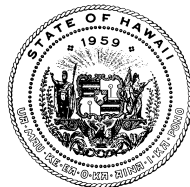


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

LATE



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

H.B. 710 Relating To Fishponds

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health

February 25, 2013
1:30 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** Department of Health supports this bill.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None

3 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources,
4 Department of Health, and Office of Planning, in collaboration with community organizations and
5 Native Hawaiian aquaculturalists, to streamline the permitting process and facilitate the restoration of
6 Hawaiian fishponds.

7 Hawaiian fishponds are specifically addressed in Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 11-54,
8 Water Quality Standards. Section 11-54-9.1.01(c) requires that the Department of Health process
9 applications for water quality certification for the reconstruction, restoration, repair, or reuse of any
10 Hawaiian fishpond that meets the requirements of Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 183B, before all
11 other permits and certifications. In addition, it imposes strict deadlines for determining the
12 completeness of these applications and for issuing or denying a water quality certification for a fishpond.

1 The Department of Health is committed to working with the Department of Land and Natural
2 Resources, Office of Planning and applicants to streamline the permitting process for the restoration of
3 Hawaiian fishponds.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Monday, February 25, 2013 – 1:30 pm

HB 710: RELATION TO FISHPONDS

LATE

TESTIMONY

HONU CONSULTING
Trisha Kehaulani Watson, JD, PhD
Owner

February 25, 2013

Position

We are in strong support of this bill.

Statement

Through the support of Conservation International (Hawai'i Fish Trust) Honua Consulting has been contracted to complete a number of the actions set forth in SB 86 (2012). Those actions mirror the mandates HB 701 (2013). We have made significant progress in our work and appreciate the legislature's continued interest in and support of this effort. We are very proud of this project.

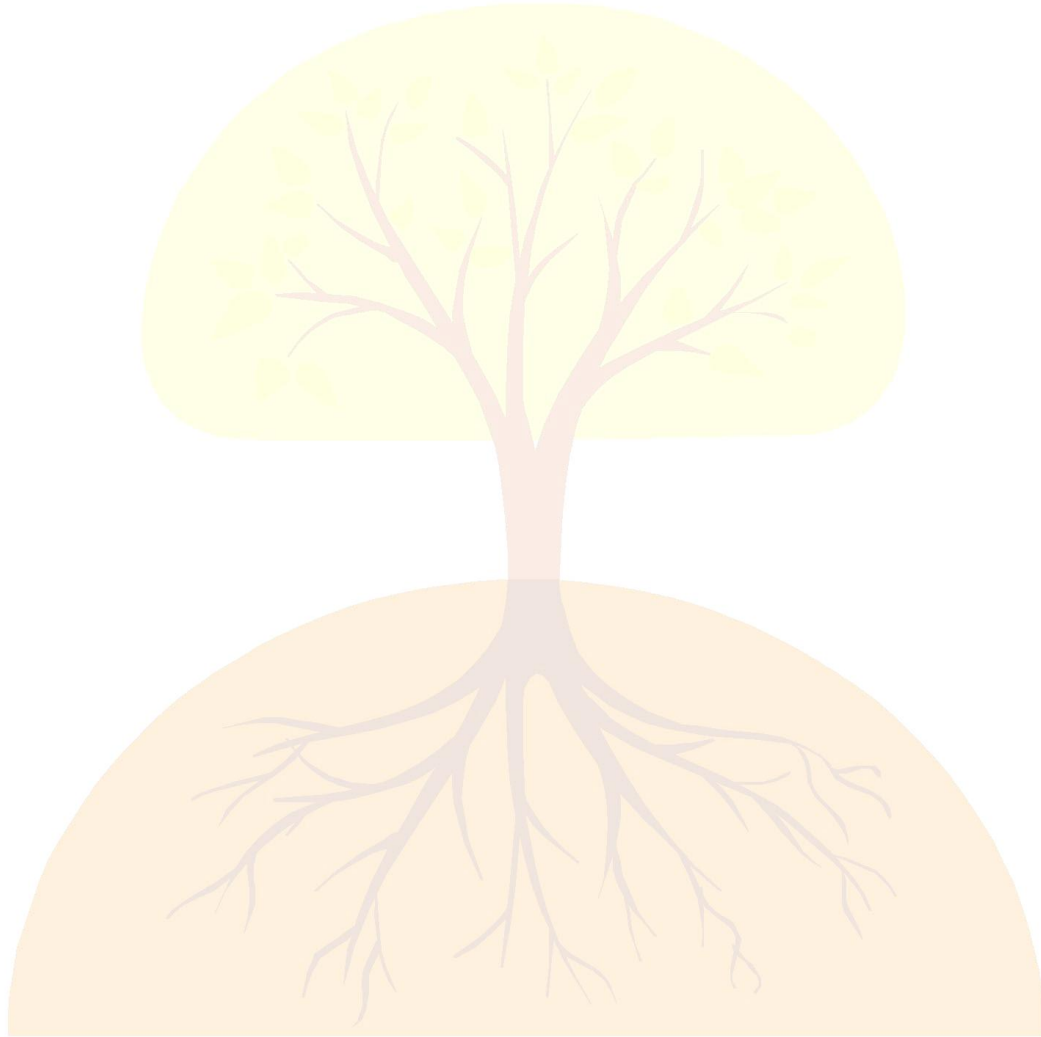
The problems with the permitting and regulatory processes have been extensively studied by federal agencies, community groups and the University of Hawai'i. There is no disputing the extensive research that shows the permitting process is a hindrance in the restoration of traditional Hawaiian fishpond systems. See studies on the legal and economic hardships posed by the existing permitting process from the EPA at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/lokoia.html> and University of Hawai'i <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/Loko%20I'a%20Full%20Publication.pdf>.

We are working hard to work with and address the many decades of concern from the community on this important issue. Our community input process began with fishpond practitioners at their conference in Waipā in November 2012 so we could fully understand their needs. We are committed to ensure that our efforts are transparent and have the support of the practitioners and community. Our goal is to use the team's time and resources effectively to thoroughly address all the concerns outlined in this thoughtful and important bill. We are determined to see this succeed and believe that a collective, community approach is necessary to make this happen. We further believe that the Declaration signed by the practitioners in Waipā and the support from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is a powerful reflection of the community's support for our team's efforts.

We want it noted that we at Honua Consulting feel the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Coastal and Conservation Lands has shown extraordinary leadership and dedication throughout this effort. We have unwavering confidence in their ability to carry this program forward. Additionally, it has been through the support and cooperation of NOAA NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office and NOAA NOS Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Service, Conservation International and most recently the US Army Corps of Engineers that the progress we have made, as identified in Status Update on SB 86, available at <http://files.hawaii.gov/dlnr/reports-to-the-legislature/2013/OCCL13-Streamedline-Fish-Pond-Permit-Rpt.pdf>, has been possible.

We are currently making progress on having this same successful working relationship with the Office of Planning and Department of Health. This bill's progress is instrumental in setting up those working relationships for success. We strongly urge the committee to pass this bill forward as written.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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FINTestimony

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 9:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: watson@honuaconsulting.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB710 on Feb 25, 2013 13:30PM

HB710

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr Trisha Kehaulani Watson	Honua Consulting	Support	Yes

Comments: We will provide oral and written testimony at hearing.

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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LATE

HB710

Submitted on: 2/25/2013

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Chang	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha honorable legislators, My name is Kevin Chang and I personally support HB 710 which proposes to develop a statewide streamlined permitting process for the restoration of loko iā. By passing this bill you increase the potential of our community, especially our Native Hawaiian community, to contribute to the food self-sufficiency of our state in ways that we know have already been done. In my work life as the executive director of Kuaāina Ulu o Auamo (KUA) I am privileged to work with a movement of rural and Native Hawaiian communities working across paeāina 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 thoughtfully streamline the bureaucratic issues we need to collectively fulfill our kuleana to preserve Hawai'i for present and future generations as we boldly stated in 1978. Empowering the legacy of Native Hawaiians and the proper management of marine resources 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. It is not a question of whether it can be done. It is whether or not we can do it again. Aloha Kevin

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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