



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, March 19, 2014
9:45 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

HR 116/HCR155
Urging the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to Collaborate With the
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
to Create Economic Development Initiatives for the
Perpetuation and Use of Native Hawaiian Plants and Resources.

Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee.

HR116/HCR155 urges the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to collaborate with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to create economic development initiatives for the perpetuation and use of native Hawaiian Plants and resources.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of this bill, but we are concerned about the cost implications of this measure due to the fact that we lack the resources and required expertise in the commercial applications of native Hawaiian plants, and its marketing to agricultural organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

LATE



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN MARINE RESOURCE,
AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

URGING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO COLLABORATE
WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM TO CREATE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FOR THE PERPETUATION
AND USE OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANTS AND RESOURCES

Wednesday, 3/19/14; 9:45 am; Room 325

Aloha Madam Chair Hanohano, vice chair Cullen and members of the Committee. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs(AHCC). The AHCC cannot support this resolution that would have the Office of Hawaiian Affairs(OHA) take on the responsibility of other state agencies when it is a Trust with Trust responsibilities to a specific class of people, Hawaiians and native Hawaiians.

This measure would have OHA act as a Farm Bureau or Agriculture Department to create revenue initiatives on behalf of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism under the guise of the “cultural” initiative of native plants.

OHA is being asked to do this despite the institutionalized State Department of Agriculture, a major department whose functions include divisions on: Agricultural Parks; Plant Industry; Agriculture Development; Agriculture Loan Development; Marketing Development; Administering the Agribusiness Development Corporation and managing thirteen irrigation systems on all islands.

Had HR116/HCR155 suggested one of the above mentioned divisions of the Department of Agriculture it would make sense. To target a Trust with several hundred thousand beneficiaries does not compute. In all good conscience AHCC cannot support this measure and urge that the committee not report it out.

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