

SCR 68

PROPOSED SD1: ENCOURAGING STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES AND OTHER LARGE WATER USERS TO UTILIZE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR WATER USE AND TO ADOPT THE LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HAWAII'S IRRIGATION WATER CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER, LAND AND HOUSING
and
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, April 10, 2012
2:35 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In Consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 68, PROPOSED SENATE DRAFT 1/
SENATE RESOLUTION 18
ENCOURAGING STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES AND OTHER LARGE WATER
USERS TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR LANDSCAPE WATER USE AND TO ADOPT THE
LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HAWAII'S IRRIGATION WATER
CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR
LANDSCAPE WATER USE.**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Senate Concurrent Resolution, Proposed Senate Draft 1/Senate Resolution No. 18, which encourages government and other large water users to adopt water efficiency best management practices for outdoor landscape water use. These resolutions are consistent with the water conservation goals and objectives of the Department's Commission on Water Resource Management and the State Water Code under Chapter 174C, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

The Department recognizes that a substantial proportion of a homeowner's water use occurs outdoors. Landscaping in government, resort, commercial, institutional, residential, recreational, and other settings also consume a substantial amount of water. Landscaping best management practices to conserve water are essential to preserving our most precious resource. The Department is pleased the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i is actively promoting practical water conservation and use efficiency measures in its industry. This is the kind of leadership that counts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

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
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STATE PARKS



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April 9, 2012

TESTIMONY FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. SR18

Committee on Water, Land and Housing

Committee of Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

As the only Landscape Irrigation Design Consultant in the landscape and turf industry recognized as an EPA WaterSense Partner, I strongly advocate for water conservation, research and development, specifically within the State of Hawaii.

Landscape irrigation can use up to 50% or more of our household water and too many of our both private and municipal landscape systems are poorly maintained and operated. This results in inefficient irrigation practices, excessive evaporation and runoff of our important resource "Water".

Properly designed, installed and maintained irrigation systems can dramatically reduce the outdoor water usage and preserve it for higher priority uses. Too many irrigation systems use more water than what is required for the soil, slope and plant materials utilized. While the State and its University Systems have conducted studies in plant-water demands in agricultural crops, primarily sugar cane, pineapple and selected food items, little or no research has been done for the landscape plant material which covers our islands.

Senate Concurrent Resolution SR18 encourages large water users to adopt Irrigation Water Conservation Best Management Practices to improve the efficiency of all existing and new landscape irrigation installations and operation, which can result in upwards of a 50% water savings at little or no cost to the consumers.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns we can assist you with on this subject.

Allan Schildknecht, ASLA-CID

IRRIGATION HAWAII, LTD.

Certified Irrigation Designer #34038

