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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 Committees on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
and
WATER & LAND**

**Monday, January 27, 2014
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1795
RELATING TO THE KEIKI, 'OPIO, AND KUPUNA TRUST FUND**

House Bill 1795 proposes to establish a program for individuals to purchase native or food-bearing trees to be planted on government-owned lands, and establishes the keiki, 'opio, and kupuna trust fund to collect funds received by the program and to support the program. After ten years, the annual interest earned on the trust corpus is to be used for programs supporting children, youth, and the elderly. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of the bill, and offers the following amendments to avoid duplication with the existing state forest stewardship special fund and forest reserves management program.**

The Department strongly supports initiatives to encourage private and public entities to invest in sustainable forest management. The Department notes a great deal of duplication in this proposal with the existing Forest Stewardship Special Fund (Section 195F-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS)) and the management of the State Forest Reserves System as authorized under Chapter 183, HRS. The duties and activities authorized under this Chapter are compatible with the goals to conserve and reforest Hawaii's native trees on public forest lands. The Department has the ability to accept funding to support forest management including federal and state funds as well as contributions from other parties. The Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife currently receives revenues from our seedlings and forest product sales. These revenues currently go toward protecting our watersheds, native forests, and enhancing recreational areas for current and future generations. We do not see the need to establish a separate trust account and advisory board to accomplish the tasks set forth in the bill, as they are already part of the mission of the Department.

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

ESTHER KIA'AINA
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

Additionally, the Department provides several opportunities for the public to participate in native tree planting and forest restoration. The Department actively encourages people and private landowners to invest in conservation and native species restoration through available landowner assistance programs, community engagement, and interactions with the State's forest and natural area reserves and state parks. We provide residents and visitors opportunities to volunteer and contribute to native forest restoration and out-planting activities throughout the year. The Department also encourages and provides opportunities from communities to be involved in forestry management through cooperative partnerships on government lands.

The Department would be pleased to work with the House Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs, and Water & Land Committees to incorporate this initiative into the forest stewardship program and state forest reserve management programs. The Department is exploring the feasibility of partnering with private businesses to generate funding through visitor and resident contributions to generate revenues for existing funds that support the protection of Hawaii's forests. Forestry is a long-term investment that provides the public with a multitude of benefits, including cleaner air, increased water production, and habitat for native wildlife.

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES,
AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND WATER AND LAND
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1795

January 27, 2014

RELATING TO THE KEIKI, 'OPIO, AND KUPUNA TRUST FUND

House Bill No. 1795 establishes a Keiki, 'Opio, and Kupuna Trust Fund (Trust Fund) as a separate fund of a nonprofit agency to be administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) as a means to encourage people to make financial investments while supporting conservation, reforestation of Hawaii's native trees, environmental stewardship, sustainable food and energy production and programs that support and benefit keiki and kupuna. The Trust Fund will collect moneys from individuals to purchase native or food-bearing trees to be planted on government-owned lands. After ten years, the measure requires the annual interest earned on the trust to be used for programs supporting children, youths, and the elderly.

The Department of Budget and Finance defers to the DLNR on the viability and appropriateness of an eco-tourism program. As a matter of general policy, the department does not support creation of trust funds which do not meet the requirements of Section 37-62, HRS. In regards to House Bill No. 1795, it is not evident if the proposed Trust Fund would be self-sufficient.

I encourage the Legislature to scrutinize the fiscal and operational plan for this program to ensure that it does conform to the requirements of Section 37-62, HRS.

cullen3

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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HB1795

Submitted on: 1/25/2014

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Jan 27, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HB1795

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Jan 27, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jasmine Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1795, because this program will assist our Keiki and Kupuna in securing food-bearing trees to be planted on government-owned lands. This will help Hawaii become self-sustainable.

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HB1795

Submitted on: 1/27/2014

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Jan 27, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanani Souza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB 1795 to establish a program for Hawaii's Keiki and Kupuna to buy native or food bearing trees to be planted on government approved land. This will help our children and elderly use our land for a great purpose, to continue the native Hawaiian trees and food bearing trees which will improve our communities.

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HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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LATE

Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center
The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

January 23, 2014

To: Representative Faye Hanohano, Chair
And members of the Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and
Hawaiian Affairs

Representative Cindy Evans, Chair
And members of the Committee on Water and Land

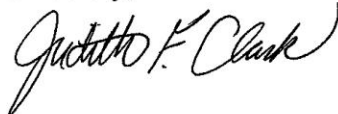
Testimony in Support of HB 1795 Relating to the Keiki, 'Opio and Kupuna Trust

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 1795 Relating to the Keiki, 'Opio and Kupuna Trust.

This remarkable and innovative bill has many potential benefits to the environment and to vulnerable children, youth and seniors. It has the potential to become an ongoing revenue source for the State of Hawaii. It can become a sustainable funding source for programs that allow our children to grow up safe, healthy, and ready to succeed as well as meeting the care needs of our growing elderly population. And it honors the recommendations of Hawaii's youth who, at the annual Children and Youth Summit, have consistently advocated for environmental preservation (including planting of native trees).

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director