

# SB 2510

Establishes a four-year pilot program requiring DAGS to implement irrigation water conservation best management practices, as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii and report to the Legislature. Makes an appropriation.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



Dean H. Seki  
Comptroller

Maria E. Zielinski  
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING  
AND GENERAL SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 119  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING  
ON  
February 10, 2014

S.B. 2510

RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on S.B. 2510.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of S.B. 2510, 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” (BMPs), 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.

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 submit written testimony on this matter.

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 Committee on  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING

Monday, February 10, 2014  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2510  
RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION

Senate Bill 2510 establishes 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 appropriates an unspecified amount of funding to DAGS to implement this 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).

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  
KAIHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



**Hawaii Chapter of the  
American Society of Landscape Architects**

Hawaii State Legislature  
Senate Committee on  
Economic Development,  
Government Operations and Housing  
Hawaii State Capitol

**February 9, 2014**

**RE: SB2510 -- RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION**  
Hearing date: Monday, February 10, 2014, 2:45 PM

Dear Chairperson and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, I am writing to inform you that we fully **support Senate Bill 2510**, which encourages the use of water conservation best management practices.

Fresh water is a precious resource on our islands. Efficient irrigation systems reduce both potable water usage and the amount of polluted urban runoff discharged into our water bodies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Stilgenbauer, ASLA  
ASLA Hawaii Chapter President 2014  
judith.stilgenbauer@gmail.com



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February 10, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND  
HOUSING  
TESTIMONY ON **SB2510**  
RELATING TO RELATING TO URBAN WATER CONSERVATION  
Room 016  
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Solomon, Chair Espero, and Members of the Committees:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFBF is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB supports SB2510** which establishes and provides funding for a four-year pilot program requiring DAGS to implement irrigation water conservation best management practices, as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii and report to the Legislature

HFBF strong supports the adoption of irrigation water conservation practices. The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii has spent significant time developing these BMPs as well as communicating these practices to their members. The State has significant amounts of properties that utilize irrigation and adoption of these practices, coupled with communication of their results is an excellent means of educating the general public. Lots of water is not the only way to keep your lawn green. As the public sees the result on roadsides, parks and other public areas, acceptance of the BMPs should follow.

HFBF is part of the CWRM Water Conservation Advisory Panel and the Council's BMPs were adopted as a implementing action. At the end of the day, we all share water and all sectors need to make best use of our water resources. Our nurseries are part of the Landscape Industry and we support their proactive efforts in implementing water conservation and best management practices.

We respectfully request your support of SB2510. Thank you for the opportunity to offer our comments on this measure.



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January 30, 2014

Subject: SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL N.O. 2510

Honourable Chair and Members of the Committee.

As the only EPA WaterSense Partner who specializes in Landscape and Turf Irrigation in Hawaii, I fully support Senate Bill 2510 Relating to Water by encouraging the use of water conservation best management practices. While this bill encourages the start of a pilot program, we hope it will be expanded at some future time to include all large public water users having 25,000 sf of landscaped area.

Landscape irrigation uses upwards of fifty percent or more of our domestic water. A poorly maintained or installed irrigation system can waste up to fifty percent of that water due to inefficient irrigation practices, poor components, evaporation and runoff.

Maintaining and installing water efficient irrigation systems is one of the most effective ways to reduce wasted drinking water, reduce run-off, reduce stormwater sediments and optimize plant health by applying the correct amount of water.

The recommendations provided by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii Best Management Practices and as outlined in this Bill have been proven reduce water usage outside the home by 30 to 50% using low or no cost methods of controlling the irrigation system.

Senate Bill 2510 helps encourage public water users to adopt these common sense Best Management Practices in order to improve the efficiency through these low-cost and no-cost practical measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Allan G. Schildknecht, ASLA-CID  
**IRRIGATION HAWAII, LTD.**  
Certified Irrigation Designer #34038

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sam Slom, Vice Chair  
Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing

SB2510

Date of Hearing: February 10, 2014

Time: 2:45 PM  
Place: room O16

Hello, my name is Haley Fujimori, and I am a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student at Mililani High School. I am testifying in favor of SB2510, Relating to Urban Water Conservation, which would establish a four-year irrigation water conservation best management practices pilot program. Management practices including, installing water conserving irrigation components and drought-tolerant plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the site and surroundings.

All communities should make efforts to conserve Hawaii's water resources because it is limited. Using the practice of planting new plants that are native to the area is definitely a great way to conserve water, and at the same time, restore native plants to the area. When communities were being developed, the native forests were taken out and replaced with non-native plants. Very few native plants were planted in the communities, which was a bad thing because non-native plants don't belong in Hawaii, so they take up more resources, including water. Removing the non-natives and planting natives will help save a lot of water. Plus, making efforts to save our water resources won't only result in conserving water, it will also help to eventually take out all non-native plants and bring back native plants. Doing that will make Hawaii's ecosystem healthier! It is important for us to make changes now to protect Hawaii's natural resources, so it will still be available for future generations.

By making changes in Hawaii's communities to save our water resources, we restoring the native forest/plants, making the ecosystem healthier. I urge the committee to pass SB2510. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify!

Haley Fujimori

Mililani High School

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