

2/1/13

509

House Committees on
Water & Land
Ocean, Marine Resources,
and Hawaiian Affairs.

Aloha Chairs!

I am an employee of the state of Hawaii but the testimony that follows is my own.

I have attached four previous testimonies to other legislative committees, testifying on identical bills. Three bills are from the 2008 and 2009 sessions.

I do this to insure that you see the consistency of my position regarding the return of Mokuauia Valley.

Please pass this bill to insure that there is a smooth transition from military to civilian control of this sacred valley.

Mahealani, for the opportunity to testify on the future of this important and sacred valley.

(Wendy J. J. J.)
330-0376

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, February 27, 2009

9:00 a.m. Conference Room 211

Testimony in strong support of SB 86 SD1

Aloha! Senator Kim, and members of the committee:

My name is William J. Aila Jr. I am an employee of DLNR however the testimony that follows is my own.

Makua Valley is a very sacred valley and has at last count has more that 120 cultural sites and complexes, including three major Heiau.

The U.S. Army has not live fire trained there for more than four years and has trained several Hawaii based Combat Brigades elsewhere, for deployment in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world.

SB 86 SD1 would begin a process to discuss current management of Makua Valley while recognizing a need for transition of the Valley to civilian use. In doing so, the Army would follow through with a promise that it made to the residents and families of Makua in 1942. The promise, to return the Valley to those residents six years after the War. World War II ended in 1946 and its time to fulfill that promise.

SB 86 SD1 sets out a process of transition. Kahoolawe (Kanaloa) is a prime example of how a longer lead in time for transition could lead to improved results. Both, for the U.S Army and for Makua Valley.

Please support and pass out SB 86.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support.

William J. Aila Jr.
86-630 Luualualei Homestead Road
Wai'anae, Hawaii 96792
Ph# 808.330.0376

Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair, Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs
March 13, 2008
8:30 am. Room 309

Testimony is strongest support of SB 2189 SD1.

Chair Evans, and Committee members:

I am an employee of DLNR however the testimony that follows is that of my own, based upon my relationship with and mana'o from my Uncle Ivanhoe Naiwi and Aunty Frenchy DeSoto.

This bill would set up a commission similar to the Kaho'olawe Reserve Commission, eventually managing the Makua Valley Reserve. The commission would also be authorized to facilitate the expedient return of Makua Valley upon the expiration of the Army's lease or sooner if the situation arises.

The Army has not used Makua Valley for training in the past three years. In the last nine years it has not used it for training in six of those nine years. During the remaining three years it used it marginally. By this history and its actions, it has clearly demonstrated that it no longer needs Makua!

The Army has certified every unit that deployed from Hawaii as fully certified during this time frame. These units have been deployed to all parts of the world including Iraq and Afghanistan. By its actions, it has demonstrated that the time has arrived to create such a commission to possibly begin the discussions facilitating the return and transition of Makua Valley back to civilian management.

In 1942 the Army promised Uncle Ivanhoe, after removing his family from Makua at gun-point, that he would be allowed to return, and that Makua would be returned six months after the war. The Army even put it into the lease agreement with the then, Territory Hawaii, and promptly violated that agreement. Please pass SB 2189 SD1 and begin the process of healing and making things pono.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2189 SD1.

William J. Aila Jr.

Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

February 25, 2008

10:30 am. Room 211

Testimony is strongest support of SB 2189 SD1.

Chair Baker, and Committee members:

I am an employee of DLNR however the testimony that follows is that of my own, based upon my relationship with and mana'o from my Uncle Ivanhoe Naiwi and Aunty Frenchy DeSoto.

This bill would set up a commission similar to the Kaho'olawe Reserve Commission, eventually managing the Makua Valley Reserve. The commission would also be authorized to facilitate the expedient return of Makua Valley upon the expiration of the Army's lease or sooner if the situation arises.

The Army has not used Makua Valley for training in the past three years. In the last nine years it has not used it for training in six of those nine years. During the remaining three years it used it marginally. By this history and its actions, it has clearly demonstrated that it no longer needs Makua!

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Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2189 SD1.

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair, Committee on Water and Land

Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

February 13, 2008

2:45 P.M. Room 414

Testimony is strongest support of SB 2189.

Chair Hee, Chair Tokuda, and Committee members:

I am an employee of DLNR however the testimony that follows is that of my own, based upon my relationship with and mana'o from my Uncle Ivanhoe Naiwi and Aunty Frenchy DeSoto.

This bill would set up a commission similar to the Kaho'olawe Reserve Commission, eventually managing the Makua Valley Reserve.

The commission would also be authorized to facilitate the expedient return of Makua Valley upon the expiration of the Army's lease or sooner if the situation arises.

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Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2189.