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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
FINANCE

Wednesday, February 26, 2014
11:15 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1553
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AHA MOKU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

House Bill 1553 proposes to appropriate funds for: 1) The administrative and operational expenses of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee,; and 2) The community education on the administrative structure regarding the aha moku system and on natural and cultural resource management. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget request.**

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

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS

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February 24, 2014

**LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT OF
HB1553, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE
'AHA MOKU ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Hearing, Wednesday, February 26, 2014, Room 308**

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Finance

Aloha mai kākou

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports HB1553, to appropriate funds for the administration and operational expenses of the 'Aha Moku Advisory committee and community education on the administrative structure regarding the 'aha moku system and on natural and cultural resource management.

The 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee was established pursuant to Act 288, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, to serve in an advisory capacity to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources on issues related to land and natural resources management through the 'Aha Moku System, a system of best practices that is based upon the indigenous resource management practices of moku (regional) boundaries, which acknowledges the natural contours of land, the specific resources located within those areas, and the methodology necessary to sustain natural resources and the community.

The appropriation of funds will allow the 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee to fulfill its mandate as envisioned by the legislature and the administration, and their work should benefit the state of Hawaii to make informed decisions about Hawaii's land and natural resources.

Please support HB1553!

Respectfully

/s/ Davis Price by on-line testimony

DAVIS PRICE
Chair, Hawaiian Affairs Caucus

