@sandwichisles.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:10:10 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Malia Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Marc D Lindshield

P.O. Box 715
Escondido, CA 92033-0715
Phone (760) 802-0544 Fax (760) 737-6161
E-Mail: Lindshield@sbcglobal.net

February 21, 2012

Chairman David Y. Ige
Vice Chair Michelle N. Kidani
Committee on Way and Means

RE: SB 2785

Comments in OPPOSITION submitted via website and email.

Honorable Chairs and Committee Members,

As a part time resident of Hawaii and having an extensive background in Community Development, Municipal Advisory Panels and oversight committees I have reviewed the documentation available related to SB 2785 and **STRONGLY OPPOSE** the advancement of this Bill. I also acknowledge the BIG money behind this proposal.

It is obvious in the reports by all regulatory agencies that the potential of Negative and Unmitigated Impacts are all but certain. As I read the reports I was alarmed that the concerns raised focused solely on the best case scenario of building the project. There was a glaring absence of any information related to the possible impacts from extreme weather / sea conditions or heaven forbid a Natural Disaster such as a Tsunami.

Allowing this Bill and Project to move forward demonstrates a willful disregard to numerous protected and precious resources. Some major impacts to the South Moloka'I Reef, Penguin Bank and the Whale Sanctuary are obvious, but what about the numerous "unknown impacts"? Are you seriously willing to gamble on that?

I urge you to consider two very important facts. First, any failures, cost overruns, extensive repairs, upgrades etc. will be passed through to the rate payers, not the investors. We have seen this played out time and again on the Mainland. This would further damage the economy and cast shame on an already questionable project.

My second point is more obvious, Water and Power DO NOT MIX !! While we are not "absolutely certain" of the effect on our environment, sea life and precious resources related to electromagnetic fields... we know it exists. Running a power line of this size, weight and design through protected areas and allowing it to rest on the reefs you would not willingly allow divers to walk on is unconscionable.

In closing, I implore you to first completely exhaust all possible alternatives to this project. You are blessed with the opportunity to harvest vast amounts of Solar Power and it has proved very successful in other areas, but there are additional options. Second, if you're still considering this a viable option, please purchase 6-8 50 foot commercial extension cords from Home Depot, plug them in and drape them through your swimming pool or bathtubs and consider jumping in! They're brand new... you know this and yet how certain would you feel sending your kids or yourself in for a bath or swim? **Your innate sense of reason will provide you with the best answer... Power and Water do not mix, sometimes not even as a last resort, the risk is just too great!**

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc D. Lindshield

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: granniebritches@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:18:46 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marcia Mills
Organization: Individual
E-mail: granniebritches@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I oppose this bill! The islands could use the money for health insurance, food for the hungry, and education!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Mugs122257@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:00:18 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Kitamura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Mugs122257@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: msoplatt@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:09:38 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Margaret Platt
Organization: Individual
E-mail: msoplatt@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: ttttoucan@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:38:09 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mari Lai
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ttttoucan@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:



CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAI'I

Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing: Thursday, February 23, 2012 9 a.m.
Conference Room 211

In Opposition to SB 2785 SD 1 Relating to Interisland Electric Transmission Cable Systems

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i opposes SB 2785 SD 1 because of its significant impacts to the native Hawaiian species and ecosystems we seek to protect. The cable route includes the south Moloka'i coral reef, which is the longest fringing reef north of Australia, and includes the Penguin Bank – an extensive shallow marine habitat, fishing ground for Hawai'i bottomfish vessels, and part of the Hawaiian Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. The cable route also includes the other areas within the sanctuary.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has expressed serious concerns about the short- and long-term impacts of the cable installation, high-level electromagnetic fields emanating from the cable on the seafloor, and acoustics that could disrupt the foraging behaviors of the Hawaiian monk seal, a critically endangered species whose numbers are declining.

The United State Fish and Wildlife Service notes that important fish and wildlife resources occur throughout the proposed project areas, including coastal, wetland, stream and marine habitats. FWS recommended that particular attention be given to the impacts of construction, operation, and maintenance of the cable to endangered and threatened species, migratory birds, wetlands, streams, coral reefs, fisheries, and rare native species and habitats.

The Environmental Protection recommends analysis of additional alternatives to the cable as early as possible. Such alternatives, which will have significantly fewer negative impacts on native wildlife and habitats include solar, especially roof top solar, on O'ahu, and developing renewable sources of firm power on O 'ahu.

We also oppose any undersea cable that facilitates an industrial power plant on Lana'i, which could include 200 wind turbines on a quarter of the island. The board of directors of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i passed the attached resolution opposing Big Wind on Lana'i and we are monitoring proposals for Moloka'i. O'ahu must be accountable for its excessive use of energy, and it needs to reduce, reuse, and recycle before turning to the other counties for its energy needs and projects that will result in such destruction of Hawaiian wildlife and wild places.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify. Please oppose SB 2785 SD 1.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Ziegler

Attached CCH Resolution



Hawai'i's Voice for Wildlife – Ko Leo Hawai'i no na holoholona lohiu

Telephone/Fax 808.593.0255 • email: info@conservehi.org • web: www@conservehi.org

P.O. Box 2923 • Honolulu, HI 96802 • Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 • Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Springer * Vice-President: Julie Leialoha * Treasurer: Rick Barboza * Secretary: Maka'ala Ka'aumoana

Directors: Lida Pigott Burney * Koalani Kaulukukui * Robin Kaye

Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL WIND POWER PLANT FOR O'AHU ON LÄNA'I
AND ASSOCIATED UNDERSEA CABLE**

ADOPTED BY THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAI'I BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON NOVEMBER 29, 2011

WHEREAS, the Conservation Council for Hawai'i (CCH) was founded in 1950 and is dedicated to the protection of native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations; and

WHEREAS, CCH has a long history of protecting rare, threatened, and endangered species in Hawai'i, including species on the island of Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, most of the native vegetation on Länä'i has been destroyed by introduced grazing and browsing mammals, or cleared for large-scale pineapple cultivation; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, CCH commissioned a survey of native Hawaiian plants in the Känepu'u dryland forest in the ahupua'a of Ka'ä, northwest Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, CCH presented its first Conservation Award to George C. Munro, Länä'i Ranch Manager, for protecting the Känepu'u dryland forest and native Hawaiian plants on Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Hui Mälama Pono O Länä'i and others have protected and cared for the Känepu'u dryland forest, which is now managed as a preserve by The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i in partnership with the community and with matching funds under the state Natural Area Partnership Program; and

WHEREAS, endangered plants in the Känepu'u Preserve include nä'ü (Hawaiian gardenia), 'iliahi (sandalwood), ma'o hau hele (native yellow hibiscus), and a native morning glory, *Bonamia menziesii*; and

WHEREAS, in 1989 and 1999, CCH took legal action under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), which resulted in the listing of 255 Hawaiian plants as threatened or endangered species, including 37 species on Länä'i; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, CCH took legal action under the ESA to compel the designation of critical habitat for over 200 threatened and endangered Hawaiian plants, including 300 acres in the northwestern region of Länä'i for the endangered Awalua Ridge tetramolopium, and critical habitat elsewhere on Länä'i for two additional species; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, CCH took legal action under the ESA to protect the endangered 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel) and threatened 'a'o (Newell's shearwater) from harm caused by lights and utility poles and lines in flyways on Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, the summit of Länä'i, Länä'ihale, supports the second largest known 'ua'u breeding colony in the world with active nesting burrows and an estimated 2,000 birds; and

WHEREAS, 'ua'u fly over northwest Länä'i from Länä'ihale to the sea to hunt and feed their nestlings, and fledglings use these flyways on their maiden flights to the sea; and

WHEREAS, scientists believe 'ua'u thrive on Länä'ihale because Länä'i has little land development and few urban lights and tall obstacles, such as utility poles and lines, which, in other locations, disorient seabirds and obstruct flyways; and

WHEREAS, the endangered ae’o (Hawaiian stilt), endangered ‘öpe’ape’a (Hawaiian hoary bat), threatened ‘a’o (Newell’s shearwater), and pueo (short-eared brown Hawaiian owl) also occur on Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, Lāna’i’s marine environment – consisting of nearshore waters, coral reefs, and sandy beaches – supports the endangered koholā (Hawaiian humpback whale), endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua (Hawaiian monk seal), endangered honu ‘ea (hawksbill sea turtle), threatened honu (green sea turtle), migratory shorebirds, and other marine life; and

WHEREAS, Lāna’i is the only island completely surrounded by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, and whales are known to come close to shore; and

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service proposes to expand critical habitat for the endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua to the main Hawaiian islands, including the coastline and waters out to a depth of 500 m around the entire northwest end and most of Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, Ka’ea, located on the northwest end of Lāna’i near Ka’ena Point, is named for the endangered honu ‘ea, and nearby Polihua (“cove of eggs”) was once one of the most famous honu nesting beaches in Hawai’i; and

WHEREAS, Castle & Cooke and the Hawaiian Electric Company propose an industrial wind power plant for O’ahu on 22,000 acres (one-fourth of the island) in the northwest region of Lāna’i; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the transport, construction, and operation of 80 to 170 wind turbines, each over 400 feet high with a blade span of 200 feet; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines will require foundations 20 feet by 60 feet by 12 feet deep, large construction pads to accommodate heavy equipment and materials, and large quantities of water for cement and dust control; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction of dozens of paved roads 30 feet wide, including the existing jeep road adjacent to the Kānepu’u Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction and operation of a transfer station on the northwest end of Lāna’i at or near Polihua; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind power plant will require the construction and operation of an undersea cable between Lāna’i and O’ahu to be funded by Hawaiian Electric Company ratepayers on O’ahu; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines, construction pads, and paved roads threaten the Kānepu’u dryland forest and endangered plants in the northwestern region of Lāna’i, and will destroy or adversely modify critical habitat for the endangered Awalua Ridge tetramolopium; and

WHEREAS, the proposed wind turbines will kill and harm the endangered ‘ua’u, including breeding birds and fledglings, in essential flyways linking nesting burrows on Lāna’ihale to the sea; and

WHEREAS, according to federal wildlife biologists, approximately 400,000 birds are killed annually by wind farms in the U.S. – nearly one bird every minute; and

WHEREAS, a study of ‘ua‘u conducted for Castle & Cooke in 2007 for seven temporary, relatively short, and bladeless wind-measuring towers in the northwest region of Lāna‘i, indicates that dozens of birds would be killed by the towers, even with some avoidance of the towers by birds; and

WHEREAS, in addition to harming and killing the endangered ‘ua‘u, the proposed wind power plant threatens the endangered ae‘o, endangered ‘ōpe‘ape‘a, threatened ‘a‘o, pueo; and migratory shorebirds; and

WHEREAS, the excavation of foundations for wind turbines, and construction pads and paved roads will increase runoff to the ocean, increase siltation of coral reefs, and reduce water quality in the marine environment, including the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and proposed critical habitat for the endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua; and

WHEREAS, a transfer station on the northwest end of Lāna‘i at or near Polihua will destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat for the endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua, and disrupt essential behavior of seals and sea turtles utilizing the coast; and

WHEREAS, the proposed undersea cable between Lāna‘i and O‘ahu will likely harm threatened and endangered species and other marine life, and degrade sensitive habitat, including the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary and proposed critical habitat for the endangered ‘ilioholoikauaua; and

WHEREAS, the proposed industrial wind power plant will hamper, if not completely curtail full scale public hunting of axis deer and mouflon on the northwest end of Lāna‘i, which has been managed by the Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources under a memorandum of agreement with the landowner for many decades; and

WHEREAS, public hunting pressure reduces the damage caused by these introduced animals to sensitive native ecosystems, such as the Kānepu‘u Preserve; and

WHEREAS, native Hawaiian species and ecosystems have intrinsic value, provide the material and spiritual foundation for the living Native Hawaiian culture, and help to sustain the people of Lāna‘i; and

WHEREAS, native Hawaiian species and ecosystems on Lāna‘i are part of the legacy we leave to our children and generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Council for Hawai‘i opposes the proposed industrial wind power plant for O‘ahu on Lāna‘i, which will harm native plants and animals, and destroy or degrade a substantial portion of Lāna‘i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Conservation Council for Hawai‘i opposes the proposed undersea cable from Lāna‘i to O‘ahu associated with the proposed industrial wind power plant on Lāna‘i.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: anmevans@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:37:40 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Martha Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anmevans@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose the passage of SB 2785 RELATING TO INTERISLAND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CABLE SYSTEMS. This bill is premature. Our government guarantees us that there are checks and balances in place to protect and address the needs and concerns of the general public. Where are they? Where is the EIS? Has anyone paid attention to the National Marine Fisheries Service or the EPA? Make O`ahu self-sufficient by developing the renewables on O`ahu first. Be sure that HECO can handle the power it hopes to harvest before you disrupt our ocean environment.

This bill seeks to make Hawai`i green when in reality the only greening that will occur is the greening of HECO and their numerous conspirators.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mauimarta@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:25:51 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Martha E. Martin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mauimarta@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Hawaii needs higher energy efficiency standards.
Each island has rooftops unused for solar panels
and windy spots to generate wind energy locally.
Long undersea cables leak and lose electricity and are accident prone from storms. Depending on a
cable is a risky plan for guaranteeing steady power. This cable plan doesn't use state tax money wisely
and practically.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mcatiel@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:35:54 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary E. Catiel
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mcatiel@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

We the people have no control over natural disasters in this world other than to alert citizens to seek protection if time allows. Please, consider this Bill a disaster waiting to happen, and just take a moment to decide for yourselves without the pressure of other senators. Just cease and desist and kill the bill. Remember...parents and grandparents will have to explain to the next generation why this SB was even considered.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mmccann02@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:25:19 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mary Hogan
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mmccann02@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: matthew.severns@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 4:23:25 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Matthew Severns
Organization: Individual
E-mail: matthew.severns@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Pleas defer until further cost analysis and environmental impact studies can be completed.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: roxannesarme@clear.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:29:27 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melvin Catiel
Organization: Individual
E-mail: roxannesarme@clear.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Why does the island of Lanai has to be desecrated to power the island of Oahu. The only person who will gain in this project is Mr. Murdock.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: shawdm@alum.urmc.rochester.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:16:51 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Shaw
Organization: Individual
E-mail: shawdm@alum.urmc.rochester.edu
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose this bill as at the very least premature. No EIS, no permits applied for, increase in HECO rates for Oahu ratepayers for a \$1 billion plus cable through a US Marine Sanctuary for a very inefficient energy plan. Typical Hawai'i operating procedures. Wake up!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: myradiver@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:13:08 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Myra Diver
Organization: Individual
E-mail: myradiver@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: njricco@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:44:19 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nancy Richerson
Organization: Individual
E-mail: njricco@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: stoked_r_us@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:18:31 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Narciso Lagmay
Organization: Individual
E-mail: stoked_r_us@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please defer this premature cable bill until more studies are done. The high voltage cable might negatively impact our marine eco system. Do not make hasty decisions just because everyone else does. Lean on your own understanding after hearing what the common individuals of Hawaii have to say about the high voltage undersea cable. I know of many people that oppose this cable, please listen to the people and not the rich corporations.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: nranis808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:40:45 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Noland Ranis
Organization: Individual
E-mail: nranis808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
Danger to the environment, waste of tax payer money!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: ncarismaui@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:15:26 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Norma Caris
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ncarismaui@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: papayas2@cox.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:31:46 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pat Jensen
Organization: Individual
E-mail: papayas2@cox.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: patriciablair@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:47:59 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Patricia Blair
Organization: Individual
E-mail: patriciablair@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
No EIS has been done for this proposal.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: philsherrie.osako@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:33:57 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Phil Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: philsherrie.osako@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: ccayan@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 1:13:29 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Phyllis Coochie Cayan
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ccayan@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Aloha kakou committee members: I am a sixth-generation descendant from the island of Lana'i. I currently reside on O'ahu and am opposed to this bill. This bill is premature as there are no permits for such a project. This bill is for a project that will impact a marine sanctuary. This bill is O'ahu-centered for alternative energy project that needs to be re-assessed on its impacts on the islands and oceans.

Please do not pass this bill that has more questions than answers for the people of Hawaii and will impact our natural resources negatively.

Mahalo for hearing my mana'o.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: piercemyers@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 2:30:13 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Pierce Myers
Organization: Individual
E-mail: piercemyers@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Please defer this bill - it is premature and much work needs to be done before any interisland cabeling is begun. What will be transmitted? By whom? For whom? At what \$ cost? At what environmental cost?

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: octopus@maui.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 6:59:34 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rene Umberger
Organization: Individual
E-mail: octopus@maui.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2012

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

BILL: SB 2785

Dear Senators:

SB2785, which would facilitate financing and construction for an interisland undersea cable, is seriously flawed legislation.

It is premature, opaque, would prove obscenely expensive for Hawaii's ratepayers and all taxpayers, while turning an indifferent eye to the fundamental foundation of Hawaiian culture: the social and environmental impact on its communities.

It is simply the wrong answer to the right question.

Hawaii must attain energy independence; that part of the proposed legislation is correct. But how does an undersea electric transmission cable linking us all together provide "...increased energy security"? Would it not in fact make us more vulnerable? Either by accident or design, any break or disruption to an interisland undersea cable would clearly endanger the energy security of us all.

This bill positions the proposed undersea cable as providing every island "with backup power." How will it do that, when none of the power produced by the intermittent wind plants proposed on Lana`i and Moloka`i stays on those islands? Are we seriously considering taking over and irreparably destroying a significant amount of our Neighbor Islands so that O`ahu has "backup" power? Is there no other solution to our energy challenges then turning Lana`i and Moloka`i into industrial batteries for O`ahu?

The preamble to SB2785 states that this inter-island undersea cable "has been identified as the most effective and efficient means" to get more large-scale renewables "into a stable grid environment[.]" Identified by whom? Where are studies to support this? [Note: unidentified "economic analyses" last session said Big Wind was the "cost-effective" way to meet energy goals in the first version of this bill, SB367.]

In truth, the entire process surrounding this cable has been opaque and riddled for years with hidden reports and documents, kept private by HECO and the administration.

Friends of Lana`i asked for the release of the tax-payer funded financial analysis of this project, prepared by Booz-Allen, for well over a year. Senator Roz Baker was assured by Department of Energy representatives at the beginning of last year's legislative session that it would be released no later than February, 2011. Today is February, 2012, and Senator Baker still hasn't seen it; no one has. HECO documents remain unavailable to the public eye. Costs are hidden. Deals made are hidden. This proposed legislation compounds that opacity; it does not provide the necessary transparency that should be the underpinning of our state's policy-making.

In fact, so much is unknown about this proposed cable that we urge lawmakers to defer SB2785. A Draft Programmatic EIS, initiated in 2010 and scheduled to have been released in December, 2011, has still not seen the light of day. **Not a single environmental impact statement has been completed or published; not a single permit has been applied for or issued.**

To further illustrate the prematurity of this bill, note that a draft request for proposal (RFP) released by Hawaiian Electric Corporation (HECO) in October, 2011, already seeks bids from cable providers, along with 200MW or more of renewable power for O`ahu. This RFP isn't likely to be released in its final form until March or April, and responses to it are not anticipated until well after this session is *sine die*, in August, 2012. It is possible that there will be sufficient bidders seeking to provide power on O`ahu, for O`ahu, that would render this legislation unnecessary.

Underneath the lofty words of purpose, this bill essentially benefits HECO's corporate structure. HECO cannot afford a project of this magnitude, due to its one-step-above-junk-bond-status, so as written, SB2785 simply exempts HECO from any and all risk in constructing this cable, guarantees that ratepayers cover the costs of the development of this cable, and assures their stockholders of a favorable method of accounting for this income.

The state cannot afford a project of this magnitude either, since it's essentially breaking even. So to whom do we turn to fund it? Make no mistake; it will be us.

But there is much, much more at stake with this legislation. This proposed undersea cable, and its partner, Big Wind on Lana`i, has caused an irreparable fracture in our community. Families are split. Friends are split. Animosity has reached the physical level, as threats have moved from verbal to physical. Intimidation is rampant. The owner of 98% of the island, mainland real estate developer David Murdock, unabashedly threatens to "close down" the island, even when his hotels are mortgaged and the only source of income to pay his debt. Rumors circulate that Lana`i's only hospital, a state owned and run facility, will close. We, the Lana`i community, have become pawns in an economic grab based on pure greed, not an effort to be self-sufficient.

And while we are appreciative of the intentions expressed in the amendment inserted by Senator Baker's Committee (CPN), as we have expressed to her and to Senator Gabbard, that language will actually be harmful to our community. Lana`i is already so stressed, so divided that SB2785 will only exacerbate the challenges of restoring harmony among our residents.

It does not matter whether Lana'i is taken over by 57 or 174 turbines, the intermittent energy created by these turbines would provide so little electricity to O'ahu as to make us all ask -- is the destruction of an island – physically, socially, and culturally -- worth it? I say NO.

This legislation, at this time, is premature and will prove dangerous to all our residents. The “regulatory scheme” it contemplates is just that: a “scheme” to insure profit to investor-owned entities. The State of Hawaii simply does not need this legislation this year.

And one last point: Many Senators say that SB2785 is really just about establishing a regulatory process “in case a cable is built.” Yet look no further than HB2145's first key “goal”: *Renewable energy production facilities that meet the goals of the first decade of the Hawaii clean energy initiative and facilitate the development of a smart grid system **and electrical interconnectivity between Oahu and the neighbor islands.*** [emphasis added]. There could be no clearer statement of intention than this.

Please kill this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Robin Kaye
Friends of Lana'i
P.O. Box 631739
Lana'i City, HI 96763
friendsoflanai@gmail.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Roseluvkau@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 11:32:19 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Roselani Kaho'ohalahala
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Roseluvkau@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

Keep the marine sanctuary a SANCTUARY. Don't let the cable harm and disturb the wildlife in it!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: roxannesarme@clear.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 7:31:23 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Roxanne Sarme-Chun
Organization: Individual
E-mail: roxannesarme@clear.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Attention: David Y. Ige, Chair

Opposition to SB 2785 SD1, Relating To Undersea Cable

Hearing: February 23, 2012, 9 a.m.

Aloha kakou:

I write to **OPPOSE** SB2785 SD1. The flaws that were evident in last session's attempt to rush through a regulatory structure for the development of an undersea cable (SB367) before the true costs -- both financial and environmental -- have been fully vetted, are equally evident in this year's attempt.

- SB2785 SD1 states that an interisland undersea cable "has been identified" as the "most effective" way to bring "utility-scale renewables" into a "stable grid environment," but does not say who "identified" it as such, nor provide studies supporting this contention.
- Until independently verifiable reliability standards have been established for the utility's operations, it is premature to commit to an obscenely expensive course of action that would bring unreliable, intermittent energy sources from the neighbor islands.
- Until reliable interconnectivity studies have been conducted, it is premature to dedicate resources to a billion dollar transmission line that could prove unnecessary.
- As was true of SB367, the provisions of SB2785 SD1 continue to favor a shareholder-owned corporation to the detriment of ratepayers.
- Even if the utility "elects" not to complete the contemplated on-island transmission infrastructure improvements, SB2785 SD1 continues to insulate corporation shareholders, but permits recovery of "all reasonable" costs incurred from ratepayers.
- This bill rushes to insure a favorable rate of return for potential private investors for a billion dollar transmission line before alternative on-island specific solutions have been fully explored.
- SB2785 SD1 states that an interisland undersea cable would allow all the islands to provide "each other with back-up power" but does not say how, nor does it require bi-directional energy flow, meaning those on the neighbor islands with smaller grids will remain stranded.
- SB2785 SD1 states that an interisland undersea cable would give us "increased energy security," but it does not explain how this cable would accomplish this; the 2006 earthquake that resulted in an island wide 36-hour loss of power on O`ahu left the island of Lana`i unaffected.

Please DEFER this bill. SB 367 was premature last session, and SB2785 SD1 is premature this session.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

Sally Kaye, Lana`i City

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: ahakea346@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 12:13:59 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: SAM DIMAYA
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ahakea346@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sammy_grennan@edwards.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:19:37 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sam Grennan
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sammy_grennan@edwards.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: aolani.kailihou@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:44:32 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Samantha Kailihou
Organization: Individual
E-mail: aolani.kailihou@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: zerbs2@comcast.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:20:37 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sandy Patel
Organization: Individual
E-mail: zerbs2@comcast.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sashalahela@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:38:10 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sasha Catiel
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sashalahela@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose this 100% It is dividing the community and will not be beneficial to the Island in any way.
There are other options to keep Lana'i Green.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: seamustgarry@eircom.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:54:46 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: seamus garry
Organization: Individual
E-mail: seamustgarry@eircom.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: preza@sandwichisles.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:10:21 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shelly Preza
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: salapa@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:47:57 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shirley Alapa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: salapa@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE the undersea cable, and the wind Turbines.

Oahu, you can ruin your own island, leave us alone. Heco and Meco, deal with it! You have not talked the needs of the island residents' needs, but lined your own pockets with high costs.

Shirley Alapa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: preza@sandwichisles.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 4:10:57 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Soon Yai Amaral
Organization: Individual
E-mail: preza@sandwichisles.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: skoanui@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:48:31 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stacie
Organization: Individual
E-mail: skoanui@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: fergie@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:12:24 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stephen
Organization: Individual
E-mail: fergie@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: susaaan@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:07:45 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Chew
Organization: Individual
E-mail: susaaan@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: susanosako@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 10:08:22 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Foraker Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: susanosako@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

This bill is premature. This bill will lay the groundwork for a high voltage cable that will go right through a whale sanctuary. Not a single EIS study has been done. If it is permitted in this unplanned, premature way, it will cost the taxpayers dearly....particularly the ones in your district. It will ultimately adversely affect and social services since it is so expensive and massive. If this cable is to be economical and eco friendly in the future then it cannot be shoved through in such a haphazard manner as this.....please put this bill on hold until we know we can do it right. Now is not the time.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: sosako@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:53:40 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sosako@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: suzieholtzman@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 5:55:01 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: suzie
Organization: Individual
E-mail: suzieholtzman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:
In opposition

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: tnosako@cox.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:36:57 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: T. Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tnosako@cox.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: bair6939@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 8:56:38 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: tai baird
Organization: Individual
E-mail: bair6939@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: teri.kalele.molokai@mac.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:43:03 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Taryn Waros
Organization: Individual
E-mail: teri.kalele.molokai@mac.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

Please consider all of the collateral costs associated with this project, not just what HECO would like you to believe. But, how can anyone even begin to asses the potential economic and environmental impacts without the appropriate studies? Why is the legislature in such a hurry to pass SB2785 when they can't even begin to gauge the overall impact?

As keiki o ka aina, we are raised with kuleana to make the right decisions for our aina, our mo'opuna and to be pono. Big Wind is not the right decision for our futures. Please Hawaii Nei, please, malama our aina and make responsible choices for truly renewable energy without the descecration of our natural resources.

As our elected leaders, I expect no less than visionary leadership from you folks. So please, take the time to do your own research and understand your indiidual kuleana to make the right decisions for the future of our island home and the generations to come. At this point you must understand that our choices in pursuing "alternative" or "green" or "renewable" energy MUST NOT BE at the expense of our natural resources; be it our land, sea, reefs and sanctuaries including the wildlife therein, our cultural history and current practices and our inherent identity, or entire individual islands and their people.

HOW CAN you seriously consider this bill NOW, without completely assessing the potential impacts and damages to our islands and communities? Where are the studies necessary to impartially measure environmental, economic and cultural impacts? Ask yourself, "Is this really the best way to achieve our goal of 70% less dependance on foreign fuel in our timeline, or might there be another, better way?" "Is it the most cost effective, least intrusive and most efficient way or is it really just a means to help some big corporations squeeze out every penny of the residents and taxpayers that we are paid to protect?" "What really is our intention here?" Please be honest in your assessment and visionary in your answers. Please consider all of the potential collateral damage that this proposed bill represents.

Ask yourself this, "If this really is such a good idea, why are my family and neighbors being asked to carry the risk of financially supporting this endeavor?" "Would it not be wiser to support them in finding means to produce their own energy, manage their consumption and take are of their environment?"

If after all of this reflection and consideration, you truly believe that this inter-island cable is ultimately necessary for the future benefit of our islands and citizens, well then, make the only right decision in making the profiteers take on the financial risk of this fiasco, not the people sacrificing. Believe me, if you stick up for your constituents, they will be grateful.

Mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: tosako@cox.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:32:47 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tilden Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tosako@cox.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mcatiel@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:22:08 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Timothy Catiel Sr.
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mcatiel@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

With no EIS, how can you dare interfere with the whale migration practice, thereby possibly changing a lifetime of natural instinct, not only harming the whales but harming the precious visitor industry, which supports this state?

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Chubacha@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 12:41:30 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tom holloman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Chubacha@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Uistokes@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 7:40:39 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Uilani Stokes
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Uistokes@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

I oppose SB2785! This is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer money that will destroy the land and sea, further erasing the culture and history of native Hawaiians. O`ahu needs to be held accountable for its excessive use of energy and needs to reduce, reuse and recycle before turning to the other Counties for its energy needs!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: osako@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 9:36:20 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Warren Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: osako@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 2/21/2012

Comments:

I oppose the interisland cable bill. The cost is too high and will be passed on to the ratepayers. With all the hype, there has been no concrete proof that wind generated energy has reduced imported oil use in Hawaii or any where else.

From: [Ed Wagner](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: Comments on SB2752, SB2785, SB2787 2/23/2012 9:00 AM
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2012 11:07:50 PM

Senator Kidani, Senator Ige,

Please explain why these bills aren't just another example of how HECO was going to rip off the ratepayers for a half billion dollars over 20 years in an **open-ended surcharge** on our electric bills last year if the PUC did not reject its biofuel application with Aina Koa Pono, Docket # 2011-0005?

What is your definition of an adjustable surcharge? It sounds like another open-ended surcharge like the one above. Has the bill been amended appropriately?

This bill looks like more of the same sock it to the ratepayers to impoverish more Hawaii families just so HECO can continue to increase profits by squeezing ratepayers more and more, trying to get blood out of a stone to maintain its profits at our expense. What is wrong with allowing big business to fund its own projects with the help of investors?

The grassroots movement to end the HECO 100 year old monopoly is growing stronger every day so please start supporting the people of Hawaii instead of the Big Bad Wolf. Washington is watching closely now and waiting for the right moment to jump in and help us oust our false energy god and free its hostages from its manipulation and control of our electric rates and our energy future.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iF-cWfubFao>

[HECO Taken to Task by Hawaii Resident's Complaint to Federal Trade Commission](#)

[Hawaii Deregulation Bill Seeks to End HECO's Monopoly](#)

[MECO Denies Maui Resident Small Solar Power Connection](#)

[Proposed Federal Trade Commission Complaint Against Hawaiian Electric](#)

[HELCO Blames Solar Users for Latest Rate Hike](#)

SB2752

.52 69 - Power purchase agreements; cost recovery for electric utilities.

All power purchase costs, including costs related to capacity, operations and maintenance, and other costs that are incurred by an electric utility company, arising out of power purchase agreements that have been approved by the public utilities commission and are binding obligations on the electric utility company, **shall be allowed to be recovered by the utility from the customer base of the electric utility company through one or more adjustable surcharges**, which shall be established by the Public utilities commission.

SBN2785

More surcharges to

SB2787

More of the same impoverishment of more Hawaii families to support HECO's lust for more and more money, power, manipulation, and control over politicians, businesses, and our future.

Sincerely,

Ed Wagner
Mililani

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: toolohana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2785 on 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 8:47:42 AM
Attachments: [comments on cable bill.odt](#)

Testimony for WAM 2/23/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2785

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kanohowailuku Helm
Organization: I Aloha Molokai
E-mail: toolohana@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

Aloha Senators. We are filing these comments on behalf of the 700 plus members of IAM or I Aloha Molokai. We are a community based organization formed to oppose the Governor's Big Wind initiative of last year.

In our view, this revision of last year's cable bill is a definite improvement. We appreciate the effort to set Big Wind to one side and to respect the wishes of the residents of Molokai and Lanai. We also appreciate the effort to insure greater regulatory oversight over HECO, the contractors, and the cable project. Finally, we appreciate the effort to consider the needs of all the islands, and not just those of Oahu. These are all steps in the right direction and we applaud the bill's sponsors for taking them.

We are still troubled by three issues. First, this bill assumes that connecting the islands by cable is (a) affordable, (b) cost-effective and (c) will not entail irreparable or unacceptable damage to reefs, fisheries and marine life. These issues seem at present poorly researched and the answers unknown. Just the depth and length of the cable routes, for example, makes any cost estimate seem like a wild guess. If the legislature is privy to studies and testing which allay these concerns, then it should make that information available to the public.

Second, this bill still contains too much of a HECO bailout for our tastes. We understand that compensation needs to be reasonable for all parties. We object, however, to HECO having its cake and eating it too. If our utility is to remain a for-profit private corporation, then it needs to assume reasonable risk; if it wants to be insulated from risk, then it should be transformed into a public agency. Our fear is that we will spend all this money, commit generations of ratepayers to extra charges, and yet still find at the end of the day that HECO lacks the infrastructure, the expertise, and above all the corporate discipline, to make it all work. Our recommendation is: Fix HECO first.

Third, aren't we taking an unnecessary risk by putting all our eggs in one basket? If we are all one grid and the cable snaps, then we are all in the dark together. Preserving some measure of island autonomy – and hence system redundancy -- seems simple prudence.

We on Molokai are not alone in wondering why an island by island approach to energy wouldn't be much better for the ratepayers, the state budget and the environment. Of course, systems have to be redesigned as population grows. But the current push for “one big grid of renewables” seems to be coming not from a sober evaluation of Hawaii's past experience and present needs but from a vague sense of crisis. Have we carefully thought through the best energy plan for Hawaii, or are we reacting emotionally to global warming and instability in the Middle East? Careful planning takes patience; panic guarantees only regret.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kanohowailuku Helm, President
I ALOHA MOLOKAI