

SB2678

Measure Title: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

Report Title: Aha Moku Advisory Committee; Appropriations (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds for the administration and operational expenses of the aha moku advisory committee and community education on the administrative structure regarding the aha moku system and on natural and cultural resource management.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: WTL, WAM

Introducer(s): SOLOMON

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
1/17/2014	S	Introduced.
1/21/2014	S	Passed First Reading.
1/21/2014	S	Referred to WTL, WAM.
1/30/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL has scheduled a public hearing on 02-05-14 2:00PM in conference room 225.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
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 Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, February 05, 2014
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2678
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT CULTURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT**

Senate Bill 2678 proposes to appropriate funds for the administration and operational expenses of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee and community education on the administrative structure regarding the Aha Moku system and on natural and cultural resource management. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill and offers the following suggestion.**

The Department notes that in support of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, the Department has submitted an Executive Supplement Budget request of \$110,000 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. By comparison, Senate Bill 2678 proposes to appropriate \$100,000, allocating \$60,000 for administration purposes, and \$40,000 for community education. The Department suggests that this measure be amended to reallocate the funds to be appropriated, with \$75,000 being set aside for administration and \$35,000 for community education purposes.

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
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Aha Moku Advisory Committee
Testimony of Leimana DaMate**

Before the Senate Committee on
Water and Land

Wednesday, February 05, 2014
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

**In Support of
S.B. 2678**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT CULTURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT**

Senate Bill 2678 appropriates funds for the administration and operational expenses of the aha moku advisory committee and community education on the administrative structure regarding the aha moku system and on natural and cultural resource management.

One of the purposes of Act 288, Hawaii Session Laws 2012, under which the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (Committee) is established is to “formally recognize the Aha Moku System, a system of best practices that is based upon the indigenous resource management practices of moku boundaries, which acknowledges the natural contours of land, the specific resources located within those areas, and the methodology necessary to sustain resources and the community.”

Under Act 288, the Committee may provide advice on the following:

- 1) Integrating indigenous resource management practices with western practices in each moku;
- 2) Identifying a comprehensive set of indigenous practices for natural resource management;
- 3) Fostering the understanding and practical use of native Hawaiian knowledge, methodology, and expertise;
- 4) Sustaining the State’s marine, land, cultural, agricultural, and natural resources;
- 5) Providing community education and fostering cultural awareness on the benefits of the aha moku system;
- 6) Fostering protection and conservation of the State’s natural resources; and,
- 7) Developing an administrative structure that oversees the aha moku system.

When the Bill that created the Act was passed, the legislators made it clear that the voices of the Native Hawaiian whose expertise in natural and cultural resource methodology, handed down

through generational and traditional knowledge, was brought forward to the attention of the State's land and natural resources regulatory agencies and included those mandates.

Since the Committee became officially operational in July, 2013 they have established a strong and good rapport with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the agency they are attached to, and are working to fulfill the mandates of Act 288. Unfortunately, the legislature did not fund FY 2013-14. However, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs assisted by funding operational expenses in the amount of \$76,500 so that the Committee's programs could be started. Those funds were planned to be matched by the Legislature, however that did not happen. Currently, funds will be depleted very shortly and we have asked OHA to assist for the few months left in this fiscal year. We are waiting approval for that request.

The Aha Moku System is inclusive of eight main Hawaiian Islands and forty-three (43) traditional moku districts. In the eight months that we have been in operation, in addressing each of the mandates in the Act, we have begun with the official organization of a communications route for each of the moku and all of the islands. However, with just one staff member working on the administration and operation of the Committee, it has been difficult to fully integrate the organization of all of the moku.

The funds appropriated in this Bill will be truly helpful. The DLNR has appropriated in their package to the governor the sum of \$110,000 for the operational expenses for FY 2014-2015, and we are very grateful for that. However, that amount is for the salary of one position and some travel for the Committee to meet.

It is important that the Aha Moku System become fully operational so that the mandates of the Act are fulfilled. Community outreach is critical and that entails public community meetings, moku meetings and the expenses incurred in these operations.

The Aha Moku System is comprised of ahupua'a and moku Hawaiian communities and the general public who are dedicated to the sustainability of Hawaii's natural and cultural resources.

We are strongly in support of the Aha Moku system and urge the Legislature to support S.B. 2678.

Respectfully yours,

Leimana DaMate, Executive Director
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
Ph: 808-587-1498

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS CAUCUS

Democratic Party of Hawaii

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February 3, 2014

**LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT OF
SB2678, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Hearing, Wednesday, February 5, 2014, Room 225**

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committee on Water and Land

Aloha mai kākou

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges your committee to fully support the provisions of SB2678, to appropriate funds for the administration and operational expenses of the 'Aha Moku Advisory committee and community education on the administrative structure regarding the 'aha moku system and on natural and cultural resource management.

The 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee was established pursuant to Act 288, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, to serve in an advisory capacity to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources on issues related to land and natural resources management through the 'Aha Moku System, a system of best practices that is based upon the indigenous resource management practices of moku (regional) boundaries, which acknowledges the natural contours of land, the specific resources located within those areas, and the methodology necessary to sustain natural resources and the community.

We appreciate Senator Solomon's introduction of this bill that recognizes that the appropriation of funds will allow the 'Aha Moku Advisory Committee to fulfill its mandate as envisioned by the legislature and the administration, and their work should benefit the state of Hawaii to make informed decisions about Hawaii's land and natural resources.

Please support SB2678!

Respectfully

/s/ Leimomi Khan by on-line testimony

LEIMOMI KHAN
Co-Chair, Legislative Committee
Hawaiian Affairs Caucus

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2678 on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM*
Date: Saturday, February 01, 2014 10:35:45 PM

SB2678

Submitted on: 2/1/2014

Testimony for WTL on Feb 5, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	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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