

**LATE**

**HB484**

Submitted on: 2/27/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 27, 2013 11:30AM in Conference Room 308

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lela M. Hubbard     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Aloha, Chair Luke and Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Na Koa Ikaika, an ohana organization which supports Hawaiian rights and culture, strongly supports protection of our ancient taro lands which are endangered by development. However, it is the State's duty to have the vision to realize how critical these lands really are to the perpetuation of Hawaiian culture and to the sustainability of all the people of Hawaii. As the world population grows Hawaii must be able to feed its people and, perhaps, export to areas where the soil is too depleted to sustain life or water is lacking for crop production. We will face those identical crises if our government succumbs to the undermining of a necessary goal: preserving taro lands and preserving our natural resources for our growing population.

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