

LATE

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:04 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: beamiracle@acrosage.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2241 on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM*

SB2241

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for AGL/WTL/HWN on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Marantz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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nishihara1 - Amanda

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 6:41 AM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2241 on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM

SB2241

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for AGL/WTL/HWN on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, mahalo for supporting SB2241 with the amendments recommended by the Taro Task Force.

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LATE

SB2241
RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF TARO
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Senate Committee Water & Land, and
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 11, 2014

2:55 p.m.

Room 229

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2241, which recognizes kalo-growing lands and infrastructure on O'ahu as special agricultural lands, and protects such lands and infrastructure from designation or acquisition by the state for development projects.

The traditional mo'olelo of Wākea and Papahānaumoku explains that the first kalo plant, Hāloanakalaukapalili, is the elder brother of Native Hawaiians. As the elder sibling, Hāloa provides sustenance to Native Hawaiians and, in return, we as the younger siblings care for Hāloa by ensuring that kalo flourishes. The bond that connects Native Hawaiians to kalo remains a sacred one, and it is our kuleana to preserve it. As the plant that has sustained the people of Hawai'i since time immemorial, kalo is not only integral to the identity of Native Hawaiians, but also to the State of Hawai'i as a whole.

This legislature created the Taro Security and Purity Task Force (Act 211, Session Laws 2008) to explore ways to strengthen state policy to restore our once-flourishing kalo economy. In their 2010 report to the legislature, the Taro Task Force's primary recommendation was for the state to take an active role in remedying the severe reduction in the amount of and access to kalo-growing lands. **The Task Force found that rapid development in the last 20 years has led to a catastrophic loss of lands with the unique set of natural conditions necessary for kalo growth, and the dismantling of ancient structures most efficient for fostering thriving kalo production.** Protecting these historic lands and structures from further destruction and development will ensure that they are available to help support our present and future kalo needs, and may facilitate our return to a more traditional, self-sufficient and sustainable model of local food production.

Ironically, while much of Hawai'i's resident population still relies on kalo as a staple starch, and while our tourism industry requires a high volume of kalo to create a more authentic cultural imprint upon our visitors, the lack of active kalo lands means that Hawai'i must now import millions of pounds of kalo every year. **Accordingly, this bill would promote greater local production of kalo, to improve our state's food self-sufficiency and keep jobs and resources in our local economy.**

Therefore, OHA urges the committees to **PASS** HB2241. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



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RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF TARO
Senate Committee on Agriculture
Senate Committee Water & Land, and
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LATE

1768 Kalawi Place
Wailuku (Maui), Hawaii 96793

February 9, 2014

Email Testimony

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara
Chairman Senate Agriculture Committee
sennishihara@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Malama Solomon
Chairwoman Senate Committee on Water and Land
sensolomon@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Chairwoman Shimabukuro
Chairwoman Senat Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
senshimabukuro@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Joint Committee Hearing on SB 2241

Vincent Mina
President
Maui

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Chair Solomon, Chair Shimabukuro and Honorable Committee Members,,

Simon Russell
Vice-President
Maui

HFUU is submitting testimony in support of SB 2241. We agree with the Sate Commissioned Taro task Force that these protections for Taro and Taro farmers need to be put in place a robust future for Taro production in the near future. We have Taro farmers in our membership and can say that many more people will farm Taro when land and water are more abundant, as well as security in the long term availability of those 2 critical factors in the Taro Farming equation.

David Case
Secretary
Kona

We are of the opinion that Taro production in Hawaii has declined to dangerously low levels, and the availability of land and water to farm Taro has followed suit. We know hat needs to be done, preservation of the resource that we hold sacred.

Ray Maki
Treasurer
Kauai

Hawaii Nei should not need to import 50% of it's taro used as we currently do. Whatever we need to do to maintain a sufficient supply of fresh Taro is the direction we need to be headed in. Paying other countries to export our State's historically staple food crop is at odds with our culture.

Pamela Boyar
Member
Oahu

Respectfully submitted,

HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED

Vincent Mina, President

David Fisher
Member
Maui

The Hawaii Farmers Union and its Chapters is a nonprofit corporation formed under Hawaii law. It advocates for the sovereign right of farmers to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawaii through cooperation, education and legislation.

LATE

nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 5:08 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: oilipua64@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2241 on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM

SB2241

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for AGL/WTL/HWN on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica O. Kaikaina	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee Chair(s), I would like to submit testimony in favor of this measure. I think that this will both protect our cultural ways and will also perpetuate our native ways of life. Mahalo for all your time and energies spent on this, I really appreciate it! Aloha, Jessica Oilipua-Kaikaina

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nishihara1 - Amanda

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:47 PM
To: AGL Testimony
Cc: fernrosenstiel@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2241 on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM

SB2241

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for AGL/WTL/HWN on Feb 11, 2014 14:55PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Rosenstiel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please move this bill forward, mahalo!

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