

HB1618

HB1618 HD1 [\(?\)](#)

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Measure Title: RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Report Title: OHA Package; Board of Land and Natural Resources; Composition

Description: Requires that at least one member of the board of land and natural resources, other than the member appointed for having a background in conservation and natural resources, have demonstrated expertise in native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB1618 HD1)

Companion:

Package: Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Current Referral: WTL/HWN

Introducer(s): SOUKI (Introduced by request of another party)

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
3/6/2014	S	Received from House (Hse. Com. No. 229).
3/6/2014	S	Passed First Reading.
3/6/2014	S	Referred to WTL/HWN.
3/11/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL/HWN has scheduled a public hearing on 03-19-14 1:00PM in conference room 225.

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 Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2014
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1618, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Bill 1618, House Draft 1 proposes to provide that the Board of Land and Natural Resources has a board member with expertise in native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and notes that it has submitted its own bill on this matter (Senate Bill 2874) which has crossed-over to the House.**

Currently, nearly all of the boards and commissions under the Department require a member with a background in native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. Last session, legislation was enacted requiring such expertise for the Natural Area Reserves System Commission. The remaining Department boards and commissions that need such expertise are the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Endangered Species Recovery Committee.

As the Department is obligated under the Hawaii Constitution and Hawaii statutory and case law to preserve and protect the exercise of traditional and customary native Hawaiian rights, it would provide great value to have a member on the Board of Land and Natural Resources to have expertise in this area to provide guidance on natural resource protection and management decisions.

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

JESSE SOUKI
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



HB1618 HD1
RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Senate Committee on Water and Land and
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 19, 2014

1:00 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB1618 HD1, which is a bill in OHA's 2014 Legislative Package. HB1618 HD1 would require at least one member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to be an expert in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. **Ensuring that a member of the BLNR is an expert in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices will help the BLNR to better administer our lands and resources with respect to Native Hawaiian issues and concerns, including traditional and customary cultural practices, the public land trust and the recognition of Native Hawaiian cultural values that are intrinsically tied to the 'āina.**

The BLNR administers important programs that carry out the state's responsibility to conserve and manage our natural and cultural resources on behalf of the people and environment of Hawai'i.¹ In addition, the BLNR frequently makes critical decisions that impact Native Hawaiians and their cultural practices, which are protected by Article XII, Section 7 of the Hawai'i State Constitution.² However, while many BLNR members possess specific expertise in a number of matters relating to natural resource management, water conservation and land use controls, BLNR members do not necessarily have specific expertise relating to the cultural value and significance of the lands and resources they administer, or of their specific fiduciary and constitutional duties relating to Native Hawaiians and the public land trust. Accordingly, by providing for a BLNR member with expertise in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, this bill will better ensure that the BLNR has a greater and more fully-informed capacity to carry out its responsibilities relating to Native Hawaiians and the perpetuation of Hawai'i's host culture.

Finally, OHA notes that HB1618 HD1 does not increase the number of members on the BLNR. Rather, HB1618 HD1 maintains the current composition of BLNR—seven members.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committees to **PASS** HB1618 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

¹ Hawai'i Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) § 171-4 (2005).

² HAW. CONST., art. XII, § 7 (1978).

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: anelamarie@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2101 on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 10:45:21 AM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anela Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 8:58:33 AM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2101 on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 8:41:58 AM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please reinstate the 10% conveyance Tax and effective start date of 7/1/14. This bill supports the people of Hawaii and all things Hawaiian.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2101 on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM*
Date: Monday, March 17, 2014 9:27:51 PM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenny Wisemark-Cerro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2101 on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM
Date: Friday, March 14, 2014 6:31:39 PM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly McHugh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I insist that the conveyance tax portion (10%) and effective date (7/1/14) be reinstated!

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Date: Friday, March 14, 2014 8:46:55 PM

HB2101

Submitted on: 3/14/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1618 on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 7:22:23 PM

HB1618

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

Testimony for WTL/HWN on Mar 19, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Penny Levin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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