

cleel - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 9:57 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: publicpolicy@oha.org
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: SCR151 SD1 Fishpond Leases 4.18.12 HAW.pdf

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Organization: Office of Hawaiian Affairs
E-mail: publicpolicy@oha.org
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:



SCR151 SD1

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND OFFICE OF PLANNING TO STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF HAWAIIAN FISHPONDS.

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

April 18, 2012

10:00 a.m.

Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SCR151 SD1, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, and Office of Planning to streamline the state lease process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds.

Fishponds were and continue to be important cultural resources to Native Hawaiians. Fishponds still serve as a source of sustenance for communities, and they also offer a wide range of educational opportunities. Fishponds are used to teach students about math, science and Hawaiian culture. In addition, fishpond restoration has become a major part of the Hawaiian cultural revival movement, with a number of groups across Hawai'i taking on the kuleana of bringing once-forgotten fishponds back to life.

Unfortunately, the permitting and approval processes for fishpond restoration are cumbersome and have hindered efforts to revive these cultural treasures. Streamlining the lease process to foster fishpond restoration would help ensure that these valuable cultural, educational, and natural resources remain for future generations.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to PASS SCR151 SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on these important measures.

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 7:17 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: moana.bjur@hawaii.gov
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: SCR151SD1_LNR_04-18-12_HAW.pdf

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Sam Lemmo
Organization: Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
E-mail: moana.bjur@hawaii.gov
Submitted on: 4/16/2012

Comments:

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the House Committee on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 151, SENATE DRAFT 1
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND OFFICE OF PLANNING TO STREAMLINE THE
PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF HAWAIIAN FISHPONDS**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 151, Senate Draft 1 urges various agencies including the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to establish a process to streamline and facilitate the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds and to submit their recommendations for draft legislation no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2103. The Department supports the intent of this resolution.

The Department has already adopted administrative rules to expedite and facilitate the restoration of existing Hawaiian fishponds. For instance, recently amended Chapter 13-5, Hawaii Administrative Rules, *rules and regulations of the Conservation District*, allows for the repair, strengthening, reinforcement, and maintenance of a fishpond in accordance with Sections 183-44, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), *-Fishponds; rules* and 183B-2, HRS, *- Exemption from environmental impact statement law*, and requires no Conservation District Use Permit (CDUP). Repairs may be performed without a CDUP. The rules allow the Department to require a CDUP for new fishponds or for complete fishpond reconstruction.

The Department is currently involved in a Hawaiian fishpond permitting working group, as there are other agencies and processes that regulate Hawaiian fishpond restoration. It is a goal of this group to streamline and facilitate fishpond restoration. The Department agrees to work with the various stakeholders to prepare recommendations to the Legislature in 2013, which the Department hopes will recommend a critical path for the streamlining of government entitlements to restore Hawaiian fishponds.

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

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 7:04 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: SCR151 testimony NB HWN CUA 4-18-12.pdf

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeannine Johnson
Organization: Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2
E-mail: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/16/2012

Comments:
Your support of SCR 151 SD1 is respectfully requested. Mahalo.

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)

April 16, 2012

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair

Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair

Re: **SCR151 SD1** - Urging the DLNR, DOH and Office of Planning to Streamline the Permitting Process for the Restoration of Hawaiian Fishponds

Hrg: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 10:00 am in Conf. Room 312

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 am pleased to inform you **Neighborhood Board #2** supports SCR 151 SD1 urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Department of Health (DOH) and Office of Planning to streamline the permitting process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds. **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.

Before Westerners arrived in Hawai'i, native Hawaiians lived a life of self-subsistence and harmony with the land and sea. Native Hawaiians understood that by caring for the land and sea, they too, would be cared for by the land and sea. A great example of this is a native Hawaiian fishpond (loko i'a or loko kuapā) which were first built around the fifteenth century. Hawaiians built 488 fishponds statewide, however only about 60 fishponds remain recognizable today. O'ahu alone had 97 fishponds, but only six accessible ponds remain today. Thirteen fishponds have been restored statewide, with six ponds currently in use: three on Moloka'i, one on the island of Hawai'i, and two on O'ahu.

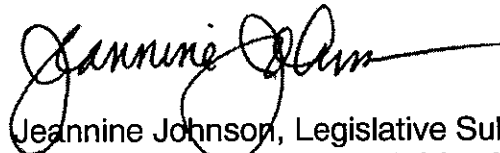
Currently, the Maunaloa Fishpond Heritage Center is working to stop the sale of two remaining fishponds at auction by the Department of Transportation and obtain the leases. They are Kānewai Fishpond, a royal pond assessed to have the properties that make it eligible for listing on the National Historic Register, and Kalauha'ihai (Lucas Spring and Fishpond) reported to be the location of a summer home of Kamehameha I

and where Queen Ka'ahumanu was said to have renounced the ancient kapu system at the Kalauha'iha'i Assembly. Kalauha'iha'i refers to the scattering of the leaves and breaking of the ancient kapu.

Recognizing the important cultural significance these fishponds represent, at its November 6, 2008 meeting, **Neighborhood Board #2** voted to support preventing any governmental entity from selling culturally significant Native Hawaiian treasurers such as fishponds. Urging the DLNR, DOH and Office of Planning to streamline the permitting process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds will help to safeguard Maunalua's last remaining fishponds for future generations.

Your support of SCR 151 SD1 is respectfully requested.

'O au iho nō me ke aloha,



Jeannine Johnson, Legislative Sub-Committee Chair
Kuli'ou'ou / Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2
5648 Pia Street, Honolulu, HI 96821
Phone: 373-2874 / 691-7261 (work)
Email: jeannine@hawaii.rr.com



clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 3:55 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: pomroys001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sharon Pomroy
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pomroys001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/13/2012

Comments:

It is with much hope for our future that I urge all of you to support the effort to streamline the permitting process to restore native Hawaiian fishponds. It is well documented how native Hawaiian fish ponds work. This is one of the best examples of resource management and restoration of near shore fish resources. To allow the process to wallow in the muck and mire of red tape is to prolong resource depletion. When we have the means to arrest resource depletion and make sure that no one goes to bed hungry why aren't we using them?

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 6:04 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: bkeala@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: loko ia streamlining2.docx

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Graydon 'Buddy' Keala
Organization: Individual
E-mail: bkeala@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/13/2012

Comments:

April 18, 2011

Testimony in Support of HCR 151, SD1 (SSCR3214) Joint committees of House Hawaiian Affairs and Culture & The Arts My name is Buddy Keala and I have worked with fishponds for a number of years including attempts to eliminate all permit processes for rebuilding a loko i'a. Ms. Pomroy of Kauai said it clearly in her earlier testimony and I agree, that although there will be negative impacts caused by the restoration short term, the long term benefits far outweigh the negatives. Fishponds are in and of themselves huge coastal assets, contributing to the health of the near shore fishery, water quality and beyond.

I am happy to see the amount of support testimony from governmental agencies for Hawaiian Fishpond permit streamlining, but after so many years of battling the bureaucracy, hope this isn't just a smoke cloud. The Aquaculture Development Program made several attempts to do it in the 1980's, as well as the Hawaiian Fishpond Revitalization Program (90's) and the Molokai Aquaculture Training Program (Loko I'a -2000). In 2006-7, I secured permits for restoring Kauikeolani Fishpond on Kauai and some things have improved, but certain agencies have not changed. I've talked with John Nakagawa-CZM who felt we could look at what taro farmers have in a General Permit for lo'i, but someone has to lead the charge.

I still feel strongly that a permit for restoration should be handled by one entity, a one-stop shop, 2 month process with quarterly to semi-annual site reviews. We all, including the Dept. of Health should look less at the immediate impact and weigh the benefits to actual water quality improvements. I don't think they understand what this sustainable system provides the general public. ACOE provides NWP Nation Wide Permits (NWP) for activities which would aid the restoration process approval.

Lastly, about a business plan aspect being inserted into the language of the reso, I thought we were looking at permit streamlining. Besides providing an approved permit, providing the man-power and effort of the restoration and funds for whatever else, YOU REALLY WANT TO THROW ON A BUSINESS PLAN? Some of us don't see that \$\$\$ is the end all, as we see many schools utilization of loko in their environmental science studies, or a pond to act as the nursery/estuary to increase fishery health or just improve water quality, open space, view plain, etc. As a once commercial aquaculturist, I am convinced that Hawaiian Fishponds are the most succinct sustainable systems if operated in the traditional methods. Forcing higher production simply for added revenue or business compliance will take this perfectly balanced system out of balance and cause it to crash.

April 18, 2011

Testimony in Support of HCR 151, SD1 (SSCR3214)

Joint committees of House Hawaiian Affairs and Culture & The Arts

My name is Buddy Keala and I have worked with fishponds for a number of years including attempts to eliminate all permit processes for rebuilding a loko i'a. Ms. Pomroy of Kauai said it clearly in her earlier testimony and I agree, that although there will be negative impacts caused by the restoration short term, the long term benefits far outweigh the negatives. Fishponds are in and of themselves huge coastal assets, contributing to the health of the near shore fishery, water quality and beyond.

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clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 7:50 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: puna_moku@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cheryl Lovell-Obatake
Organization: Individual
E-mail: puna_moku@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/13/2012

Comments:

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2012 6:51 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: lokoiiconsulting@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: Bud's testimony.docx

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Graydon Keala
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lokoiiconsulting@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/15/2012

Comments:

Testimony from Graydon Buddy Keala living on Kauai unable to attend hearing. Submitted by Jalna Keala

April 18, 2011

Testimony in Support of HCR 151, SD1 (SSCR3214)

Joint committees of House Hawaiian Affairs and Culture & The Arts

My name is Buddy Keala and I have worked with fishponds for a number of years including attempts to eliminate all permit processes for rebuilding a loko i'a. Ms. Pomroy of Kauai said it clearly in her earlier testimony and I agree, that although there will be negative impacts caused by the restoration short term, the long term benefits far outweigh the negatives. Fishponds are in and of themselves huge coastal assets, contributing to the health of the near shore fishery, water quality and beyond.

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clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 8:25 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: hawaiikaihui@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: SCR151 testimony Hui.pdf

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Elizabeth Reilly
Organization: Livable Hawaii Kai Hui
E-mail: hawaiikaihui@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/16/2012

Comments:



April 16, 2012

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair

Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair

Re: SCR151 SD1 - Urging the DLNR, DOH and Office of Planning to Streamline the Permitting Process for the Restoration of Hawaiian Fishponds

Hrg: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 10:00 am in Conf. Room 312

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs and Honorable Committee Members,

Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui (LHKH) is a non-profit, nonpartisan community action group. We strive to promote sensible growth and respect for the land as well as upholding the integrity of the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan (EHSCP).

LHKH encourages grass roots organization, community awareness and education of laws, rules, and regulations that guide sensible growth and development to enhance the quality of life for residents, focusing on the preservation of the agricultural lands in Kamilonui Valley, natural watersheds and adequate open spaces and community stewardship for the protection of watersheds, wetlands, natural and irreplaceable resources and cultural and historic areas in East Honolulu.

Fishponds are an irreplaceable cultural and historic resource that must be preserved for future generations. **We strongly support SCR 151 SD1** urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health and Office of Planning to streamline the permitting process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds and we humbly ask for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth C. Reilly".

Elizabeth Reilly, President

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui ~ P.O. Box 25493 ~ Honolulu, HI ~ 96825

Phone: 808.864-8081 Fax: 808.396-5399

Email: hawaiikaihui@aol.com ~ Website: www.hawaiikaihui.org

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:02 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: adarapineda@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: fishpond-pineda-berbano-LATE.docx

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Adara Pineda & Maurice Berbano
Organization: Moanalua High School
E-mail: adarapineda@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

Dear Legislature,

Many of Hawaii's fishponds are in dire need of restoration. He'eia fishpond is one of them. This may not seem as one of your main concerns, but from the evidence we present, we hope to convince you that it should be one of the top priorities on your list.

We think the fishponds should be restored because they are an untapped resource waiting for us to taking advantage of. Back in the early 1800's, there were an estimated 400 fishponds statewide, including 96 on O'ahu. Now, there are only 10 fishponds here in O'ahu. Going on our field trip to the He'eia Fishpond, we learned that one fishpond produces more than 20,000 fish. Imagine if we decided to rebuild those 400 fishponds around the state of Hawaii. If you do the math, we will be able to produce 8,000,000 fish. **8,000,000 fish.** That's 6 times more than the population of people in the whole state. Fishponds can become a resource for economic export, which means money for Hawaii and a sustainable economy.

Hawaii should consider its fishponds as one of its main priorities because it's a fact that 90% of all the food in Hawaii is imported from the mainland. You can find residents spending an average of 30% more on groceries in Hawaii than on the mainland. The investment in rebuilding fishponds is potential economical advancement for Hawaii. This act will be the first step in Hawaii's independence from the big companies in the mainland, that we spend all our money shipping our food from. It is already hard enough for the families that are living from paycheck-to-paycheck. The people of Hawaii shouldn't have to empty their pockets for unreasonably over-priced food.

The economy shouldn't be the only reason why Hawaii's fishpond is to be considered as a main priority. There is a community out there, of people that hold the fishponds as something close to their hearts. Not only are Native Hawaiians taking action by taking care of the fishponds, but people of difference races alike. They have seen the passion that the Native Hawaiians have, for something that is still left of their culture. The Native Hawaiians feel that the fishponds are some kind of connection to their ancestors. That's why they continue to strive to restore them today. They continue to rebuild one fishpond at a time, uprooting the forest of mangrove trees that grew over them over time.

In their efforts, there are a lot of barriers that hold them back from progressing. You may think that it's the weather and lack of resources, but mostly it's the plethora of permits and regulations. "It's such a deterrent. It's probably easier to blow up a mountain and put a road through it that it is to re-build a fishpond," said Kawelo who is an executive director of the nonprofit Paepae o He'eia. She says that it has taken her 10 years and still in the process, to rebuild the He'eia fishpond. The government rules haven't been any of help. This is only **one** pond. If we don't decide to take action now, and take advantage of this precious resource, when will we? When we finally realize the value of these fishponds and how much of a difference it could've made to the state of Hawaii, it may be too late. A review of an Army Corps of Engineers says that it will take at least two years to repair an 89-foot section of a wall damaged in a 1965 storm. This is only **one** fishpond. If we want to see the 8,000,000 fish that will be the first step to shape the economy of Hawaii, we have to take action now.

Sincerely yours,

Adara Pineda

Maurice Berbano

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:08 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: dancergrrl16@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: Eryn Yuasa and Rachel Inabata He'eia Fishpond.doc

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Eryn Yuasa
Organization: Moanalua High School
E-mail: dancergrrl16@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

April 12th, 2012

Dear Legislature,

Aloha. Our names are Eryn Yuasa and Rachel Inabata, and we are freshman at Moanalua High School. Recently, we've taken a class field trip and visited the He'eia Fishpond here in Oahu, and we would like to share our experience there and voice our opinion on how we are in favor of the formal restoration of the fishpond.

The MeneMac class including about 40 freshmen and sophomores paid a visit to the He'eia fishpond a couple weeks or so ago. It was a very worthwhile experience, and it helped us expand our knowledge on social studies, biology, and much more. We were able to talk with the workers at the fish pond on their experience there. They wanted to be able to connect back with their ancestors, the Hawaiians from before the days of modern technology and ways to get products (importing). They dedicate a large portion of their day, and a large portion of their lives just to make sure the old Hawaiian's legacy is never forgotten. It's such a worthwhile experience to visit there. While we were on the fieldtrip, not only did we learn about the things that we're learning about in class. We also got the chance to bond with the other people in our class, and establish a better connection with them. We all linked arms and screamed in unison as we had to complete the short walk in waist deep water to get to the other side of the fishpond, feeling sea creatures brushing up against our legs and the sun beating down on our skin.

Another reason that we should restore and protect the fishpond would have to be because it promotes the idea of sustainability in the modern day world that we live in. Sustainability means to be maintained at a certain rate or level. With the fact that 80-90% of the food we eat here in Hawaii today is imported, sustainability is something that is in great need. The fishpond is a representative of good sustainability. Baby fish are made, and they swim into the fishpond. They eat and eat and eat and finally, they get too big to be able to come out of the pond. That's when the old Hawaiians used to take them and be able to use the fish to feed the whole community. Along the way, they made sure to let some of the fish free in order for them to mate and produce more fish. The Hawaiians provided for the land, and the land provided for the Hawaiians. They had a great balance, and we recommend that us here in Hawaii get back into the state of having that balance.

There are so many rules and regulations going on right now, though, that it's becoming a hardship to restore the fishpond. Executive direction of the nonprofit fishpond that we visited, Hi'ilei Kawelo quoted that "It's probably easier to blow up a mountain and put a road through it then it is to re-build the fishpond." This is sadly starting to become true. The staff at He'eia Fishpond has been trying to gain all the permits needed to restore the 88-acre fishpond for well over 10 years, and they've faced a lot of roadblocks along the way. They need help from the government. The government should make this process a lot less complicated, because this long time needed to restore it can deter some organizations for trying to restore a fishpond, or stop them all together.

All we request is that the government helps to make this process a little less complicated. It can really help all of us here in Hawaii because the fishponds provide many benefits to us here. Thank you for taking the time to listen.

Sincerely,
Eryn Yuasa & Rachel Inabata
Moanalua High School

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:24 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: skylar.manuel@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: He'eia fispond letter.doc

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Skylar Manuel
Organization: Moanalua High School
E-mail: skylar.manuel@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

Dear Hawaii State Legislature,

Restoring Hawaiian fishponds can bring back an important natural resource that was built years ago. There are so many different reasons to move toward restoring the He'eia fishpond. One of them being that it can help restore a part of Hawaiian history. It can bring back a tradition of where the Native Hawaiians would work together to maintain the entire system that they had created. Another reason being that it can be used as a major food resource. Instead of relying on the fish that is being imported here, the fishpond could produce thousands of pounds of a different variety of fish each year.

Benefits of restoring this fishpond are that it can become a big resource for economic export. Before the operation closed, the fish that was produced were sold in Hawaii, California, and Canada. It could also help revive the ocean environment; different types of fish have been decreasing due to over fishing and predators. If the fishpond produced more, it can help to increase the different variety of fish. Permit requirements to restore any little thing of the fishpond are not an easy amount to pay. Instead of putting time towards working for restoration of the fishpond, sorting out all of the paperwork and payments could take years.

It is important that the fishpond is refurbished, because if it is not mangrove and invasive plants will damage its structure. If the mangrove is not removed its roots will grow into the wall and loosen the rocks and coral. The wall is used to keep water within the fishpond. If the mangrove were not removed it would keep wind from circulating the fishpond's surface. The oxygen is important for fish and other living things in the fishpond. We have learned why it is important to take care and maintain the fishpond wall, so we have gotten the chance to help and put a small amount of work into refurbishing it. The fishpond environment contains brackish water, and holds a wide variety of fish, limu, and plants.

If the fishpond were restored to its original state, it can be brought back to be used of how the Native Hawaiians used to use it. It can also continue its tradition, and be used as an important food resource for everyone.

Sincerely,
Skylar Manuel and Dustin Palea

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:49 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kaitlynmatsuda@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: Dear Legislature.docx

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kaitlyn Matsuda
Organization: Moanalua High School
E-mail: kaitlynmatsuda@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

Friday, March 30, 2012

Dear Legislature,

As students and residents of the state of Hawaii, we stand in agreement for the ideas proposing restoration of fishponds around the islands. These fishponds provide a reliable source of food for the communities as well as provide connection to our dwindling past. They also restore the ocean environments nearby. Many people put an immense amount of time and effort into reviving the fishponds. However, government permit requirements and time and funds necessary to obtaining them constantly hold them back. We believe it is time this system changes.

The group working at the Heeia fishpond has been working hard to rebuild the part of the fishpond's wall that was damaged in a 1965 storm. To gather volunteers, they put a calendar on their website for the dates they plan to meet and work on restoration. These dates are open to the public, so anyone interested can have the opportunity to assist them. They have removed almost more than half of the mangrove trees that grew along the walls. Unfortunately, there was a large break in the wall caused by a storm. As the workers at the Heeia fishpond are ready to work on it, but necessary permits and government documents stand in their way. One of the workers, Kawelo, blatantly states "Its such a deterrent. It's probably easier to blow up a mountain and put a road through it than re-build a fishpond." Kawelo and her team are only trying to better the community, not harm it. It seems unnecessary to restrict them with permits.

The fishpond was once able to provide 70,000 pounds of moi a year. However, since the pond was neglected for a long period of time, the trees became overgrown and covered the walls. If we revive the pond, we will once again be able to support the community with food, like before. Not only does the fishpond provide sustainability for us, it also restores the marine life nearby. Not only is sustainability and marine life diminishing, but the Hawaiian culture is fading away. The fishpond provides a connection with our ancestors. With the restoration of most fishpond around Hawaii, we can truly start to bring back all we have lost.

The challenges standing in the way of the Heeia fishpond restoration group are ridiculous in the sense that they are only trying to help the community. The permits and restrictions seem unnecessary and something will be needed solve this. We need find alternative ways to create sustainability, restore the marine life, and provide reconnection with our soon forgotten past.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn
Matsuda and
Joshua Villanueva

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 9:45 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: linaann88@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: Lina Nguyen& Kaitlyn Dacoscos.doc

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lina Nguyen
Organization: Moanalua High school
E-mail: linaann88@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

Kaitlyn Dacoscos
Lina Nguyen
Period 5

He'eia Fishpond Assignment

To Legislature:

The He'eia fishpond field trip was such a great experience, from seeing how the wall was built to how the fishes actually grow in the fish pond. Also the teamwork used to restore the fishpond is the real way of Hawaiian life. We support the He'eia Fishpond restoration, because they are trying to bring back the old Hawaiians traditional culture. Also, by doing this makes a big impact on people by respecting their own ancestors, living the life back in the days, and being able to feel how they did and what they had to do. Lastly, you gain more knowledge about the Hawaiian culture. Even though living in the back the olden days was really difficult, helping out the community and restoring the fishpond eventually brings respect and teamwork to be as one, which does, makes things easier.

Some of the benefits that Hawaiian fishponds provide are the new generation a present day feel of the Hawaiians in their perspective back in the days. Back then you couldn't just go to the grocery store when you were hungry to go buy something. You would have to work for it and catch it with your own two hands. But building the fishpond was a way for the people to provide for their own ahu'hupuaa. The fishponds would generally make around 2,000-3,000 fishes in their pond in about 3 years. With all this fish, the ahu'hupuaa are able to go provide for their community and ensure that they are getting food, and not just go out to the ocean hoping to get the one lucky catch.

But with all these great experiences and things it provides for the community, it also has some downfalls. To just restore the wall going along the fishpond requires many permits. Not only does it time, patience and permits to restore these near extinct Hawaiian culture, it also takes lots and lots of money that local organizations can't support. It takes many permits just to restore the he'eia wall, imagine how much it would take to restore the entire fishpond? Why is the wall so important to this fishpond? To refurbish the fishpond's wall, "kuapā", in order to preserve the integrity of the fishpond and support our unique cultural, educational, and aquaculture programs. Not only does it takes money, permits and etc. It also takes volunteers to help out to carry the rocks down the wall to help build it. That's what we did when we went to the he'eia fishpond. We got to experience how it was like back then. Building the fishpond. All of us stood in a zig-zag

formation passing the rocks down the line until eventually we were done for the day.

The fishponds environment was a very unique place. The water it self isn't the typical clear, turquoise blue water you would see in the ocean. The water at the fishpond was more dirtier looking with a brown color. This type of water is called brackish water fed by the He'eia Stream and the Kane'ohe Bay Pond Life. The reason why the fishpond is made out of brackish water is so the fish is attracted the come into the fishpond with all the nutrients and food the brackish water has to offer. The pond it self is 88 acres encircled by a 1.3 mile seawall made from basalt and coral. When we first got the the fish pond we noticed that the water wasn't that clear. This was because of the brackish water. When having to walk through that water to go to the other side to help pass the coral down, we could feel different particles floating in our shoes. Although we weren't able to see the actual food the water was providing for the fishes because they were microscopic planktons, it was still a fun experience to go through.

So all in all, these are the reasons why we should help make it easier to restore the he'eia fishpond. Not only to bring back the old Hawaiian cultures and traditions but to help Hawaii be more sustainable.

clee1 - Lina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 9:52 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: totz808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: taylor's fishpond essay.docx

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Taylor Takahashi
Organization: Moanalua High School
E-mail: totz808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

Dear Government of Hawaii,

Just from experiencing this fishpond for a day, I learned that protecting the Hei'eia fishpond is very important. First of all, this fishpond brings back a part of Hawaii's culture. The younger generation will be able to see how the ancient Hawaiian's got their food before having to deal with shipments from the mainland. This was a more clever and time saving way to get their food. Another reason is because it will be an easier way to get fish for the community. Having to constantly rely on the mainland to ship more things or fishing for hours without a guarantee catch is a pain. Having this fishpond is a great alternative because you'll be able to just scoop out fully-grown fish with ease as the season is right. Also, restoring this fishpond is important because it makes Hawaii more independent. For example, if something went wrong with the shipping process or we got into a fight with the mainland or places, we won't have enough resources to support ourselves. That's when the fishpond comes in handy.

The sad thing is that even though the workers of the fishpond are just trying to restore and benefit our community, you need a permit to build just about everything. Even building small portions of the wall requires a permit. Having to deal with the permits and costs only slows down the process of building the fishpond.

Building the fishpond isn't an easy job. There's a long process in doing this. One of the main concerns in building and maintaining it is the mangrove trees. As soon as my class was dropped off at the fishpond, we could automatically see that this fishpond had many mangrove trees. They were everywhere. These mangrove trees have roots that grow in the rock wall, which pulls them a step back. That's because they would need to keep rebuilding it and rebuilding it.

Furthermore, there's a program within the fishpond called the Āina Momona. This program is to start the research for creating opportunities and strategies for future

management of the fishpond. The He'eia fishpond has an abundance of plants and fishes living there. They have brackish water coming from a stream that leads to the pond and a gate where the salt water goes in. Having brackish water creates tiny organisms that attracts tiny fish towards the pond. When I went to this fishpond, you could see water that constantly flows in the pond. Just by glancing in the water, you could already see that there's life in it. I saw a bunch of crabs and fishes hanging around.

Without these fishponds, Hawaii wouldn't be the same. Our culture would be lost. We wouldn't have the same knowledge, and we wouldn't know how to be an independent state. Therefore, I feel that it's very importing to rehabilitate and support Hei'eia fishpond.

From,
Taylor Takahashi

clee1 - Lina

From: Marilyn Leimomi Khan [mkhan@hawaiiāntel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:17 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: Cypher, Mahealani; Oahu Council; Valerie N. Crabbe; Richards, Paul; Kealii Lum Alohanani Jamias; Kane, Shad; John DeSoto (E-mail); Cruz, Lynette; Crabbe, Puamana; Beirne, Ululani; Kauahi, Leatrice; Keala, Jalna
Subject: Testimony in Support of SCR151, SD1
Attachments: Oahu Council Legislative Testimony SCR151, SD1 - Hawn Fishponds.doc

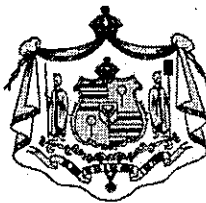
Testifier's Name: Mahealani Cypher, President, Oahu Council, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

Committee: Committee on Hawaiian Affairs; Committe on Culture & the Arts

Date and time of hearing: April 18, 10:00 a.m.

Measure number: SCR151, SD1

Number of copies committee is requesting: 3



O'ahu Council
Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P.O. Box 37874
Honolulu, Hawaii 96837-1122

April 17, 2012

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR151, SD1
URGING THE DLNR, DEPT OF HEALTH, AND OFFICE OF PLANNING TO
STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF
HAWAIIAN FISHPONDS

Hearing, Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 312, State Capitol

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Members
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chair
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair
Members
Committee on Culture and the Arts

Aloha mai, kākou

The O'ahu Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, comprised of 25 civic clubs located on the island of O'ahu, testifies in support of SCR 151, Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Dept of Health, and the Office of Planning to Streamline the Permitting Process for the Restoration of Hawaiian Fishponds.

We know that at one point in time in the history of Hawai'i, fishponds were abundant on all islands and served as sustenance to the community. Today, there remains on O'ahu two that have been restored. We also know that East Honolulu had been known for their massive fishponds. Restoring fishponds is the right thing to do as Hawaii's legislators and others in the community look for alternative ways to provide food to sustain our communities and, at the same time, honor and respect the traditional ways of life of our ancestors.

As a side note, we also supported HB2810,HD3 which directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish the east Honolulu fishpond heritage area, and provides state lease preferences for the reconstruction, restoration, repair, or use of Hawaii and kanaka maoli fishponds, and it creates a preference for the use of traditional names of Hawaiian fishponds.

We urge support for SCR151, SD1.

Me kealoha pumehana

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mahealani Cypher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MAHEALANI CYPHER
President

About the O‘ahu Council, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC)

The O‘ahu Council is one of five councils that comprise the AHCC. It advocates actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities and elevates the social and intellectual status of all Hawaiians. Twenty-five clubs located throughout the island of O‘ahu comprise the council.

clee1 - Lina

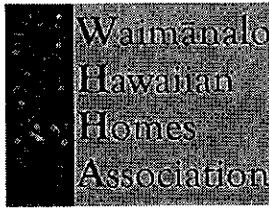
From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 2:33 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: paul_28827@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR151 on 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: SCR 151 SD1.doc

Testimony for HAW 4/18/2012 10:00:00 AM SCR151

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul P Richards
Organization: Waimanalo Hawaiian Homes Association
E-mail: paul_28827@msn.com
Submitted on: 4/17/2012

Comments:

We support SCR 151 SD 1 and hope the committee will consider this as a means of future self-reliance and the value added uses of our resources.



P.O. Box 353, Waimānalo, Hawaii 96795-0353

April 17, 2012

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR151, SD1
URGING THE DLNR, DEPT OF HEALTH, AND OFFICE OF PLANNING TO
STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF HAWAIIAN
FISHPONDS

Hearing, Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 312, State Capitol

Rep. Faye P. Hanohano, Chairwoman, House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Rep. Chris Lee, Vice Chairman, House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Jessica Wooley, Chairwoman, House Committee on Culture and the Arts
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Vice Chairwoman, House Committee on Culture and the Arts

Aloha mai, kākou

The membership and Executive Board and its Directors of the Waimānalo Hawaiian Homes Association (WHHA), representing 644 households and 81 kupuna residential units submits this written testimony in support SCR 151 and urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of Planning (DOP) to begin the processes necessary to streamline the permitting for the restoration of Hawaiian Fishponds known as, loko i'a or loko kuapā (which is associated with Maunalua and throughout the state.

Although Waimānalo ahupua'a does include the area now known as Hawaii Kai or Maunalua, the historical value of this area included many fishponds and restoring them would be appropriate and necessary to increase the sustenance necessary for our state to be self-sufficient. As others consider this as an alternative method to provide food to sustain our communities, this was common practice and the traditional way of life of our forefathers.

WHHA hopes the Department of Land and Natural Resources will establish the east Honolulu fishpond heritage area in providing state lease preferences for the reconstruction, restoration, repair, or use of Hawaii and kanaka maoli fishponds, and it creates a preference for the use of traditional names of Hawaiian fishponds.

O au me ka ha'aha'a,

Paul P. Richards

President