

# SB21

Makes appropriation to design and construct the replacement of the waterproof membrane and create a natural filtration system for the reflecting pools at the state capitol building.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki  
Comptroller

Maria E. Zielinski  
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING  
ON  
February 1, 2013

S.B. 21

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STATE CAPITOL  
REFLECTING POOLS

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 21.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of S.B. 21, provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

DAGS has concerns about mandating the use of "natural" filtration systems and proposes to use natural filtration as an option rather than being required to do so. Therefore, DAGS respectfully requests that S.B. 21 be amended as follows:

At SECTION 2 (page 2, lines 10 – 11):

“ .... system; [~~natural~~] filtration system, [~~such as the use of aquatic plants for bioremediation~~] including, but not limited to, natural filtration methods; and other improvements.”

At SECTION 3 (page 2, lines 18 – 19):

“ .... system; [~~natural~~] filtration system, [~~such as the use of aquatic plants for bioremediation~~] including, but not limited to, natural filtration methods; and other improvements.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING**

**Friday, February 1, 2013  
3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 21  
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS  
TO THE STATE CAPITOL REFLECTING POOLS**

Senate Bill 21 proposes to makes an appropriation to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) for capital improvements to the State Capitol reflecting pools of up to \$1,000,000. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this measure, the Department nonetheless defers to DAGS on the financial aspects of this measure.

The Department notes that the State Capitol is on the State Register of Historic Places for its unique design, and that the reflecting pools are a contributing element of the nomination.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KIA'AINA  
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

# HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

**To:** Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Sen. Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and  
Housing

**From:** Kiersten Faulkner  
Executive Director, Historic Hawai'i Foundation

**Committee Date:** Friday, February 1, 2013  
3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 016

**Subject:** **SB21, Making an Appropriation for Improvements  
to the State Capitol Reflecting Pools**

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing in support of SB21, which makes an appropriation to design and construct the replacement of the waterproof membrane and create a natural filtration system for the reflecting pools at the state capitol building.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. HHF's 850 members and numerous additional supporters work to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believe that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

The Hawai'i State Capitol is designated on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Its architectural significance derives in part from the symbolism of the building features, which reflects the cultural, social and natural histories of Hawai'i. As the only island state in the nation, Hawaii's geography is unique. The design of the State Capitol reflects that geography: the reflecting pools stand for the Pacific Ocean; the two chambers show the strength of the volcanic origins of the islands; the columns symbolize palm trees; and the rotunda is open to the sky.

Any proposal to rehabilitate or restore the structure should first begin with an understanding of the character-defining features that contribute to its historic significance, which certainly includes the reflecting pools. SB21 would appropriate funds to develop a plan for the repair and maintenance of the waterproof membrane and control of algae, and also to implement such a plan. This approach would address the legislature's concern for long-term stewardship through maintenance and repair, protect the historic integrity of the Capitol, and support the professional standards used by the state historic preservation division to ensure that any alterations to the historic building will take care to avoid adverse effects on character-defining features.

**Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports SB21.**

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## Historic Hawai'i Foundation

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Historic Hawai'i Foundation was established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites and communities on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability, and economic viability of the state.



February 1<sup>st</sup> 3pm, 2013

**Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 21 by Roth Ecological Design Int.**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,

I am representing Roth Ecological Design Int. (REDI) as its Founding Principal and President in support of SB 21. REDI is a firm specializing in the design of natural systems technologies and best management practices for water, storm water and wastewater treatment and management. We believe these appropriations will allow for the much needed structural repairs for the State Capital Reflecting Pools, while also having the opportunity to showcase 21<sup>st</sup> Century design to include native flora and fauna as engineered filters to improve the overall water quality without taking away from the historic intent and characteristics of the Pools. Like that of natural wetlands and marshes, engineered ecological filters, such as seen in natural swimming pools, could serve as mechanism to remove nutrients to outcompete the noxious algae in the Pools, which potentially could save operational costs associated with algae removal and disposal. REDI and its partners have applied natural systems filtration designs to both fresh and brackish water feature systems. Moreover the addition of the natural systems could also potentially serve as both an aesthetic addition and opportunity for education and outreach about Hawaii's unique natural ecosystems and how they are also being regenerated to serve as living filters in the built environment.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: (p): 808-737-1512; (email): [lauren@rothecological.com](mailto:lauren@rothecological.com); (website): [www.rothecological.com](http://www.rothecological.com)

Sincerely,

Lauren C. Roth Venu  
*Founding Principal & President*  
Roth Ecological Design Int. LLC

2013 Hawaii Legislative Session, Senate Bill SB21 Making An Appropriation For Improvements To The State Capitol Reflecting Pools.

Dear Legislators,

I fully support this vital bill with the following comments. Please note that I'm not an attorney, and haven't therefor an expertise in legal writing; my comments below possibly need to be refined by such as yourselves.

- a. I recommend for versatility that the word "natural" used in "natural filtration system" either be deleted or modified to better provide more flexibility, using perhaps "such as" before the word "natural." [Appears 2 times, page 2, line 10 and line 18.]
- b. I further suggest that a provision for "a new water source, such as a well near the Archives Building or using City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply" be added to this draft bill. [Perhaps 2 times, in page 2 line 11 and line 19, immediately preceding the "and other improvements."]

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.

Bruce Bennett  
Mililani  
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