SB 2944

RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL RETREATS

Authorizes counties to issue permits for educational retreats to benefit local residents and provide various instructional programs, including programs related to nature, culture, wellness, and sustainable living.

PSM, JDL



State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1428 South King Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014
2:50 P.M.
Room 224
SENATE BILL NO. 2944
RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL RETREATS

Chairperson Espero and Members of the Committee:

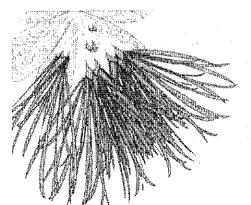
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2944. The Department of Agriculture offers comments.

This bill seeks to create a new permit at the county level to establish educational retreats focusing on ecology and related topics, and other programs and facilities supportive of education, employment, energy, the economy, recreation, services, supplies, safety, and agricultural food production. The location of educational retreat sites are remote rural areas on lands with minimum agricultural value. These retreat sites allow for accommodations for up to eight persons per acre and a maximum habitable site of 500 acres.

The Department of Agriculture supports efforts to increase food production and promote agricultural education. We recommend the counties, as they develop their ordinances and rules for educational retreat permits, carefully scrutinize land uses and activities proposed in this measure that are not specifically related to agricultural production and activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.







12-6860 Kalapana-Kapoho Beach Road Pahoa, Hawari 96778 busmess: 808 965.7828 tall free: 800.800 6886 fax: 808.965.0527 www.kalani.com

Legislative project initiated January 20, 2014 -- Martin Luther King Day This letter: February 7, 2014

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

L.J. Botes in

FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR EMERITUS Richard Koob

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INTERNAL L.J. Bates 13

Richard Keeb Jim Larson

EXTERNAL

Lorn Oqualas Tokia Funyaki Delton Johnson Mark Rosteta Paul Rampo Zore Thomson

ADVISORY 'OHANA

Stewart Blackburg Gar Chiana Alan Cohen Christina Mauliola Cook Asmes Cope Michael Craft Rev Geome Decesta Kathy Eiger Jean Erdman Stanislay Grof Alamos Maubert Mark Honshaw Paul Horn Pa Vdayat Inayat Khac History Mayali Jetty Arthur Johason Robert Kent Everett "Somby" Kinney Joan Magoplaghan from Nohm-Map, PhD Habta Ossmans, PhO Clea Parker Robinson Frances Sherrard Brother David Steingl-Rast Ehulani Stephany George Thomas Viv-enne & Ron Toeman Joyce and Barry Vissell Ruel Variety Skilch White

SUPPORT SB2944 (with link to the letters of 433 supporters)

Aloha PSM Committee Members

It is very important that SB2944 continue to be heard and PASSED, and please begin September 2014. No appropriations are being requested. Only acknowledgment is requested so that counties can continue and move forward with permitting educational retreats. One such educational retreat, Kalani Honua, has already been in existence for 40 years!

These bills are necessary so that:

All counties are allowed to acknowledge and support educational retreats as a means to increasing food production and building sustainable rural economies. Educational retreats like Kalani Honua have a proven record of: revitalizing traditional ahupua'a sustainable living practices; building sustainable economy in fast growing and impoverished districts; and greatly increasing food production on lands of no soil or poor soils. Educational retreats, which provide a spectrum of nature, culture and wellness services, must be recognized by the legislature in order to continue to help Hawai'i meet its 2050 Sustainability Goals. Educational retreats should not be limited to ag tourism classifications. Although retreats demonstrate ecology and sustainable agriculture, they also can, like Kalani, help provide for an area's needs for employment, energy, education, recreation, safety, supplies and services. Hence it is important that educational retreats be acknowledged by the Legislature in order to increasingly help Hawai'i thrive.

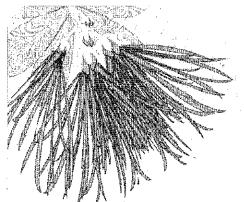
Legislation in support of educational retreats should begin in September, 2014, not at any later date. If such legislation were in place 40 years ago, when, for example, Kalani Honua was initiated with the help of a forward-thinking Hawai'i County Planning Department, then much more of Hawai'i would have strong sustainable economies similar to the vastly increased diversified food production and \$10 million annual economic boost that Kalani has promoted and help provide for coastal Puna supporting four local farmers markets and over 500 local farmers, fishermen, crafts people, vendors and businesses!

Note the letters of 433 supporters viewable on <u>www.kalani.com/HelpHawaiiThrive</u>. These letters have been sent directly to WAL Committee members, and submitted as testimony on the Legislature web site however none of these testimonies are showing up on the site!

An example of an educational retreat in collaboration (for 40 years) with a 500 year ahupua'a heritage is the mutually supportive relationship of the Kanaka'ole 'ohana and Kalani Honua in revitalizing traditional sustainable living practices, per the following letter:

From: Kekuhi Kealiikanakaole [mailto:ohaililani@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 10:57 PM Subject: support for SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919

On behalf of my 'ohana, please support SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919. Educational retreats expand awareness and appreciation of the heritage and environment of Hawai'i while also providing a sustainable economy for rural areas and residents most in need of agricultural food production, education, employment, energy, recreation, safety, supplies,





and services. These bills support the development of more sustainable methods of living, allowing greater implementation of county and state sustainable living policies, including furthering food and energy self-sufficiency in manners exemplified by educational retreats which engage local businesses, vendors, farmers and fisherman.

Kalani Honua is indeed an example of holism in the context of good living and aloha for our aina. Kalani Honua and Richard Koob have been our neighbors in Ke'eke'e, Kama'ili, Puna for as long as I know. I am 47. They have been good caretakers of a portion of our family land. Kalani Honua is a model of the potential of education, business, sustainability, stewardship and community. Our family is also engaged, at many levels, in education, spirit and social-ecological wellbeing of our aina for ourselves and our mo'opuna. Our models of education, like Kalani Honua's, are grounded in the health of our aina and are anchored in our balanced participation with aina as elder. Hence, our educational and spiritual inspiration comes from participating with and caring for Aina as the model teacher and classroom. Our own traditions depend on the health of our ecological relationships.

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support of SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919 and Land Use Commission and county planning commission approvals for educational retreats.

E Ola E Na Kini...sustained life for all,

Kekuhi Kealiikanakaoleohaililani

Assistant Professor, Hawaii Life Styles, Hawaii Community College kekuhi@hawaii.edu (808)934-2616

HB1919, the companion bill to SB2944, has been unanimously passed by the EEP and WAL (Passed 2/7/14 with "No Amendments"). HB1919 differs only in that it is more complete in its specific recognition of kupuna who have played key supportive roles in the founding and growth of Hawaii's largest educational retreat Kalani Honua, and its revitalization of the spirit and sustainable living practices of a heritage ahupua'a with preserved (DLNR-SHPD) halau and heiau sites.

HB1919 contains a paragraph acknowledging kupuna, such as...

Educational retreats are inspired by kupuna heritage in teaching an eco-aware harmony with nature that helps participants create and achieve their personal best, with love for life, respect for others, and care for home, local and global. This Act honors kupuna elderly and ancestors who over the past forty years have helped launch educational retreat operations on traditional ahupua'a community lands in Hawaii, including: Kalapana community leaders Kini Pea, Emma Kauhi, G-Girl and Puna Keli'iho'omalu, Rebecca Pau, Mini Ka'awaloa, and Bill Carse, former University of Hawaii Hilo dean; Nona Beamer; Loretta and Hillary Koob, Minnesota farmers who volunteered decades of winter months in Hawaii supporting sustainable community and agriculture; Agnes Cope (Kalani Regional Board Member) and Kamaki Kanahele of Waianae, and Bill Biglow, a surfer and Maui community college information technologist who, inspired by the sustainable practices of indigenous peoples and by legendary demigod Maui's gifts to the people of Hawaii, crafted model eco-housing designed to maximize air flow, natural light, and open vistas. The support of these kupuna and others for 'ohana community living continues in the teaching of ecology provided by educational retreats.

Your support will be appreciated for generations to come. Sincerely



Richard Koob, thriving with sustainable farming for 67 years!

Founder, Director Emeritus: KALANI Oceanside Retreat Village 808-965-0468 X104; 12-6860 Kalapana-Kapoho Beach Road, Pahoa, HI 96778 www.KALANI.com

Collaborating to provide Hawall-Nature-Culture-Wellness-Sustainability education since 1975

"Be the change you want to see in the world." - Gandhi

SB2944

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Koob	Kalani Oceanside Retreat Village	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT SB2944 Aloha PSM Committee Members It is very important that SB2944 continue to be heard and PASSED, and please begin September 2014. One such educational retreat, Kalani Honua, has already been in existence for 40 years! Note that NO appropriations are being requested. This bill is simply about acknowledging and supporting educational retreats as a means to help Hawai'i thrive sustainably. These bills are necessary so that: • All counties are allowed to acknowledge and support educational retreats as a means to increasing food production and furthering sustainable rural economies. Educational retreats like Kalani Honua have a proven record of: revitalizing traditional ahupua'a sustainable living practices; building sustainable economy in fast growing and impoverished districts; and greatly increasing food production on lands of no soil or poor soils. Educational retreats, which provide a spectrum of nature, culture and wellness services, must be recognized by the legislature in order to continue to help Hawai'i meet its 2050 Sustainability Goals. Educational retreats should not be limited to ag tourism classifications. Although retreats demonstrate ecology and sustainable agriculture, they also can, like Kalani, help provide for an area's needs for employment, energy, education, recreation, safety, supplies and services. Hence it is important that educational retreats be acknowledged by the Legislature in order to increasingly help Hawai'i thrive. • Legislation in support of educational retreats should begin in September, 2014, not at any later date. If such legislation were in place 40 years ago, when, for example, Kalani Honua was initiated with the help of a forward-thinking Hawai'i County Planning Department, then much more of Hawai'i would have strong sustainable economies similar to the vastly increased diversified food production and \$10 million annual economic boost that Kalani provides for coastal Puna - supporting four local farmers' markets and over 500 local farmers, fishermen, crafts people, vendors and businesses! Note the letters of 433 supporters viewable on www.kalani.com/HelpHawaiiThrive. These letters have been sent directly to PSM Committee members (PSMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov), however none of these testimonies are showing up on the Legislature web site! An example of an educational retreat in collaboration (for 40 years) with a 500 year ahupua'a heritage is the mutually supportive relationship of the Kanaka'ole 'ohana and Kalani Honua in revitalizing traditional sustainable living practices, per the following letter: From: Kekuhi Kealiikanakaole [mailto:ohaililani@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 10:57 PM Subject: support for SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919 On behalf of my 'ohana, please support SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919. Educational retreats expand awareness and appreciation of the heritage and environment of Hawai'i while also providing a sustainable economy for rural areas and residents most in need of agricultural food production, education, employment, energy, recreation, safety,

supplies, and services. These bills support the development of more sustainable methods of living, allowing greater implementation of county and state sustainable living policies, including furthering food and energy self-sufficiency in manners exemplified by educational retreats which engage local businesses, vendors, farmers and fisherman. Kalani Honua is indeed an example of holism in the context of good living and aloha for our aina. Kalani Honua and Richard Koob have been our neighbors in Ke'eke'e, Kama'ili, Puna for as long as I know. I am 47. They have been good caretakers of a portion of our family land. Kalani Honua is a model of the potential of education, business, sustainability, stewardship and community. Our family is also engaged, at many levels, in education, spirit and social-ecological wellbeing of our aina for ourselves and our mo'opuna. Our models of education, like Kalani Honua's, are grounded in the health of our aina and are anchored in our balanced participation with aina as elder. Hence, our educational and spiritual inspiration comes from participating with and caring for Aina as the model teacher and classroom. Our own traditions depend on the health of our ecological relationships. It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support of SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919 and Land Use Commission and county planning commission approvals for educational retreats. E Ola E Na Kini...sustained life for all, Kekuhi Kealiikanakaoleohaililani Assistant Professor, Hawaii Life Styles, Hawaii Community College kekuhi@hawaii.edu (808)934-2616 HB1919, the companion bill to SB2944, has been unanimously passed by the EEP and WAL (Passed 2/7/14 with "No Amendments"). HB1919 differs only in that it is more complete in its specific recognition of kupuna who have played key supportive roles in the founding and growth of Hawaii's largest educational retreat Kalani Honua, and its revitalization of the spirit and sustainable living practices of a heritage ahupua'a with preserved (DLNR-SHPD) halau and heiau sites. HB1919 contains a paragraph acknowledging kupuna, such as... Educational retreats are inspired by kupuna heritage in teaching an eco-aware harmony with nature that helps participants create and achieve their personal best, with love for life, respect for others, and care for home, local and global. This Act honors kupuna elderly and ancestors who over the past forty years have helped launch educational retreat operations on traditional ahupua'a community lands in Hawaii, including: Kalapana community leaders Kini Pea, Emma Kauhi, G-Girl and Puna Keli'iho'omalu, Rebecca Pau, Mini Ka'awaloa, and Bill Carse, former University of Hawaii Hilo dean; Loretta and Hillary Koob, Minnesota farmers who volunteered decades of winter months in Hawaii supporting sustainable community and agriculture; Agnes Cope and Kamaki Kanahele of Waianae, and Bill Biglow, a surfer and Maui community college information technologist who, inspired by the sustainable practices of indigenous peoples and by legendary demigod Maui's gifts to the people of Hawaii, created model eco-housing designed to maximize air flow, natural light, and open vistas. The support of these kupuna and others for 'ohana community living continues in the teaching of ecology provided by educational retreats. Your support will be appreciated for generations to come. Sincerely Richard Koob, thriving with sustainable farming for 67 years! Founder, Director Emeritus: KALANI Oceanside Retreat Village 808-965-0468 X104; 12-6860 Kalapana-Kapoho Beach Road, Pahoa, HI 96778 www.KALANI.com Collaborating to provide Hawaii-Nature-Culture-Wellness-Sustainability education since 1975 "Be the change you want to see in the world." - Gandhi

From:

L J <lj@kalani.com>

Sent:

Saturday, February 08, 2014 6:21 AM

To:

PSMTestimony

Subject:

PLEASE SUPPORT SB2944

SUPPORT SB2944

Aloha PSM Committee Members

It is very important that SB2944 continue to be heard and PASSED, and please begin September 2014. One such educational retreat, Kalani Honua, has already been in existence for 40 years!

Note that NO appropriations are being requested. This bill is simply about acknowledging and supporting educational retreats as a means to help Hawai`i thrive sustainably.

This bill is necessary so that:

- All counties are allowed to acknowledge and support educational retreats as a means to increasing food production and furthering sustainable rural economies. Educational retreats like Kalani Honua have a proven record of: revitalizing traditional ahupua'a sustainable living practices; building sustainable economy in fast growing and impoverished districts; and greatly increasing food production on lands of no soil or poor soils. Educational retreats, which provide a spectrum of nature, culture and wellness services, must be recognized by the legislature in order to continue to help Hawai'i meet its 2050 Sustainability Goals. Educational retreats should not be limited to ag tourism classifications. Although retreats demonstrate ecology and sustainable agriculture, they also can, like Kalani, help provide for an area's needs for employment, energy, education, recreation, safety, supplies and services. Hence it is important that educational retreats be acknowledged by the Legislature in order to increasingly help Hawai'i thrive.
- Legislation in support of educational retreats should begin in September, 2014, not at any later date. If such legislation were in place 40 years ago, when, for example, Kalani Honua was initiated with the help of a forward-thinking Hawai'i County Planning Department, then much more of Hawai'i would have strong sustainable economies similar to the vastly increased diversified food production and \$10 million annual economic boost that Kalani provides for coastal Puna supporting four local farmers' markets and over 500 local farmers, fishermen, crafts people, vendors and businesses!

Note the letters of 433 supporters viewable on www.kalani.com/HelpHawaiiThrive These letters have been sent directly to PSM Committee members (PSMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov), however none of these testimonies are showing up on the Legislature web site!

An example of an educational retreat in collaboration (for 40 years) with a 500 year ahupua'a heritage is the mutually supportive relationship of the Kanaka'ole 'ohana and Kalani Honua in revitalizing traditional sustainable living practices, per the following letter:

From: Kekuhi Kealiikanakaole [mailto:ohaililani@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 10:57 PM Subject: support for SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919 On behalf of my 'ohana, please support SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919. Educational retreats expand awareness and appreciation of the heritage and environment of Hawai'i while also providing a sustainable economy for rural areas and residents most in need of agricultural food production, education, employment, energy, recreation, safety, supplies, and services. These bills support the development of more sustainable methods of living, allowing greater implementation of county and state sustainable living policies, including furthering food and energy self-sufficiency in manners exemplified by educational retreats which engage local businesses, vendors, farmers and fisherman.

Kalani Honua is indeed an example of holism in the context of good living and aloha for our aina. Kalani Honua and Richard Koob have been our neighbors in Ke'eke'e, Kama'ili, Puna for as long as I know. I am 47. They have been good caretakers of a portion of our family land. Kalani Honua is a model of the potential of education, business, sustainability, stewardship and community. Our family is also engaged, at many levels, in education, spirit and social-ecological wellbeing of our aina for ourselves and our mo'opuna. Our models of education, like Kalani Honua's, are grounded in the health of our aina and are anchored in our balanced participation with aina as elder. Hence, our educational and spiritual inspiration comes from participating with and caring for Aina as the model teacher and classroom. Our own traditions depend on the health of our ecological relationships.

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support of SB2944, HB1918 and HB1919 and Land Use Commission and county planning commission approvals for educational retreats.

E Ola E Na Kini...sustained life for all, Kekuhi Kealiikanakaoleohaililani Assistant Professor, Hawaii Life Styles, Hawaii Community Collegekekuhi@hawaii.edu (808)934-2616

HB1919, the companion bill to SB2944, has been unanimously passed by the EEP and WAL (Passed 2/7/14 with "No Amendments"). HB1919 differs only in that it is more complete in its specific recognition of kupuna who have played key supportive roles in the founding and growth of Hawaii's largest educational retreat Kalani Honua, and its revitalization of the spirit and sustainable living practices of a heritage ahupua'a with preserved (DLNR-SHPD) halau and heiau sites.

HB1919 contains a paragraph acknowledging kupuna, such as...

Educational retreats are inspired by kupuna heritage in teaching an eco-aware harmony with nature that helps participants create and achieve their personal best, with love for life, respect for others, and care for home, local and global. This Act honors kupuna elderly and ancestors who over the past forty years have helped launch educational retreat operations on traditional ahupua'a community lands in Hawaii, including: Kalapana community leaders Kini Pea, Emma Kauhi, G-Girl and Puna Keli'iho'omalu, Rebecca Pau, Mini Ka'awaloa, Nona Beamer and Bill Carse, former University of Hawaii Hilo dean; Loretta and Hillary Koob, Minnesota farmers who volunteered decades of winter months in Hawaii supporting sustainable community and agriculture; Agnes Cope and Kamaki Kanahele of Waianae, and Bill Biglow, a surfer and Maui community college information technologist who, inspired by the sustainable practices of indigenous peoples and by legendary demigod Maui's gifts to the people of Hawaii, crafted model eco-housing designed to maximize air flow, natural light, and open vistas. The support of these kupuna and others for 'ohana community living continues in the teaching of ecology provided by educational retreats.

Your support will be appreciated for generations to come.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

LJ Bates III
Executive Director
Kalani Honua
Hawaii's Largest Retreat Center ERUPTING with transformative aloha spirit on the
Island of Hawai'i!
www.kalani.com

Toll-free 800-800-6886

Direct 808-965-0468, x105

Find Yourself Here!

SEEK your own Path.
SERVE within Community.
SHARE your Wisdom with Others.

Underneath our individual stories, what could possibly separate us?
- Jeff Foster

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION. This e-mail is intended only for the addressee(s), and may contain confidential information that is privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, or an agent responsible for delivery of this message to the intended recipient, then you have received this message in error, and any review, dissemination or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone or e-mail and return this message and any accompanying attachments to the sender by mail.

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, February 09, 2014 1:58 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

shannonkona@gmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for SB2944 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM

SB2944

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, February 09, 2014 10:43 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc: Subject: chgorsuch@aol.com Submitted testimony for SB2944 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM

SB2944

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Gorsuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha PSM Committee Members It is very important that SB2944 continue to be heard and PASSED, and please begin September 2014. One such educational retreat, Kalani Honua, has already been in existence for 40 years! Note that NO appropriations are being requested. This bill is simply about acknowledging and supporting educational retreats as a means to help Hawai'i thrive sustainably. These bills are necessary so that: • All counties are allowed to acknowledge and support educational retreats as a means to increasing food production and furthering sustainable rural economies. Educational retreats like Kalani Honua have a proven record of: revitalizing traditional ahupua'a sustainable living practices; building sustainable economy in fast growing and impoverished districts; and greatly increasing food production on lands of no soil or poor soils. Educational retreats, which provide a spectrum of nature, culture and wellness services, must be recognized by the legislature in order to continue to help Hawai'i meet its 2050 Sustainability Goals. Educational retreats should not be limited to ag tourism classifications. Although retreats demonstrate ecology and sustainable agriculture, they also can, like Kalani, help provide for an area's needs for employment, energy, education, recreation, safety, supplies and services. Hence it is important that educational retreats be acknowledged by the Legislature in order to increasingly help Hawai'i thrive. • Legislation in support of educational retreats should begin in September, 2014, not at any later date. If such legislation were in place 40 years ago, when, for example, Kalani Honua was initiated with the help of a forward-thinking Hawai'i County Planning Department, then much more of Hawai'i would have strong sustainable economies similar to the vastly increased diversified food production and \$10 million annual economic boost that Kalani provides for coastal Puna - supporting four local farmers' markets and over 500 local farmers, fishermen, crafts people, vendors and businesses! Note the letters of 433 supporters viewable on www.kalani.com/HelpHawaiiThrive. These letters have been sent directly to PSM Committee members (PSMtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov), however none of these testimonies are showing up on the Legislature web site! Mahalo, Craig Gorsuch

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov