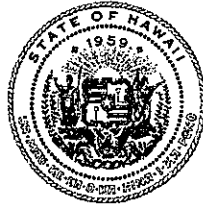


SB3056

Provides that the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission shall be subject to the oversight of the department of land and natural resources.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND AND HOUSING**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2012
1:45 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3056
RELATING TO THE KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

Senate Bill 3056 proposes to place the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission under the oversight of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). The Department takes no position on this measure.

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve was created as a cultural reserve to held in trust until a Native Hawaiian Governing Entity is created and at that time it would be transfered to the newly created entity. Last year the Legislature passed a bill (Signed into law as Act 195, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011) to begin the recognition process of this new entity. It would be premature to transfer the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve to the Department while this process is occuring.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



SB3056
RELATING TO THE KAHOOLOWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing

February 14, 2012

1:45 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **OPPOSES** SB3056, which would subject the Kaho’olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the oversight of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

In 1993, the Legislature established KIRC as a separate state entity to rehabilitate and manage Kaho’olawe Island Reserve and to serve as a steward for the island until this cultural resource could be transferred to “the sovereign native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the United States and the State of Hawaii.” (§6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.) §6K-4 expressly authorizes KIRC to oversee the state’s management and control of the reserve. SB3056 would turn the original intent of Chapter 6K on its head and would strip management oversight for the island from the entity that has successfully cared for the island for nearly 20 years. KIRC should continue to control and manage Kaho’olawe as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Native Hawaiian governing entity until the island can be transferred to the entity.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to HOLD SB3056. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885
Website: <http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov>

COMMISSION MEMBERS

MICHELE MCLEAN
Chairperson
AMBER NĀMAKA WHITEHEAD
Vice-Chair

WILLIAM J. AILA, Jr.
N. EMMETT ALULI, M.D.
C. KALIKO BAKER
COLETTE Y. MACHADO
KA'IULANI MURPHY

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPĪ
Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on
Water, Land, and Housing

Tuesday, February 14, 2012
1:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3056
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

SB3056 makes the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) subject to the oversight of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The KIRC is scheduled to take a formal position on this measure at a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012. The Commission is unable to provide a formal position in support or in opposition of this measure at this time.

However, at a prior meeting on December 15, 2011, the KIRC considered SB816, SD1, which would dedicate a portion of conveyance tax revenue to the KIRC; this bill also contains provisions that are identical to SB3056 relating to DLNR oversight of the KIRC. KIRC formally voted to support the conveyance tax provisions of SB816, SD1 and to oppose its DLNR oversight provisions.

Once taking a formal position on SB3056, the KIRC will be prepared to provide testimony at any future hearings.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 1:32 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: ckhelm2@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Corene Helm
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ckhelm2@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:
Aloha,

My name is Corene Helm from Ho'olehua, Moloka'i and I oppose this Bill SB3056. I do not agree that DLNR should take management of the island. Mahalo - Corene Helm

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 1:19 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: 2kahaualea@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Kylee P. Mar
Organization: Individual
E-mail: 2kahaualea@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Aloha,
I oppose SB3056.
Kaho'olawe was set aside for a future purpose. This bill will tuck it into a department already strapped for resources and will remove the special designation as set by the Legislature in 1993. Management by the KIRC with input via a designated DLNR seat on the Commission is adequate and should remain as such.
Mahalo,
Kylee P. Mar

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 1:46 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: naluli@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM
Attachments: Aluli_Oppose_SB3056.pages

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Noa Emmett Aluli
Organization: Individual
E-mail: naluli@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 1:38 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: anahakirecords@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kanohowailuku Helm
Organization: IAM
E-mail: anahakirecords@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

For the record, I am in opposition to Kahoolawe being managed by the DLNR. mahalo -
Kanohowailuku Helm

February 13, 2012

Aloha,

My name is Derek Kekaulike Mar. I am an active member of the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana (PKO) for over 15 years, a former Natural Resource Specialist for the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for 5 years and a Native Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner. I am writing in opposition to SB 3056.

The KIRC is already administratively attached to the DLNR as a special commission. As such the KIRC is mandated to follow all DLNR rules and regulations for management, procurement, HR policies etc. required under the State of Hawaii.

SB 3056 is clearly unjustified and unwarranted, unless of course, it is the specific intent of the authors of this bill to disregard the work of their predecessors by putting aside the original intent in the establishment of the KIRC as a special commission administratively attached to the DLNR.

If the introduction of SB3056 was not bad enough, the passage of this bill by this committee would further insult an already damaged people and erode the inherently daunting process to regain sovereignty and return native lands to a sovereign Native Hawaiian entity. It would be a reversal to the momentum of Native Hawaiian issues currently on the table, due in large part to the considerable work that this Legislature has previously accomplished last session to further the causes of Native Hawaiians.

Please kill SB3056.

Thank you for your consideration,

Derek Kekaulike Mar

4348 Waialae Avenue #679

Honolulu, HI 96816

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 11:02 AM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: brutusluv@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Blake La Benz
Organization: Individual
E-mail: brutusluv@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:
OPPOSE!

Written Testimony Presented
to the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm

By
_Stacy Helm Crivello
1056 Hoawa Rd., Kalamaula, Molokai 96748
(808-560-1007) 3056

IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, My name is Stacy Helm Crivello and I am a supporter of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana . Thank you for affording me the opportunity to submit my written testimony to you today in strong opposition to SB 3056, which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Governor John Waihee 's testimony in opposition to SB609 on February 15, 2011 was a unique historical perspective on the return of Kahoolawe to the Hawaiian people. I appreciate Governor Waihee's efforts to remind our legislators that the fight for the return of Kahoolawe involved sacrifices and separation by loss of lives - sons of Hawaii, George Helm and Kimo Mitchell. Sacrifice and separation by incarceration - Walter Ritte and Richard Sawyer. Sacrifices continued with years of unselfish commitment by individuals and the PKO - Dr. Emmett Aluli, Davianna McGregor, Colette Machado and other activists who accepted the responsibility to focus on a legitimate course for the return of this wounded island. Aloha 'Aina became the 'ohana's guiding philosophical principle. Upon return of Kahoolawe, the Protect Kahoolawe `Ohana and the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) accepted their role as guardians and healers in trust.

As Hawaii's policymakers, it is my hope you will reflect on the storehouse of Kahoolawe's history. The past causes the present, and so the future ~ we have to look at factors that took shape earlier to understand the evolution.

Written Testimony Opposing SB 3056
Stacy Helm Crivello
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
February 14, 2012

Kahoolawe's land and native ecosystem suffered a long history of abuse - habitat degradation and years of excessive bombing. Upon return of Kahoolawe, KIRC was put in charge of restoring the island. KIRC's works include reforestation and erosion control projects; emphasis on native Hawaiian cultural values; environmental restoration; ocean management; education and historic preservation; natural resource management; cultural site stabilization; archaeological inventory; and access & risk management plan. Volunteers with KIRC assist with the implementation of ongoing efforts to heal and restore Kahoolawe.

Kahoolawe is the catalyst for our Hawaiian nation. "Kahoolawe is the piko of Hawaiian Sovereignty - a place where the culture will continue to be seeded and grow"(Dr. Aluli). DLNR is not the designated protector of Kahoolawe. The introduction of SB 3056 erodes the original intent of the 1993 State Legislature's intent of establishing KIRC as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Kahoolawe whispers past quotes from George Helm during his efforts to return Kahoolawe to Hawaii nei. ~"We are motivated to pursue the action of protecting whatever is left of our culture and very basically, it is simple. The culture exists only if life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness; that belongs to my ancestors." "Protect the remnants of our culture ~ the culture cannot exist without the lands." KIRC and PKO are taking care of the lands - Aloha 'Aina. Please defeat SB 3056.

Submitted by: Stacy Helm Crivello

Tabatha Donley
809 Ramage Street
Honolulu, HI 96818
(808) 218-0627

Relating to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission
February 12, 2012

Testimony of Tabatha Donley
regarding Senate Bill 3056

Aloha Mr. Dela Cruz and members of the Water Land and Housing committee,

My name is Tabatha Donley. I am a junior at Moanalua High School. I appreciate the opportunity to address you today on Senate Bill 3056. I am strongly opposed to the management of Kaho'olawe being transferred from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DNLN) as required by this bill.

Last summer, I had the opportunity to venture to Kaho'olawe with the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana (PKO), resulting in a life-changing experience. I learned a myriad about Hawai'ian language, history, and culture – something that could never be taught through mere images or books. The strenuous hikes around the island, traditional Hawai'ian ceremonies, and daily chants will forever remain in my heart. Most notably, I was amazed at the restoration work going on around the island; I could see the efficient job KIRC and PKO had done, whether it was native planting, invasive species removal, or trail maintenance. I was thrilled to be a part of these conservation efforts, and still feel extremely rewarded.

Kaho'olawe belongs to the Hawai'ian Nation. By transferring management to DNLN, the original intent of the 1993 legislature – which established the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity – gets eroded.

SB 3056 will incorporate the island under the DNLN to be managed like other state lands under DNLN. Thus, this divine island will no longer have its own separate, special and unique management as a culture reserve – future dwellers on Kaho'olawe will not have the chance to live through an authentic Hawai'ian cultural experience.

This Senate Bill also dissolves the KIR as a trust for the Hawai'ian Nation, which contributes to a diminishing Hawai'ian culture. SB 3056 is only a step backward for the re-establishment of the sovereign Native Hawai'ian governing entity.

Please honor and protect the trust established by predecessors. I respectfully urge the Water, Land and Housing Committee Senators to protect the trust established by our predecessors in 1993 to Nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi. Please defeat SB 3506 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Mahalo.

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm

By
Adolph Helm

IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3056
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, aloha! My name is Adolph Helm and I am a member/supporter of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today in strong opposition to SB3056 which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

I first touched the island of Kaho'owlawe in 1977 two days after we got word our brother George disappeared. In the same year I also spent two weeks walking the perimeter of the island seeing the beauty and devastation inundated with numerous cultural sites of our ancestors reminiscent of the pass. After those two weeks I would return 30 years later.

Thanks to KIRC who help make the arrangements the Helm Ohana (50 plus family members) spent 4 days in September 2008 visiting the island. The experience was quite educational as well as spiritual. Evident was the many positive changes I saw from the restoration of historical sites to native reforestation projects to authentic halau complexes. Also noticeable was the Aloha spirit in the work KIRC has done over the years to turn around an island devastated by mankind's injustice. Our family is very grateful to those who started KIRC and continue the work to heal the island and to provide opportunities for others to contribute to that process as well. In addition KIRC has provided numerous opportunities for our younger generation to discover their culture and the spirit of "Aloha Aina".

Kaho'olawe today is a special and unique cultural reserve. SB 3056 could potentially erode and destroy the original intent and purpose to preserve this island as a separate special cultural reserve and trust. Transferring control and management of the KIRC to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) goes against the original intent of the legislature and would result in the DLNR managing Kaho'olawe like other state lands. The transfer of control and management under the DLNR is not in the best interest of the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to oppose passing SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of Kaho'olawe by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust.

Aloha and Mahalo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm

By

Dr. Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor
IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506

RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, aloha! My name is Dr. Davianna Pōmaka'i McGregor and I am a member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today in strong opposition to SB3056 which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

I ask you to please reflect upon the action of your predecessors in the 1993 legislative session. They took the bold step to set up the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve (KIR) as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. Passage of SB 3506 which would transfer control and management of the KIR to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) would go against the original intent of the law that they passed, HRS 6-K.

You may recall that last year, in a joint hearing of your committee with the Hawaiian Affairs committee, that former Governor John Waihe'e stated that Kaho'olawe was not incorporated into the DLNR so that it could be managed separately by a special commission as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation. He stated, "so this property was not placed back into the DLNR inventory, it was set aside with a special commission to say that it actually belonged to the Hawaiian Nation. You can talk about it coming back to the state of Hawai'i, but it was specifically set aside by the people of this state, by their elected representatives, as the first piece of sovereign soil."

SB 3056 would

- take the power to control and manage the island as a special cultural reserve away from the special commission (KIRC) that was set up to manage the island for the Hawaiian Nation.
- incorporate the island under the DLNR to be managed like other state lands under DLNR. The island will no longer have its own separate, special and unique management as a cultural reserve.
- will, in effect, dissolve the KIR as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.

The passage of Act 195 and the leadership of the Native Hawaiian Roll Call Commission moves us closer to the re-establishment of the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing entity and the transfer of the control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve to that entity. The transfer of control and management under the DLNR is a step backward from this timely process.

I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors in 1993 to Nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi. Please defeat SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Mahalo and Aloha 'Āina

Kaho‘olawe was Set Up as a Separate and Special Cultural Trust for the Hawaiian Nation: In testimony on 2/12/2011, former Governor John Waihe‘e described the trusteeship that he and the legislature established for Kaho‘olawe: "so this property was not placed back into the DLNR inventory, it was set aside with a special commission to say that it actually belonged to the Hawaiian Nation. You can talk about it coming back to the State of Hawai‘i, but it was specifically set aside by the people of this state, by their elected representatives, as the FIRST piece of sovereign soil."

SB 3056:

1. Erodes Original Intent: In 1993, the Hawai‘i State Legislature set up the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve (KIR) as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. Transferring control and management of the KIR to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) goes against the original intent of the legislature.

2. Takes Away Special Management for the Hawaiian Nation: SB 3056 will take the power to control and manage the island as a special cultural reserve away from the special commission (KIRC) that was set up to manage the island for the Hawaiian Nation.


3. Takes Away Separate Status: SB 3056 will incorporate the island under the DLNR to be managed like other state lands under DLNR. The island will no longer have its own separate, special and unique management as a cultural reserve.

4. Dissolves Trust: SB 3056 will, in effect, dissolve the KIR as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.

5. Takes Steps Backward from the Transfer to Sovereign Hawaiian Governing Entity: Act 195 and the Native Hawaiian Roll Call Commission moves us closer to the re-establishment of the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing commission and the transfer of the control and management of the KIR to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. The transfer of control and management under the DLNR is a step **backward** from this timely process.

6. Please Honor and Protect the Trust Established by Predecessors: I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors in 1993 to Nā Kānaka ‘Ōiwi. Please defeat SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Aloha ‘Āina,
Leimomi Wheeler
Kea‘au, HI


From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 7:58 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: keonimay@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keoni Ronald May
Organization: Individual
E-mail: keonimay@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

Greetings, to all of the Honorably elected Public Officials, of the State of Hawaii.

I was one of the original supporters, of the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana, during the 1970s. At that time, I was a returning Viet Nam veteran & Hawaiian, attending the UH under the GI Bill.

The first issue, on our agenda, was to stop the bombing of the island. That was achieved.

Subsequently, the island came under the care-custody-control of the KIRC, with the intent, to eventually become part of the Hawaiian Nation. The island was never transferred to the care-custody-control of the Hawaiian Nation. However, it was held, in a cultural trust.

It is now being considered, to be transferred, to the care-custody-control of the DLNR. This transfer was not the original intent and the island will become another State of Hawaii property. Another added legal process, will have to take place, so that it can be transferred, to the Hawaiian Nation.

Was the transfer of the island from the KIRC, to the DLNR, an imminent necessity, or, was it to create more legal hurdles, for the Hawaiian Nation?

I strongly believe, that the status quo is a wiser decision, at this point in time.

Sincere Regards,
Keoni Ronald May

February 14, 2012

Testimony in opposition to S.B. 3056, to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve to the DLNR.

Aloha Committee Members,

I submit this testimony in opposition of S.B. 3056, as stated above.

To transfer management of Kaho'olawe away from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve and place it under a State agency directly violates the spirit and intent of the 1993 Hawai'i State Legislature, yet there does not appear to be a clear purpose for why this proposal is necessary.

I respectfully urge the members of the Senate Committee to work with the Native Hawaiian community to resolve whatever issues it may have with KIR before considering this measure. SB 3056 is a direct blow to the efforts of the Native Hawaiian people who are working to re-establish a sovereign Native Hawaiian governing entity and I do not believe that is the intent of this committee.

Mahalo and Aloha 'Āina,

Lurline Wailana McGregor

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 1:50 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: jkkahoon@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jesse Kahoonei
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jkkahoon@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/12/2012

Comments:

The work that KIRC has put into reviving and protecting the Island of Kahoolawe should be acknowledged and respected. The control and management of Kahoolawe should be left with the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 9:30 AM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: anelamarie@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anela Evans
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anelamarie@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Hearing of SB 3506 February 14th, 2012
Written testimony in opposition of SB 3506

Aloha Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Soloman and members of the Senate
Committee on Water, Land and Housing

I am on Kauai and appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony to the hearing of SB 3506. It is my understanding that this Bill seeks to transfer control of Kaho'olawe from the State's KIRC to the DNLR and I am writing in strong opposition. I viewed Governor Waihee's testimony last year and agree that this proposed legislation completely changes the status of Kaho'olawe. That the state legislature on behalf of the people they represented have recognized the unique and sacred role that Kaho'olawe plays as the piko of Hawaiian culture. It set for the island in 1993 a clear intention as the first piece of sovereign land to be returned. The KIRC was set up as a separate commission to steward this land on behalf of the state and ease the transition from the military through its efforts of reforestation and marine resource management. The vision and purpose of the island as a cultural reserve requires a unique and challenging management. This will be compromised or lost if managed with other state lands that are held with other intentions. What is unquestionably most troubling is that the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve will be taken out of trust from the Hawaiian people who have had more than enough taken already.

I have been involved on Kaho'olawe from 1991 and have witnessed many changes, from the stopping of the bombing to the ordinance cleanup and have spent time both in the KIRC base as well as with many groups with the PKO. What both groups through their best efforts are doing in essence is helping heal a land and a people. Through their work the lives of countless volunteers and groups touched by the history and horrors that the island suffered have found hope in renewal. This is the purpose of a cultural reserve at its highest and to take the island off of this path takes the gift of it from our children and future. I work hand in hand with the DNLR with another stewardship group here on Kaua'i and know at this time they are stretched to meet the needs of the community caring for land that isn't intended for such a profoundly meaningful part of a peoples healing. To hand over the steering paddle to anyone at this time is questionable, to take it away from those who have committed themselves to understanding the vessels unique qualities, design and potential and who are linked directly to the cultural, family and spiritual ties, is unfathomable.

I am compelled speak out today because this decision is truly of great importance and consequence, reflecting the sacrifice of life and freedoms that leaders so much greater than I have offered. I humbly ask you to pause and looked deeply into your hearts, to listen to the quiet voice that is Kaho'olawe, which as a center for navigation clearly offers us the course and direction that will best serve the healing of a people. May our children all grow strong and connected here, nourished by the gifts of a land held in trust and righteousness. Please take the steps to stop this bill now.

Submitted by
Kelvin Ho

PO Box 769,
Lawai, Hawaii 96765

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm
By

Jonathan Kainoa Pestana

IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

E nā makamaka kūpa'a ma hope o ka 'āina aloha, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, Aloha mai! I am Jonathan Kainoa Pestana, a native Hawaiian and also a member of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana . Mahalo for the opportunity to testify before you today in strong opposition to SB3056 which aims to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

- By transferring control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve (KIR) to the DLNR, it goes against what the legislature had originally designed the KIR for. Kanaloa Island was set aside to be taken care of as a cultural reserve for the Hawaiian people. Transferring control does nothing to keep the spiritual and cultural function and integrity of the island in tact.
- This bill will only destroy what the Hawaiian people and nation have been trying very hard to do for many decades. To keep the sacred energy and function of Kanaloa (Kaho'olawe) alive and thriving.
- Transfer of control will throw the work done by many Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians alike to the side like trash. Many hands and generations have worked very hard to achieve the status and sovereignty of Kanaloa island. This will all be disregarded if this evil bill is to be selfishly passed.
- Former Gov. John Waihe'e and others have also testified on February 12, 2011 that Kaho'olawe is to be managed separately by a special commission as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.
- Transfer of control will take back the many years and many steps of progress taken by supporters of Kanaloa and the sovereign Hawaiian government. It will strip us of what belongs to the Hawaiian land and native Hawaiian people. Kanaloa deserves to be free. E MAU ke EA of ka 'Āina I ka PONO. Mau-Forever, Ea-sovereignty, 'Āina-the land that nourishes our bodies and spirits, PONO-righteous, moral, proper, correct and proper procedure. Let the sovereignty of our life giving lands forever have its sovereignty through a moral and righteous manner!

I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors in 1993 to Nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi. Please defeat SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Me ke kūpa'a mau ma hope o ka 'āina aloha,
Jonathan Kainoa Pestana

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm

By
Jenna Ishii

IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing, aloha! My name is Jenna Ishii and I am a member/supporter of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today in strong opposition to SB3056 which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

- In 1993, the Hawai'i State Legislature set up the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve (KIR) as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. Transferring control and management of the KIR to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) goes against the original intent of the legislature.
- Former Governor John Waihe'e, in testimony before your committee on February 12, 2011 stated that Kaho'olawe was not incorporated into the DLNR so that it could be managed separately by a special commission as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.
- SB 3056 will take the power to control and manage the island as a special cultural reserve away from the special commission (KIRC) that was set up to manage the island for the Hawaiian Nation.
- SB 3056 will incorporate the island under the DLNR to be managed like other state lands under DLNR. The island will no longer have its own separate, special and unique management as a cultural reserve.
- SB 3056 will, in effect, dissolve the KIRC as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.
- Act 195 and the Native Hawaiian Roll Call Commission move us closer to the re-establishment of the sovereign Native Hawaiian governing commission and the transfer of the control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. The transfer of control and management under the DLNR is a step backward from this timely process.
- I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors in 1993 to Nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi. Please defeat SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.
- Mahalo and Aloha 'Āina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 9:01 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: kekahunakeaweiwi@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Foster Among
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kekahunakeaweiwi@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

I oppose SB3056 which if passed into law, shall perpetuate the alienation and disenfranchisement of native Hawaiians of their lawful and legal rights to lands, resources and national identity.

It appears SB3056 intends to marginalize the lineal families and their supporters of Kahoolawe of authority and inclusion in/of any and all future decision/policy making in spite of the many (20+) years of aloha, kokua, cooperation and sacrifices made for KIRC, DLNR and the State of Hawaii et al.

I oppose SB3056 and all "interlopers" of Kahoolawe a me Ka Pae Aina.

I'm testifying in support of SB2207 and the testimony being submitted by the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. My family and I have been ranching since 1990 on a State lease that was affected by an easement and finally the withdrawal of 30% of our lease as a result of the Palila Mitigation plan that was required due to the realignment of the Saddle Road. This easement/withdrawal resulted in a significant financial loss to our ranching business and my family's welfare including the education of my children. That taking results in \$250,000 loss of our investment. The only compensation offered, if we qualified, amounted to maybe up to \$20,000 by the Federal Highways Administration for moving expenses. We did not consider that fair compensation and I don't know anyone who would.

That ranch is our family's second and third job, which like so many others that live in this state is required to be able to continue living here, at home in Hawaii. This was our means of investing in our family's future. We invested in ourselves, using our knowledge and our hard work to provide for the future education of our children and if successful something left to help with retirement. Our children spent most of their spare time contributing to making this ranch work with the promise that their hard work would pay off when it came time to pay for their college education. The many days that their friends spent at the beach or at the movies they spent working right next to us on the ranch. Hot or cold, in the dust or pouring rain, it did not matter. My wife, my sons and I not only put financial investment, but also most of our lives into running this ranch and trying to get it done the right way, for the land, for the animals we raise and to provide wholesome food for the multiple markets we participate in.

Despite losing 1/3 of our investment and all the time and headache involved fighting for fair compensation because of that taking it still has been a tremendous experience and privilege to be able to work on the land and understand what it takes to produce food. It certainly makes me aware every day how hard other farmers and ranchers have to work, all the battles they face from nature, the economy and sometimes even their own government to provide food for others.

I am asking you to support this bill and not let this happen again. Don't make another farmer or rancher have to explain to their children why, because of the action of the government, all their hard work and struggles were for naught.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 11:30 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: Karenpoepoe@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mac Poepoe
Organization: Hui Malama o Moloka'i
E-mail: Karenpoepoe@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

The management of Kahoolawe needs to be in the hands of those who know best how to do so, with the cultural sensitivity and long association required to fully understand the needs and requirements of traditional best practices for resource protection. To give this responsibility to the care of a state agency tasked with many other Duties and concerns is irresponsible. As the resource manager/ konohiki of a large, remote portion of Moloka'i that shares very similar needs and attributes, I can speak as one who has worked with community in an effort to revitalize the Mo'omomi area. The Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission is much more suited to the task of realizing a successful outcome, and it is their kuleana to do so. Please consider this vital recommendation that I am making, to allow the KIRC to continue as sole managers of Kahoolawe Island.

Managed to revitalize the natural resources of Mo'omomi. The

Aloha mai e ke po'o o ia komike ho'i,

He mana'o ko'u e haku i ia leka ho'omana'o e pane e KU'E i ka pila SB3056. He mea maika'i 'ole keia pila, 'a'ole kupo no ho'i. Ke oluolu e koho balota maika'i, a e ho'ike i kou mau hoa i ka 'Aha'olelo Kanawai i ke alahahele pololei e paepae no ho'i i na 'o'iwi i neia pae'aina 'o Hawai'i.

I oppose SB3056

Kaho'olawe Was Set Up as Separate Special Cultural Trust for the Hawaiian Nation: Former Governor John Waihe'e described the trusteeship that he and the legislature established for Kaho'olawe, *"so this property was not placed back into the DLNR inventory, it was set aside with a special commission to say that it actually belonged to the Hawaiian Nation. You can talk about it coming back to the state of Hawai'i, but it was specifically set aside by the people of this state, by their elected representatives, as the first piece of sovereign soil."*

SB3056 Erodes the Original Intent of what the Hawai'i State

Legislature set up in 1993: The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve (KIR) was set up as a separate cultural reserve and trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. Transferring control and management of the KIR to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) goes against the original intent of the legislature.

SB3056 Takes Away Special Management for the Hawaiian

Nation: SB 3056 will take the power to control and manage the island as a special cultural reserve away from the special commission (KIRC) that was set up to manage the island for the Hawaiian Nation.

SB3056 Takes Away Separate Status: SB 3056 will incorporate the island under the DLNR to be managed like other state lands under

DLNR. The island will no longer have its own separate, special and unique management as a cultural reserve.

SB3056 Dissolves Trust: SB 3056 will, in effect, dissolve the KIR as a trust for the Hawaiian Nation.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 4:52 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: pokaiuli@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Leslie Aipalena Kuloloio
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pokaiuli@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

To Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing Written Testimony Opposing SB 3056 From Uncle Leslie Aipalena Kuloloio

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of my Kuloloi'a lineage, and the Alaea 'Ohana O Honua'ula (the Alaea family), Ancestral and Generational Families of Kanaio, Kaloi, Kaunuahane, Papaka Kai, Papaka Uka, Ulupalakua (Pu'u Mahoe, Pu'u Makua), Kualapa, Kanahena, Onau, Moomuku, Mooloa, Mooiki, Maluaka, Kaeo, Papaanui (Poolenalena, Paipu, Aawa, Makena), Waipao, Kalihi, Keauhou, Palauea, Paeahu.

* Kai O Keoneoio, Kai O Ahihi, Alalakeiki, Kai O Palauea, Alanuihaha, Maui, Molokini, and Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

* John (k) and Kamaka Kukahiko (w) family ~ Makena Landing ~ home of Awaloa (k) ~ Moloa Kukahiko (w) ~ (Awaloa, also recognized and known as the "Kaho'olawe Man")

* John Kauwekane Kukahiko (contributed the ancestral place names of Kaho'olawe) ~ the Daniel Kahaulelio Ohana.

* Na Kupuna Lawai'a Wale No.

I oppose SB 3056 because it does not recognize the following ancestral and generational knowledge:

* Ka 'Ike Ku'una o Na Kupuna Alaea o Honua'ula

* Ancestral and generational knowledge embraces the physical geography which deals with the world in the present stage of its existence. The Kumulipo considers the relationship and machinery which makes day and night, seedtime and harvest; which lifts the vapor from the sea, forms clouds and waters the earth; which clothes the land with verdure and cheers it with warmth; or covers it with snow and ice. This Moku System (physical geography), moreover, treats of the Na Aumakua (agents) that cause(s) the wonderful circulation of waters in the sea; that diversify Na Moku 'Aina (continents, atolls, volcanic islands) with mountains, hills, plains, valleys, and kaha (embellish) the landscape with rivers and lakes. This ancestral and generational knowledge teaches us to nana i ke kumu the views of the earth—papa (its surface), na wai (its waters), and na lani (its enveloping atmosphere)—as the scene of

Ke Komo (operation) of the great physical and creative forces, which by their united action (ke komo) render possible the life of plants and animals; and studies the Ola (life) of the globe, both terrestrial and aquatic, noting particularly the circumstances which are favorable or adverse to its development.

I support the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana opposing SB 3056.

I oppose Kanaloa Kaho'olawe being managed under the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

It is time to support the collaborative and transitional processes and procedures which the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana has maintained and struggled to Aloha Aina this land trust for 33 years.

I support that Kanaloa Kaho'olawe remain as a Sacred Native Hawaiian Land Trust.

It is time for everyone to upena maka, begin at "the eye of the net" to ku'i and heiau the new beginning ~ Ua ka'a ka hana kuleana o Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

And finally it is time: Kanaloa Kaho'olawe is ready to be the birthing child under the jurisdiction of a Hawaiian nation.

Therefore I ask that the Committee on Water, Land and Housing oppose SB 3056.

Mahalo nui loa, O wau me ka ha'aha'a
Aloha Ke Akua
Imua 'o Kaho'olawe

Uncle Les Kuloloio

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2012 4:51 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: annchoo@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3056 on 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/14/2012 1:45:00 PM SB3056

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: ANN IHILANI CHOO
Organization: Individual
E-mail: annchoo@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/13/2012

Comments:

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing Tuesday February 14, 2012 @ 1:45pm

IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing,

I OPPOSE Senate Bill 3506, which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Transferring control and management to the DLNR goes against the original intent of the legislature.

I respectfully urge the Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors. Please defeat SB 3056 and support the continued control and management of the island by KIRC.

Mahalo and Aloha Aina,
Ann Ihilani Choo

Testimony to be presented to the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at 1:45 PM HST

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3506:
RELATING TO THE KAHOOLOWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Aloha e the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing—

I am Joshua Lelemia Irvine, a concerned citizen of Waianae, Oahu. I am from this land. I am writing to you folks in strong opposition to SB3056 which seeks to transfer control and management of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve from the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The following is my manao:

- The island reserve on Kahoolawe was set up in 1993 by the Hawaii state Legislature with explicit intent as a separate cultural reserve and trust to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity. **I see transferring of control as a step backwards from the original state's intent.**
- I believe the transferring control a waste of valuable state resources. In the current economic crisis, the new normal has shifted the balance of our ability to manage our resources with less economic capital. I believe that the KIRC organization from the vantage point as a citizen has made remarkable strides to taking care of the island in a culturally appropriate manner. Because of KIRC, the cultural values are still being performed and lived on the island. I have considerable doubt that DLNR would be able replicate that.
- I am very concerned that shift in control from a special commission to the state run DLNR will not preserve Kahoolawe Island in a culturally appropriate way. I see that DLNR will manage Kahoolawe as a museum in the context "That is what they, the Hawaiians, *did*." However, I am Native Hawaiian who is still living, practicing my culture along with many others in the community, and we see Kahoolawe as an important and vital component in our ways of living. KIRC has been able to care-take and continue the work that our ancestors have done. **Kahoolawe stills lives.**

I respectfully urge the Senate Water, Land and Housing Committee to protect the trust established by your predecessors in 1993.

Please defeat SB 3056 and support the position of the continued control and management of the island by KIRC as a distinct sacred cultural land trust for the Hawaiian Nation until its transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.

Mahalo for your attention.
Aloha Aina, Joshua Lelemia Irvine

5B 3056

From: Keith yaeger [kyaeger88k@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2012 1:26 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Subject: Hawaii aquatic collection ban

To whom it may concern,

I have been following the Hawaiian legislation to prohibit fish collection in the the waters of Hawaii. I just wanted to give my support for the bill but I believe it could be a little better.

I have been in the aquarium industry and hobby for years. I can say first hand that most of the fish that are collected for the aquarium hobby parish. Many of the fish that are collected have a very poor survival rate, get too large for most home aquariums, or are improperly cared for by inexperienced hobbyists.

I believe that the legislation is a good start but I think there is another way to make everyone happy. I believe that the Hawaiian government should impose collection quotas, treating aquarium fish like food fishes or sport fishes. Severely limit the amount that can be caught. This would in turn increase the prices that the fish would be sold for. This increased price will then be passed to the hobbyist. This basic supply and demand. By increasing the prices to the hobbyist, it will make the hobbyist think twice about purchasing an expensive fish that could die. In addition, from my experience, new hobbyist tend to buy cheaper fish, while older, more experienced hobbyists are willing to pay more for a fish that they know will thrive in their system.

For example, Yellow tangs go for around \$13 wholesale. Aquarium retailers then sell these fish for around \$30-\$40. Most hobbyist will be able to "take a chance" on a \$40 fish. Now lets raise the price of yellow tangs to \$50 wholesale. The retailer will now sell it for around \$120. Now hobbyist will start to think twice about purchasing this fish. It won't stop everyone but it will stop the majority.

In addition, raising the prices on aquarium fish will have an added bonus. By increasing the prices, there will be more motivation to begin captive breeding these marine ornamentals. This should be the number one priority, as it is truly the most sustainable. There has already been success in culturing yellow tangs and other native Hawaiian fish. The reason that its not more widespread is because its cheaper to collect than to culture them. If the prices on these fish sky rocket, there will be a widespread effort to culture them because there is now money to be made. In addition, any breakthroughs in culturing of hawaiian ornamentals can be used to culture other species from different locations. Overall, increased culturing of marine ornamentals will be able to make the aquarium industry more sustainable which should be our ultimate goal.

I truly hope someone does take this into consideration, I believe that there are ways around an outright ban that could make both parties happy.

Sincerely,
Keith Yaeger

To Members of the Senate and any other Dignitaries presiding today,
Kaho'olawe Was Set Up as Separate Special Cultural Trust for the Hawaiian Nation: In testimony on 2-12-11, former Governor John Waihe'e described the trusteeship that he and the legislature established for Kaho'olawe: "so this property was not placed back into the DLNR inventory, it was set aside with a special commission to say that it actually belonged to the Hawaiian Nation. You can talk about it coming back to the state of Hawai'i, but it was specifically set aside by the people of this state, by their elected representatives, as the first piece of sovereign soil."

This was done because Kahoolawe is not just a piece of land to be made into a park, it is a tangible link to the past and to the ancestors. One only needs to look at the struggle the DLNR has already trying to maintain and manage the lands it is responsible for. By transferring control and management to DLNR you will only add to the burden of responsibility of an already overburdened department. Kahoolawe requires special management due to its unique nature as a "cultural trust". The KIR has been managed by KIRC with a fair amount of success, because of the hands on nature of KIRC officials. the DLNR does not have the manpower to manage this reserve in the same fashion. much if not the majority of this support and manpower is provided by volunteers to KIRC. by transferring control you will only increase the liability concerns of the volunteers, and ultimately the state will have to answer for any liabilities.

Please, I urge you to consider your decision with much care, as you will decide the fate of someplace so special that people have given the ultimate sacrifice for it. please remember that Kahoolawe is a tangible link to the ancestors and way of life that set the foundations for this state, and as such requires special management that can only come from people who are intimate with the island.

sincerely
Quintin Leong