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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER & LAND**

**Friday, February 14, 2014  
11:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2069  
RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION**

House Bill 2069 proposes to establish a four-year pilot program requiring the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to implement landscape irrigation water conservation best management practices as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH). This measure also proposes to appropriate an unspecified amount of funding to DAGS for the pilot program. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure since it would help preserve Hawai'i's precious fresh water resources, demonstrate government's leadership by example, and reduce water bills – provided that it does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget.**

The landscape irrigation water conservation best management practices (BMPs) established by LICH were developed in close consultation with landscape professionals across the state and are recognized nationally as landscape industry standards. These BMPs are categorized into installation and maintenance practices. The agency cost of implementing installation BMPs in new and renovation projects is not expected to increase significantly over existing practices. Implementation of maintenance BMPs should not cause a substantial increase in operation and maintenance expenses.

In order to facilitate this pilot program, the Department would like to see BMP education and training for agency landscape maintenance supervisors and staff offered by LICH (or other qualified organizations).



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TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
WATER & LAND  
ON  
February 14, 2014

H.B. 2069

RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION

Chair Evans and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2069.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of H.B. 2069, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget, and provides the following information:

1. DAGS will need approximately \$250,000 to implement a four-year pilot program based on landscape irrigation water conservation "best management practices" (BMP), as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH), which were developed in close consultation with landscape professionals across the state and are recognized nationally as landscape industry standards; and

2. To facilitate effective implementation of this pilot program, DAGS will need to use funding appropriated for this purpose to primarily support ongoing Department of Land and Natural Resources and Board of Water Supply efforts to promote landscape irrigation water conservation BMP education and training for State and County agency staff, which can be offered by LICH (or other qualified organizations).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.