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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 Committees on  
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2014  
9:45 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 233  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
PROVIDE HAWAIIAN HISTORY, CULTURAL, AND LANGUAGE TRAINING TO  
ALL ITS EMPLOYEES**

House Concurrent Resolution 233 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to provide Hawaiian history, cultural, and language training to all its employees. **The Department acknowledges the intent of this resolution, but is unable to implement a broad-based program without additional funding specifically targeted for this purpose.**

House Concurrent Resolution 233 points out that the Hawaiian people have a rich and complex history, a unique language that is an official language of the state, and a culture deeply rooted in the land and ocean and yet many state officials do not understand the Hawaiian culture or speak the Hawaiian language. For its part, the Department has encouraged attendance by staff to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' annual legal workshop for state officials and members of boards and commissions.

Funding will need to include a full-time staff person to create a department-wide curriculum, and ensure that training is on-going.

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

**JESSE K. SOUKI**  
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AQUATIC RESOURCES  
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**LATE**



## **Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs**

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

HCR 233 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES TO PROVIDE HAWAIIAN HISTORY,  
CULTURAL AND LANGUAGE TRAINING TO ALL ITS EMPLOYEES

Wednesday, 3/19/14, 9:45 a.m.; Room 325

Aloha Madam Chair Hanohano, vice chair Cullen and members of the Committee gathered to consider today's agenda. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs pleased to support this measure.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources has the huge responsibility of caring for Hawaii's natural resources, all of which are closely related and interwoven into the history, culture and language of Hawaii's indigenous people. This department, starting with the Land Board and all employees, should have at least a rudimentary knowledge of the subject matter of this resolution. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs is willing and able to provide training of this kind and it has been helpful where implemented.

We urge the passage of this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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