



STATE OF HAWAII
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SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**S.B. 1143, SD1, RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CONTROL**

**Testimony of Gary Gill
Acting Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control**

February 22, 2013

1 **Office's Position:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control strongly supports S.B. 1143, SD1.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will generate an estimated \$90,900 annually to improve the
3 State's efforts to protect our fragile environment, as mandated by Chapter 343, HRS.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** S.B. 1143, SD1, establishes the environmental review special fund.
5 Over the last five years, OEQC published an annual average of 230 environmental studies in its
6 bi-monthly issue of The Environmental Notice. The number of environmental studies submitted
7 to OEQC for publication has been relatively consistent over the years. Therefore, OEQC is
8 confident that the fee schedule we propose will be stable and predictable.

9 **Relation to the New Day Plan:** This bill supports enhancement of the Environment and Natural
10 Resources.

11 **Relation to the Department of Health Strategic Plan:** This measure supports Clean and
12 Sustainable Environments; the goal is to create social and physical environments that promote
13 and support good health for all.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: mz@conservehi.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1143 on Feb 22, 2013 09:00AM*
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 1:04:23 PM

SB1143

Submitted on: 2/20/2013

Testimony for WAM on Feb 22, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Ziegler	Conservation Council for Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 1143 SD 1 Relating to the Office of Environmental Quality Control
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 22, 2013, 9:00AM, Room 211

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 10 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy supports the fee structure proposed in S.B. 1143 SD1 as a reasonable and appropriate means to support the necessary operations of the State Office of Environmental Quality Control to deliver its important review and evaluation services for the benefit of the people and the environment of Hawai'i. We also note that our organization would not meet one or more of the requirements in the bill to be exempted from the fees and, therefore, would pay the fees just like other applicants when we are required to file environmental review documents related to our work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

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To: [WAM Testimony](#)
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SB1143

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Testimony for WAM on Feb 22, 2013 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

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

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

ON

Friday, February 22, 2013

9:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of

**S.B. 1143, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL.**

Purpose: This bill will establish fees to support the Office of Environmental Quality Control (“OEQC”) effort to create/maintain a data base, conduct education outreach to State and County agencies, consultants, stakeholders and the general public, hire additional staff, and conduct environmental stewardship to fulfill its statutory functions. The bill will amend Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 341, to add three sections: 1) Section 341-A that establishes an environmental review special fund and provides for uses of the fund; 2) Section 341-B that establishes the fees necessary for the administration and management of the office and council; and 3) Section 341-C regarding annual reports to the Legislature.

Position: This testimony reflects my view only as the Authority has not had an opportunity to review and act on this measure while I recognize the relevance and position of the OEQC, and the importance of HRS, Section 341.4

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

note that State and County agencies should be exempt from paying the filing fees. Instead, I recommend that additional operating funds are appropriated through the Legislature 2013 for additional staff positions, the creation of a data base, for educational outreach, and the creation of an environmental review special fund with appropriated start up funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this proposal.