



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

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LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 21, 2013, 11:00 A.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1330

Aloha Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, with over 10,000 dues paying members and supporters statewide, respectfully *supports* HB 1330. This measure restores resources and staffing to the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) back to prior levels.

The January 2006 auditor's report of DOCARE found that "Hawai'i's resources have deteriorated through overuse or abuse and from factors such as agriculture, grazing, and urban and residential developments. Examples of deterioration include the decline in coastal water quality, decrease of inshore marine resources, endangerment of inshore ecosystems by alien seaweeds, decline of coral reefs, and increase in the number of impaired streams. Similarly, our cultural resources have also been abused and suffered deterioration."

While the auditor blamed poor management, institutional problems, and the lack of performance indicators for much of DOCARE's ineffectiveness, it was made clear that the resources and staffing of the division have not matched the increasing level of conservation enforcement workload – estimated by the report as having grown by as much as 50% over the past ten years. While the Administration needs to firmly address the management weaknesses within the DLNR, the Legislature must provide the proper level of resources and staffing to ensure that DOCARE can get their job done.

We encourage this Committee to move this measure forward.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

Testimony Before the Finance Committee
Hawai'i Legislature Rm 308
February 21, 2013 11 am.

Aloha honorable legislators,

My name is Kevin Chang and I personally support the restoration of DOCARE funds to pre-recession levels. It is a small step in the right direction.

As an under-resourced institution, the Sisyphean task that DOCARE has bore creates a frustrating cycle of dashed expectations among both DOCARE and concerned community members, many of whom depend on our resources to sustain themselves physically, spiritually and culturally. These frustrations play out in a context that often overlooks the elephant in the room, our collective failure to live up to our constitutional mandate to preserve Hawai'i and her resources for present and future generations. We must increase DOCARE's capacity to do its job.

In my work life as the executive director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) I am privileged to work with a movement of rural and Native Hawaiian communities working across pae'āina o Hawai'i to protect and renew the environmental and cultural legacy passed down to the many generations of these islands. A mission in the years ahead that I see will be to build the bridges we need to collectively fulfill our kuleana to preserve Hawai'i for present and future generations as we boldly stated in 1978. DOCARE is an essential part of making our community work.

Your choice to begin bridging the looming gap between our collective aspirations and the current reality is not just an improvement in environmental governance it is a step towards rebuilding our community well-being.

Aloha



Kevin

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

LATE

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Testimony in Support of HB 1330, Relating to DOCARE

I am a full time commercial aquarium fisherman on Oahu. I am proud to be part of what I know is a vibrant, healthy, and sustainable fishery that contributes to our economy, while providing thousands of people in Hawaii and around the world an opportunity to enjoy the ocean and its creatures. I also understand that the privilege of being allowed to earn a living from the ocean carries with it a certain amount of responsibility, both to conserve the resource upon which we depend and to be conscious of the needs of others in our community.

As such, I am in support of HB 1330 which will increase the funding available to the Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement. Having a stronger enforcement presence on our waters will improve the effectiveness of our fishing regulations. This, in turn, will benefit all of us who use the ocean in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,



Matthew Ross

LATE

To: Hawaii Legislators
From: Mary Marvin Portaer
Re: HB 1330 DOCARE funding
Position: Strong Support

Aloha,

I support HB1330. Protecting our natural and cultural resources is of utmost importance. Please fund DOCARE so that they have the monies to do the job.

Mahalo,

Mary Marvin Porter
Island Eyes Video
Kea'au, Hawaii

FINTestimony

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dwheeler@scubadrewvideo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1330 on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM

HB1330

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Wheeler	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I have spent the last 8 years working closely with a non-profit conservation group that helps to protect the Pupukeya Marine Life Conservation District (MLCD), regarding the reduction of illegal activities within the MLCD. I have work close enough with the DOCARE officers and supervisory staff to know that funding is the number one issue regarding the resources necessary to effectively enforce the laws within their jurisdiction. Our natural resources are under constant threat and to hear that only one officer is patrolling from Kaena point to Kahuku is a disgrace. When citizens call the DOCARE violation hotline and are told there is no officer available, or if they call after hours and get a voice recording, it frustrates the caller, increases the probability of conflict if the citizen feels they must intervene because they are tired of watching violations occur with no response from DOCARE. Hawaii relies on tourism and if we cant find the funds to protect what the people come to enjoy, then what is the department even there for.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 5:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: greenhi3@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1330 on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM

HB1330

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phil Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge Finance Committee members to support HB 1330. DOCAR has not been adequately funded for years. They are directly responsible for protecting our natural resources. This is an essential job that requires all of our support. Thank you for your consideration.

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FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: alohashellservice@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1330 on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM

HB1330

Submitted on: 2/20/2013
Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Hanada	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill. Thank you.

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HB1330

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ulla Carmiencke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a fisherman I support enforcement of existng regulations.

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HB1330

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2013 11:00AM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Nahacky	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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