

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
P.O. BOX 259
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1530
FAX NO: (808) 587-1584

FREDERICK D. PABLO
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

RANDOLF L. M. BALDEMOR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HOUSING

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION REGARDING SB 816 RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWÉ ISLAND RESERVE

TESTIFIER: FREDERICK D. PABLO, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF
TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)
COMMITTEE: WLH
DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2011
TIME: 1:15PM
POSITION: OPPOSED TO REVENUE LOSS

This measure amends the distribution of conveyance tax revenues to provide an additional 10% to the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund.

The Department of Taxation (Department) **opposes the revenue diversion** in this measure.

NO POSITION ON THE MERITS OF THE TRUST FUND—The Department takes no position on the merits of the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund and its funding needs.

OPPOSED TO ANY GENERAL FUND LOSS—The Department; however, opposes that this measure diverts revenues from the general fund. During the current projected budget deficit, general fund revenues cannot be earmarked for special funds. Any project seeking additional revenues should compete for funding through the budget process to ensure the State's budget is balanced.

GENERAL FUND REVENUE LOSS—This measure will result in a general fund revenue loss of \$4.1 million for FY 2012 and thereafter.

TAXBILLSERVICE

126 Queen Street, Suite 304

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: CONVEYANCE, Disposition for Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund

BILL NUMBER: SB 816; HB 1224 (Similar)

INTRODUCED By: SB by English, Chun Oakland, Ryan, Shimabukuro and 10 Democrats; HB by Carroll, Evans, Hanohano, C. Lee, McKelvey, Morikawa and 1 Democrat

BRIEF SUMMARY: Amends HRS section 247-7 to provide that 10% of conveyance tax revenues shall be paid into the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund.

EFFECTIVE DATE: SB - July 1, 2011; HB 1224 - Upon approval

STAFF COMMENTS: The conveyance tax was enacted by the 1966 legislature after the repeal of the federal law requiring stamps for transfers of real property. It was enacted for the sole purpose of providing the department of taxation with additional data for the determination of market value of properties transferred. This information was also to assist the department in establishing real property assessed values and at that time the department stated that the conveyance tax was not intended to be a revenue raising device. The conveyance tax is imposed each time property changes title or ownership.

Prior to 1993, the conveyance tax was imposed at the rate of 5 cents per \$100 of actual and full consideration paid for a transfer of property. The legislature by Act 195, SLH 1993, increased the conveyance tax to 10 cents per \$100 and earmarked 25% of the tax to the rental housing trust fund and another 25% to the natural area reserve fund. As a result of legislation in 2005 and in 2009, the conveyance tax rates were substantially increased and bifurcated between nonowner-occupied residential properties and all other properties with brackets based on the amount of the value transferred. Until 2005, 50% of the receipts went into the general fund and the other half was split with the affordable rental housing program and the natural area reserve program. Beginning in 2005, another 10% was taken for the land conservation fund. When the state general fund began to hemorrhage, the allocation was reshuffled after rates were again increased and the portion that went to the state general fund rose from 35% of collections in 2007 to 45% beginning in 2009. Currently, 10% of conveyance tax revenues is earmarked for the land conservation fund, 25% for the rental housing trust fund and 20% for the natural area reserve fund with the remainder deposited into the general fund. The proposed measures would earmark another 10% and deposit it into the Kaho'olawe trust fund - so each time a transfer or conveyance of realty by way of deeds, leases, subleases, assignments of lease, agreements of sale, assignments of agreement of sale, instruments, writings, and any other document occurs, a portion of the conveyance tax would be use for the long term restoration of Kaho'olawe.

While the proposed measures would yet again tap conveyance tax revenues for another program, it should be remembered that all of the collections of this tax were originally a receipt of the general fund. That is the problem with earmarking the conveyance tax. With a hot real estate market, the collections of this tax soared. However, as the market cools, as it did after the Japanese bubble burst in the mid 1990's and now in the aftermath of the subprime credit crisis, the collections of this tax will wane. The

conveyance tax is one of the least dependable sources upon which to rely for funding with collections rising and falling with the fortunes of the real estate market. Any amount collected under this tax will depend on activity in the real estate market. When the housing market slows down, revenues may not be sufficient to meet the expectations of the fund. If the additional revenues are not sufficient or another "important" program needs funding, will the conveyance tax be increased to generate even more revenue?

If the legislature deems any of the programs for which conveyance tax revenues are earmarked to be such a high priority, then it should maintain the accountability for these funds by appropriating the funds as it does with other programs. Earmarking revenues merely absolves elected officials from setting priorities. The beneficiaries of such earmarked sources look upon the receipts as "their" money and refuse to be held accountable for the use of those funds. Meanwhile, all other programs not so favored like education, public safety, health and human services are cut each day as general fund tax revenues shrink.

Instead of further clouding the financial picture of the state, all of these earmarked funds and the programs they underwrite, should be brought back to the general fund table so that they can be measured against all the other pressing needs of the state. Only then will lawmakers and taxpayers be able to set priorities for what little tax resources taxpayers have to share especially in these difficult economic times. Earmarking resources that bear little relationship to the program being funded represents poor public finance policy.

Finally, while lawmakers and their constituents may view this earmarking as a sincere effort to fund the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation activities, nothing could be farther from the truth as the amount earmarked may not actually produce the amount of resources that are actually needed. Because the receipts of the conveyance tax will fluctuate depending on the robustness of the real estate market, the fund will experience either feast or famine as the level of revenues received will never match the needs of the program. Thus, this proposal is highly disingenuous.

Digested 2/2/11

**Testimony of
KA'IULANI M. MUPRHY
Education Specialist
Polynesian Voyaging Society**

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

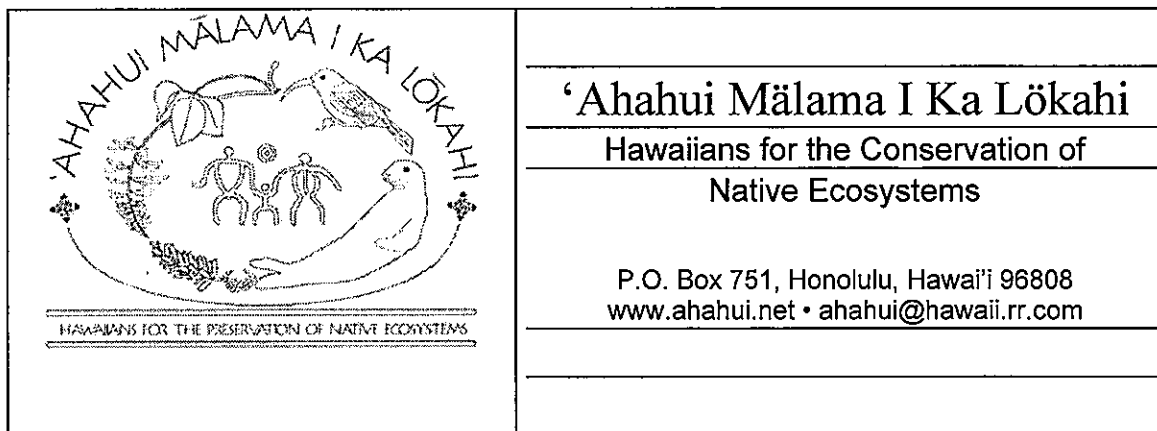
**Thursday, February 3, 2011
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 816
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE**

I respectfully request that the Committee support Senate Bill 816, which authorizes a portion of the conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe. This bill will create a sustainable funding source to enable the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue its work towards the vision of Kaho'olawe, in which the kino of Kanaloa is restored.

As a representative of the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), I have had the great privilege to collaborate with KIRC and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) in education programs on the natural, cultural, historical and spiritual significance of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe. Of the infinite lessons learned while spending time on the island and surrounding waters, I recognize the importance of Kaho'olawe as a place to reconnect with the teachings of our kupuna, from the piko of the main Hawaiian Islands up to the heavens. In an effort to train a new generation of navigators in wayfinding, Hawai'i voyaging canoes participated with KIRC and PKO in the dedication of the Kuhike'e platform at Kealaikahiki. This measure is vital to sustaining the stewardship of the rich cultural and natural resources of this sacred island and ensuring that future generations will also be able to learn the valuable lessons of Kanaloa.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 816.



Committee on WATER, LAND AND HOUSING
 SB No. 816
 Relating to THE KAO‘OLawe ISLAND RESERVE
 February 3, 2011
 1:15 pm
 Rm. 225

Chairperson and members of the Committee,

I’m Chuck “Doc” Burrows, co-president of Ahahui Malama I ka Lokahi, a native Hawaiian conservation organization of 2000 members both here in Hawaii and across the continent that is dedicated to the conservation of indigenous native cultural sites and ecosystems. I am also the 2nd Vice President of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club Ahahui which through the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs of 50 chapters through out the continent and a membership of 4,000 have passed resolutions to support the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission to seek funding in order to continue its kuleana and malama of Kahoolawe Island. I am a member of the OHA Native Hawaiian Historic Preservation Council which has advised the OHA Board of Trustees to give monetary and moral support to the KIRC for its restoration and educational programs. I also had the honor and privilege to serve on the KIRC for the eight years and am well acquainted with the issues and concerns of the KIRC and Kahoolawe Island.

Through my association with the above Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations I and we strongly supports S.B. 816, authorizing %10 of the conveyance tax revenue to be used to replenish the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long term restoration of Kaho‘olawe. The federal government through our U.S. congressional leaders 16 years ago were able to appropriate \$400 million to begin the restoration of the island by removing unexploded ordinance.

This removal of UXOs is incomplete with only %70 of the surface and only %10 below the surface to a meter depth that has been cleared. The present but depleting monies in the reserve trust fund will not be sufficient to maintain the present cultural, ecological and educational programs of the KIRC and the PKO (Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana) for the next 2-3 years. It is imperative that the State legislature now step up to the plate and support this HB 1224, because it is now their and our kuleana (responsibility) to malama and care for this wahi pana, sacred place for all in Hawaii now and for the generations to come.

Aloha pumehana,

Charles K. Burrows, Ed.D.

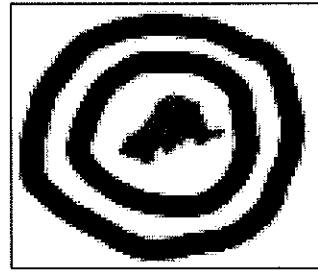
Co-President, Ahahui Malama I ka Lokahi

2nd Vice President, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club

Email: chuckb@hawaii.rr.com

Mobile: (808)372-7594

**PROTECT KAHO'OLAWE 'OHANA
P.O. Box 39
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748**



Testimony of Dr. Davianna Pomaikai McGregor in support of S.B. 816
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Thursday, February 3, 2011 / 1:15pm / Room 225

Aloha Kakou. My name is Dr. Davianna Pomaikai McGregor, and I am the interim Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana member on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I respectfully request that S.B. 816 to convey ten percent (10%) of the conveyance tax revenues to replenish the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe be passed.

At the end of fiscal year 2010-2011, the KIRC will only have \$10.6 million remaining in its Trust Fund. If no additional monies are raised, the 2011-2012 budget is projected at \$2.5 million. This will fund a minimal level of KIRC operations for 3 years, with a shut down in the fourth year.

This bill will create a sustainable source of state funding to enable KIRC to sustain and protect the cultural and natural resources of Kaho'olawe and its surrounding ocean.

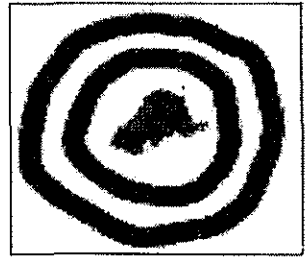
The Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana works in partnership with the KIRC to manage the island and its surrounding ocean as a Native Hawaiian cultural reserve for future generations of Hawai'i's people. We encourage the State of Hawai'i to make a long-term commitment to sustain the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commissions.

Attached are some of the petitions that we have collected in support of this measure.

Mahalo and Aloha . . . Aloha 'Aina

Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana
P.O. Box 39 /Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748

Aloha Aina



Petition in Support of HB 1224/SB 816 – Authorizes a portion of conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund for the long-term restoration of Kahoolawe.

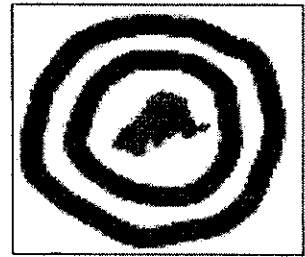
We, the undersigned supporters of the island of Kaho'olawe and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) respectfully request that the 2011 Hawai'i State Legislature pass HB 1224/SB 816 to dedicate ten percent (10%) of the conveyance tax revenues to provide a continuous source of state funding to sustain stewardship of the cultural and natural resources of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

At the end of fiscal year 2010-2011, the KIRC will only have \$10.6 million remaining in its Trust Fund. If no additional monies are raised, the 2011-2012 budget is projected at \$2.5 million. This will fund a minimal level of KIRC operations for 3 years, with a shut down in the fourth year. This bill will create a sustainable source of state funding to enable KIRC to sustain and protect Kaho'olawe and its surrounding ocean. The Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana works in partnership with the KIRC to manage the island as a Native Hawaiian cultural reserve for future generations of Hawai'i's people.

Name	Address	Email
1. Kasha Ho	1942 Aole St. Honolulu, HI 96822	Kasha.ho@gmail.com
2. Katie Fanelamele	9838e Paiohala St. Fanelamele	fanelamele@gmail.com
3. Blane Berends	Po Box 1505 Keolu 96734	blane@lanai.edu
4. Moni Wheeler	HER 2 BOX 6865 Pearl 96749	copu_5@yahoo.com
5. Mary Aramayo	1942 Aole St. Apt A Honolulu HI 96822	maryaramayo@gmail.com
6. Blake J Labenz	1472 Frank St. Honolulu 96816	brutuslove@gmail.com
7. SHEYL YEE	3038 Hinano St Honolulu HI 96815	
8. SEN KIM	3037 Hinano St. Honolulu	kawaii-phal.girl@yahoo.com
9. Damian Kaapana	820 Aioo St Honolulu HI 96825	Kaapanad@hawaii.edu
10. Sean Bangay	689 Kalaau Pl Honolulu HI 96821	bangay@hawaii.edu
11. Wela Hewahewa	196 Piihaila St. Pearl and Heron HI 96793	
12. Kapa Hewahewa	196 Iini'Iniki St. Wailuku HI 96793	
13. Keoni Catungal	219A Momi Pl. Wailuku, HI 96793	
14. Tanya Hewahewa	91-1153 Kama'ehu, Kapolei, HI	hewax2@yahoo.com
15. Bradley Hewahewa	91-1153 Kama'ehu, Kapolei, HI	

Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana
P.O. Box 39 /Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748

Aloha Aina



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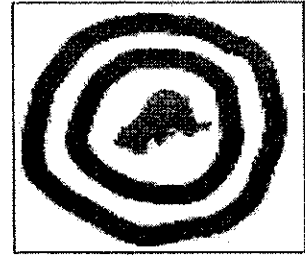
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Name	Address	Email
1. <u>REN MAZUE</u>	<u>1450 Young St. #1506</u>	<u>rmazue@hotmail.com</u>
2. <u>DYAN KLECKNER</u>	<u>" " "</u>	<u>dkleckn@yahoo.com</u>
3. <u>Nancy Ravallo</u>	<u>P.O. Box 121 Kualapua</u>	<u>kynotive@gmail</u>
4. <u>KATHLEEN ELYNN</u>	<u>66008 KAM. HWY HALEIWA, HI 96712</u>	
5. <u>Pa Hendricks</u>	<u>123 Kanekapolei St. #4 Honolulu, HI 96813</u>	
6. <u>Lea Kanehe</u>	<u>1400 Lanikai St. Honolulu</u>	<u>lkanehe@gmail.com</u>
7. <u>Diane Blastic</u>	<u>423 Kanekapolei St #4</u>	<u>dianeblastic@hotmail.com</u>
8. <u>Tamara Lopes</u>	<u>109A 4th Ave, Honolulu, 96814</u>	<u>lopest002@hawaii.vv.com</u>
9. <u>Isaac Lopes</u>	<u>109A 4th Ave, Honolulu, 96814</u>	<u>gentligiant405@hotmail.com</u>
10. <u>DAVID CHYABAN</u>	<u>3118 Waiialae Ave. #401 Kahuku 13.</u>	<u>@gmail</u>
11. <u>Crystake Cayaban</u>	<u>3118 Waiialae Ave. #401 96816</u>	<u>kumutehua@gmail.com</u>
12. <u>Lori Walker</u>	<u>1391 Frank St. 96816</u>	<u>lorikwalker@gmail</u>
13. <u>Dayra Keolani</u>	<u>1391 Frank St. 96816</u>	<u>dayrakeolani@gmail</u>
14. <u>Julia West</u>	<u>202 Damon Ct. Hon 96822</u>	<u>gmail.com</u>
15. <u>Jordan Morokai</u>	<u>1472 FRANK ST. Hon. HI 96816</u>	<u>morokai.jordan@gmail.com</u>

Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana
P.O. Box 39 /Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748

Aloha Aina



Petition in Support of HB 1224/SB 816 – Authorizes a portion of conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund for the long-term restoration of Kahoolawe.

We, the undersigned supporters of the island of Kaho'olawe and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) respectfully request that the 2011 Hawai'i State Legislature pass HB 1224/SB 816 to dedicate ten percent (10%) of the conveyance tax revenues to provide a continuous source of state funding to sustain stewardship of the cultural and natural resources of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

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Name	Address	Email
1. <u>Ilina Kin</u>	<u>810 Lawelawe St</u>	<u>Hon HI 96821</u>
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
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13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____



CRAIG NEFF
Chairperson
AMBER NĀMAKA WHITEHEAD
Vice-Chair
WILLIAM J. AILA, Jr.
COLETTE Y. MACHADO
DAVIANNA P. MC GREGOR, Ph.D
KA'IULANI MURPHY

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>

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

**Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NAHO'OPTI
Executive Director**

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

**Thursday, February 3, 2011
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 816
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE**

Senate Bill 816 authorizes a portion of the conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) supports this measure that would provide permanent state statutory funding for the restoration of Kaho'olawe.

When the State of Hawaii accepted the return of the island of Kaho'olawe in 1994, it accepted the responsibility "to preserve and protect a corner of their island state so that future generations can become familiar with their island's past human and natural heritage. For many Native Hawaiians and others, Kaho'olawe is a special place that has been sanctified by the loss of life in a struggle between traditional values and Western concepts of land use and management" (Restoring a Cultural Treasure, Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission).

As stated in the Federally-mandated Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission (KICC) final report to Congress in 1993, "in the short term, federal funds will provide the bulk of the program support for specific soil conservation projects and related activities. In the longer term, however, state revenues will be needed to continue and enhance those activities initiated with federal funds." For the past 16 years, the initial Federal funding has allowed the KIRC to establish many of its innovative programs that emphasize ancestral and traditional knowledge, provide a cultural approach of respect and connectivity to the environment, and integrate ancient and modern resource management techniques.

Without a secure future funding source, the KIRC estimates approximately three to possibly four years of funding is left. With 25% of the island still uncleared of unexploded ordnance and only 10% cleared for intensive use, the KIRC's continuing presence on Kaho'olawe is needed to ensure the protection of the general public. Passage of this measure is critical for fulfilling the State of Hawaii's long-term commitment to restore and protect this one last untouched corner of Hawaii.



Ocean Tourism Coalition

The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003
Honolulu, HI 96813-3304
(808) 537-4308 Phone (808) 533-2739 Fax
timlyons@hawaiiantel.net

Testimony to the Senate WLH Committee
Thursday, February 3, 2011; 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 225

Speaking in Support

RE: SB 816

Chair Senator Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Solomon and Members of the
Water, Land, Housing Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition.
The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. We
appreciate the efforts being made by the Legislature in addressing the shortfall
in revenue to sustain the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

We believe this bill will go a long way in resolving the shortfall that is imminent
for the KIRK. This bill raises funds without causing undue hardship on any user
group.

Please pass this bill which will make KIRK more effective and solvent.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions,
please contact me at 808-870-9115.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President

Testimony of
JENNA ISHII
Education Assistant
Polynesian Voyaging Society

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Thursday, February 3, 2011

1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of

SENATE BILL 816

RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE

I respectfully request that the Committee support Senate Bill 816, which authorizes a portion of the conveyance tax revenues to be used to replenish the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe. This bill will create a sustainable funding source to enable the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue its work towards the vision of Kaho'olawe, in which the kino of Kanaloa is restored.

As a representative of the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), I have had the great privilege of working with KIRC and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) to bring teachers and students to the island of Kaho'olawe to understand the cultural, environmental and spiritual significance of the island. In an effort to train a new generation of navigators in wayfinding, Hawai'i voyaging canoes participated with KIRC and PKO in the dedication of the Kuhike'e platform at Kealaikahiki. This measure is vital to sustaining the stewardship of the rich cultural and natural resources of this sacred island and ensuring that future generations will also be able to learn the valuable lessons of Kanaloa.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 816.

MICHELE CHOUTEAU McLEAN
38 HOKU PLACE
PA'IA, HAWAII 96779
808/385-3480

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Malama Solomon, Vice chair
Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

February 3, 2011
1:15 p.m.
Room 225

Please accept this testimony in support of **SB 816**, which would direct a percentage of conveyance tax revenue to the Kahoalawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund.

As the former Deputy Director of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC), I have first-hand knowledge of the financial and practical struggles to restore the island of Kaho'olawe, preserve its natural and cultural resources, and control access so that the public health and safety are protected. These efforts have been funded for years through federal monies that were appropriated as part of the massive clean-up of unexploded ordnance. This appropriation was never substantial enough to be a permanent endowment for the long-term operations of the KIRC; it was understood that the state would someday play a role in pursuing KIRC's mission.

Including the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund as a recipient of a portion of conveyance tax revenue is a logical way for the state to provide appropriate financial assistance to the KIRC. KIRC's mission is similar to other conveyance tax recipients – notably the legacy land conservation fund and the natural area reserve fund. The proposed bill would provide funding for the KIRC without taking funding away from any other recipient, increasing taxes or adding to general fund expenditures.

Please support SB 816.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dane Wicker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 8:52 AM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: ogomori@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB816 on 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM SB816

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kurt Ogomori
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ogomori@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments:

I am currently a student going into Hawaiian Studies. With that said, I take love my home, Hawai'i. The history of Kaho'olawe saddens me, but the effort inspires me. I would like to see this effort thrive and we need everyone's help. I would also like to see the Legislature back us on this effort. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Testimony of

Eric. A. Brundage

**Before the Senate Committees on
Water, Land and Housing:**

Thursday, February 3, 2011

1:15 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In Consideration Of

Senate Bill 816

RELATING TO THE KAHO`OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE

I support Senate Bill 816 which apportions ten percent of the conveyance tax to the Kaho`olawe rehabilitation trust fund.

Restoration of the `aina on Kaho`olawe has been funded for the last 16 years from a trust fund established and funded by a federal apportionment. It was not intended that this federal apportionment would be sufficient to fund restoration activities in perpetuity and now the funds available are insufficient to permit sustained restoration efforts.

The staff of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission have made extremely effective use of the available restoration funds to repair the extensive damage to the island caused by decades of overgrazing and use as a military bombing target. They are aided in this effort by the numerous volunteer individuals and groups that have spent many hours in often harsh conditions to restore native species to the island and prevent further damage from wind and sediment run-off. In addition to the positive accomplishments these volunteers get from their restoration efforts, they also gain a deep appreciation for the unique culture and history of the island. The work done on Kaho`olawe is good for the island and benefits the people of Hawai`i.

Without funding from the conveyance tax apportionment, these restoration efforts will soon be forced to stop and the many gains over the years will be lost. Without continued care many of the current restoration projects will fail and further destruction and degradation of the island's resources will follow.

I humbly ask for your kokua to approve Senate Bill 816.

Dane Wicker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 10:51 AM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: kevin.gavagan@fourseasons.com
Subject: Testimony for SB816 on 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM SB816

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kevin Gavagan
Organization: Individual
Address: 300 Copp Rd Kula Hawaii
Phone: 808-283-2252
E-mail: kevin.gavagan@fourseasons.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

grew up in Up Country area and Kahoolawe has always reminded me of the booming sounds of Military bombing. The irony has been that although I've never had the privledge to be on island, through recent study of the moku that I work in Honoaula and through the KIRC I have come to learn of the significance of this island to my native Hawaiian culture. Like most knowledge or moolelo of an area or wahi pana of our islands the knowledge goes forgotten and so called progress proceeds unrelenting, at the expense of the past. This is the only island named after one of the main gods in the Hawaiian panthion of Gods. Let it always be remembered as Kanaloa, and we will recall what this Island meant to the Hawaiian people. The State took possession of this moku be for a complete restoration owed by the military. The Federal Gov committed federal dollars for ongoing restoration that is running out. What will the commitment of the State government now to protect and preserve wahi pana or sacred land. This place has escaped the raveges of development but not the hand of modern man and all our collective needs. It was given back to the Hawaiians, can we make it a safe place to take our children to learn of their ancestors. Help them to move forward by looking back. Live up to our kuleana and make it pono.

Testimony of
NATASHJA TONG

Before the Senate Committees on WATER, LAND AND HOUSING;
Wednesday, February 3, 2011 1:15 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 225
In consideration of SENATE BILL 816 RELATING TO THE KAHO`OLAWE ISLAND
RESERVE

I support Senate Bill 816, apportions ten per cent of the conveyance tax to the
Kaho`olawe rehabilitation trust fund

I have been going to Kaho`olawe since I was in high school, for about 7 years. I can still remember the first time I set foot on the island. The island means so much to us as Hawaiians, it symbolizes the beginning of a return to our culture and `aina. The kaho`olawe island reserve commission has been doing an awesome job in restoring the island and I would love for them to receive adequate funding to continue to bring volunteer groups to the island so that Kaho`olawe may touch the lives of many generations to come. Coming to Kaho`olawe allows us to experience malama aina in the most extreme case and we take what we learn and apply it to where we all come from. Protecting the natural resources of Kaho`olawe is a main part of protecting the cultural resources of the island, as they are one in the same, and the KIRC deserves this to continue to be awesome stewards of this island.

Dane Wicker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 8:45 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: onipaa.porter@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB816 on 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM SB816

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ethan Porter
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: onipaa.porter@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:

Dane Wicker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 9:51 PM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: dkscibor@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB816 on 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM SB816

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David Scibor
Organization: Individual
Address: 3525 Akala Dr Kihei, HI 96753
Phone: 401-261-0683
E-mail: dkscibor@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/1/2011

Comments:
To Whom It May Concern:

My name is David Scibor and I have been a resident of Kihei for almost 5 years. I work in the hospitality industry and am proud to call Hawaii home. I had the opportunity to visit Kahoolawe in April 2009 and it was one of the most amazing experiences I have had in the Hawaiian Islands. Our group of 45 people was comprised mainly of high school students from Kamehameha Schools, Kekaulike High School and Emerging Hawaiian Programs. I learned through the actions of these students that Hawaii has a bright future. I was clearly an outsider within the group - a 28 year haole - but the group made me feel included from the start. They were patient while I learned Hawaiian chants to request permission to enter the island. They shared their music and songs with me each evening at the camp fire. And they showed me the great pride that people possess when they grow up in Hawaii. I can't place a price on what the experience has meant to me, but it has caused me to extend my time here in Maui. The trip provided me insightful information about the Hawaiian culture and how this information needs to be shared with future generations. I had the opportunity to share my experiences on the island at an educational meeting at work so other Maui residents and tourists can have a better understanding of the island.

Please support the sustainability of Kahoolawe cultural excursions with state taxes. It is in the best interest of Hawaii to support this program so please move forward with this bill. If you haven't been to Kahoolawe yet, take a trip over and see for yourself how lucky we are to have it as part of our Islands.

Dane Wicker

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 12:57 AM
To: WLH Testimony
Cc: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB816 on 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for WLH 2/3/2011 1:15:00 PM SB816

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vince Kana'i Dodge
Organization: Individual
Address: 86-557 Hakalina Road Waianae, HI
Phone: 808 4786492
E-mail: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/2/2011

Comments: