



HCR98
**EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ONGOING EFFORTS TO PLAN AND DEVELOP A
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH (STEM) EDUCATION
AND TRAINING CENTER IN KAKA‘AKO MAKAI**
House Committee on Water & Land

March 25, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on HCR98, which supports the development of a STEM education and training center in Kaka‘ako Makai and urges OHA and other key and community stakeholders to cooperate in ongoing efforts to plan and develop the center.

OHA concurs with this concurrent resolution’s support for STEM education and respect for concepts such as the well-being of the people of Hawai‘i and the health of our ahupua‘a, ocean, and coastal environments. OHA notes, however, that we are at the early vision and planning stages for our Kaka‘ako Makai lands. We have recently awarded a contract to establish the framework for our Kaka‘ako Makai planning. This framework will assist OHA in determining how to best utilize its parcels for the benefit of Native Hawaiians and for programs that benefit Native Hawaiians. It will also inform OHA’s strategic approach to utilizing its lands in alignment with its Mission.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

Kewalo Marine Laboratory
Pacific Biosciences Research Center
41 Ahui Street, Honolulu, HI 96744

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water and Land
March 25, 2013 at 9:00 AM

by

Robert H. Richmond, Ph.D., Director
Kewalo Marine Laboratory
Pacific Biosciences Research Center
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 98 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ONGOING EFFORTS TO PLAN AND DEVELOP A SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATH (STEM) EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER IN KAKA'AKO MAKAI

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the committee:

As the director of the University of Hawaii's Kewalo Marine Laboratory, I would like to add my strong support for efforts to develop a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education, research and training center in Kaka'ako Makai. Our economy, culture and quality-of-life are integrally tied to our land and ocean resources, yet we are not doing as well as we should in developing and strengthening our local workforce to address the challenges of the 21st century in the STEM disciplines. Hawaii possesses an incredible natural laboratory, the ocean, for engaging our students (K-12, undergraduate and graduate) and our broader community in the STEM disciplines. While other ocean states have developed facilities to better integrate science education, research, management and policy, at present, no such facilities exist in Hawai'i. Having worked with Kindergarten through post-graduate students from Hawaii and the Pacific Islands for over 30 years, I can say without a doubt, our students match up to the best from any other state or nation in the world. With proper facilities and support, our students can fill the thousands of STEM-related jobs here at home, adding the strength of their cultural connections to addressing the mounting challenges face by our state.

A STEM education facility in Kaka'ako Makai would also serve to further develop and expand partnerships among various stakeholders, such as the University of Hawai'i, the Hawaii State Department of Education, Kamehameha Schools, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, appropriate Federal agencies and community groups, and provide an exceptional opportunity to effectively and practically address the needs of our state and people now and into the future.

The University of Hawai'i's Kewalo Marine Laboratory, located in Kaka'ako Makai, has a world-class seawater system that attracts U.S. Mainland and international scientists to perform research on our ocean's biology and the links between environmental and human health. As the director of this facility, I am committed to supporting this initiative to develop a STEM education, research and training facility nearby and to provide seawater access for our students and community members to promote hands-on learning experiences using Hawai'i's marine life. This is a great idea and a great time to pursue this initiative.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

Kewalo Marine Laboratory
Pacific Biosciences Research Center
41 Ahui Street, Honolulu, HI 96744

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of this resolution.



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

March 25, 2013

9:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

**H.C.R. 98 – EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ONGOING EFFORTS TO
PLAN AND DEVELOP A SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,
ENGINEERING, AND MATH (STEM) EDUCATION AND
TRAINING CENTER IN KAKAAKO MAKAI.**

Purpose: Encourages partnerships between the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA), University of Hawaii (UH), Department of Education (DOE), Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), Kamehameha Schools, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and Kakaako Makai Community stakeholders (including community organizations and Kewalo Basin businesses) to cooperate in the ongoing efforts to plan and develop a STEM education and training center.

Position: While supporting the intent of this measure, I provide the following comments. It should be noted that this testimony reflects only my viewpoint as the Authority has not yet had an opportunity to review and act as a group on this measure.

The HCDA recognizes the importance of developing a STEM education and training center for Hawaii's kindergarten through twelfth-grade students, undergraduate and graduate students. The creation of the center will also support

Testimony reflects the view and position of the Executive Director and not that of the Authority.

the development of a skilled workforce which will in turn promote educational and economic development. The HCDA notes the center is in line with our vision to create a live, work and play mixed-use community. In addition, the HCDA recognizes that the Kakaako Makai area has existing facilities and supporting infrastructure that complement the development of a marine and environmental sciences center.

The HCDA defers to the DOE and the UH with respect to the particulars of planning and developing appropriate STEM curriculum/education programs for the State, identifying development support and funds, and potentially choosing to site such programs in the Kakaako Makai area. In the event that either the DOE or the UH pursue construction of such a center, the HCDA will work with the appropriate stakeholders to the limits of our capacity to realize that vision.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this concurrent resolution of the State Legislature.

lowen1-Kyli

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 9:02 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: Scoleman34@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR98 on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM

HCR98

Submitted on: 3/25/2013

Testimony for WAL on Mar 25, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a teacher, environmental consultant and community activist who has worked hard to preserve the Kaka'ako Makai area, I fully support this resolution and the plans to build a marine science center there. Mahalo for your consideration of this bill and efforts to make this happen.

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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House Committee on Water & Land
Monday, March 25, 2013
Conference Room 221
9:00 a.m.

House Concurrent Resolution 98

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT for Ongoing Efforts to Plan and Develop a STEM Education and Training Center in Kaka'ako Makai

Aloha Chair Evans, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee Members:

My name is Wayne Takamine and I am the Chair of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC). Our working group collaborated with the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) in the creation of the Kaka'ako Makai Conceptual Master Plan (2011) that was approved by the HCDA board. CPAC continues to interact with Kaka'ako Makai stakeholders, community groups and individuals including those that participated in the Kaka'ako Makai master planning process

During a recent CPAC general meeting, a proposal to develop a STEM Education and Training Center in Kaka'ako Makai was introduced. The Director of the UH Pacific Bioscience Research Center (PBRC) at the Kewalo Marine Laboratory described this concept as a unique educational opportunity for Hawaii's K to 12 students and educators. By using the existing Kaka'ako Makai resources that includes; a highly regarded UH PBRC marine sustainability outreach program, a world class costal research seawater infrastructure and the availability of land at the adjacent Look Lab and Waste Water site, a program that meets the essential requirements for STEM funding featuring marine science, environmental sustainability, research and training is possible.

On February 28th CPAC sponsored a "Marine Education in Kaka'ako Makai" forum at the HCDA conference room. Included at that meeting were representatives from OHA, UH Pacific Bioscience Research Center, UH Center for Conservation and Research, UH Department of Urban and Regional Planning/Political Science/Obama Center, CPAC, Oahu Parks Conservancy, Hawaii Thousand Friends, Friends of Kewalo Basin, Surfrider Foundation (email) and the Kaka'ako Small Business Association. Everyone involved believes an Educational Marine Research Center in Kaka'ako Makai for programs like Race to the Top and STEM for K to 12 is needed and is consistent with the community based Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan and its Vision and Guiding Principles that was adopted by the HCDA Board in May of 2011. For this reason we feel strongly that the larger communities will support this educational proposal on public land in Kaka'ako Makai.

Kaka'ako Makai Vision & Guiding Principles - highlights:

** Provide enriching public recreational, cultural and educational opportunities for residents and visitors alike through Kaka'ako Makai's scenic coastal and marine environment, the Native Hawaiian cultural heritage, compatible facilities and activities, and historic sites and settings.*

** Preserve, restore and maintain Kaka'ako Makai's valuable coastal and marine resources for present and future generations.*

** Enable the monitoring, protection, restoration, and conservation of natural coastal and ocean resources, including reef and marine life, through responsible stewardship and sustainable practices.*

** Support Kewalo Marine Laboratory's continued valuable marine biology and ecosystems research and education in the vicinity of Kewalo Basin.*

I have received emails in support of HCR98 including people that are affiliated with President Obama's Marine Sustainability and Research initiatives. Many have sent their well wished for the creation of a K to 12 Marine Education program and some have expressed their desire for a permanent center to be developed to service Hawaii and also the Pacific region.

As reflected in the Kaka'ako Makai Vision and Guiding Principles, many Kaka'ako Makai stakeholders, community groups, park and ocean recreational users have expressed a desire to keep the parks and ocean front areas in Kaka'ako Makai for recreational use as a gathering place and a part of the "Lei of Green" concept. With the numerous development projects in Kaka'ako Mauka, many believe the preservation of shoreline recreational areas as a high priority for Honolulu's future.

The Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan (2011) includes plans for a new Marine Research Facility, a Watersport/Surf Exhibition, Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy and an Ocean Safety Lifeguard Station.

Mahalo nui loa,

Wayne Takamine

Chairman

Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC)