

SCR147/SR83

Measure Title:

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TRUST FUND AS A MEANS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO MAKE STRONG FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS WHILE SUPPORTING CONSERVATION, REFORESTATION OF HAWAII'S NATIVE TREES, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND ENERGY PRODUCTION, AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT AND BENEFIT KEIKI AND KUPUNA, TO ESTABLISH AN ECO-TOURISM PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS VISITORS AND RESIDENTS OF HAWAII TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PLANTING NATIVE OR FOOD-BEARING TREES IN DESIGNATED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, AND TO REPORT ON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE PRIOR TO THE 2015 REGULAR SESSION.

Report Title: Keiki, 'Opio, and Kupuna Trust Fund; DLNR Study

Package: None

Current Referral: WTL/ENE/TSM

Introducer(s): SOLOMON, CHUN OAKLAND

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
3/7/2014	S	Offered.
3/13/2014	S	Referred to WTL/ENE/TSM.
3/25/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL/ENE/TSM has scheduled a public hearing on 04-01-14 2:45PM in conference room 225.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

JESSE K. SOUKI
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

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
and
TOURISM**

**Tuesday, April 1, 2014
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 147/SENATE RESOLUTION 83
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TRUST FUND AS A MEANS TO
ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO MAKE STRONG FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS WHILE
SUPPORTING CONSERVATION, REFORESTATION OF HAWAII'S NATIVE TREES,
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND ENERGY
PRODUCTION, AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT AND BENEFIT KEIKI AND
KUPUNA, TO ESTABLISH AN ECO-TOURISM PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS
VISITORS AND RESIDENTS OF HAWAII TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PLANTING
NATIVE OR FOOD-BEARING TREES IN DESIGNATED AREAS THROUGHOUT
THE STATE, AND TO REPORT ON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
LEGISLATURE PRIOR TO THE 2015 REGULAR SESSION**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 147/Senate Resolution 83 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to study the feasibility of establishing a trust fund as a means to encourage people to make strong financial investments while supporting conservation, reforestation of Hawaii's native trees, environmental stewardship, sustainable food and energy production, and programs that support and benefit keiki and kupuna, to establish an eco-tourism program that allows visitors and residents of Hawaii to contribute toward planting native or food-bearing trees in designated areas throughout the State. **The Department appreciates the intent of these measures but does not believe they are necessary.**

While the Department strongly supports initiatives to encourage private and public entities to invest in sustainable forest management, the Department notes it already has the administrative

ability to accept funds to purchase and plant native or food bearing trees with the existing Forest Stewardship Special Fund (Section 195F-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes). Investment earnings are included as part of the assets of the fund and are carried forward to future fiscal years. However, as forest management and restoration are often costly and not a single investment event, generally there is not sufficient funding available to manage the state's forest reserves, let alone provide revenue for other state programs. A new administrative overlay with the creation of a trust fund will create inefficiencies with the management of any funding collected.

The Department recognizes the opportunity to work with the tourism and hotel industries to encourage visitors to participate in eco-tourism opportunities as well as donate to reforestation efforts. The Department is exploring the feasibility of partnering with private businesses to generate funding through visitor and resident contributions to generate revenues for existing funds that support the protection of Hawaii's forests. Designated staff and new funding allocated to build and encourage public involvement would facilitate this program.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 531-2198 Fax: (808) 534-1199

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center
The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

March 31, 2014

To: Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
And members of the Committee on Water and Land

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
And members of the Committee on Energy and Environment

Senator Gilbert Kahele, Chair
And members of the Committee on Tourism

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 147/SR 83 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TRUST FUND AS A MEANS TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO MAKE STRONG FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS WHILE SUPPORTING CONSERVATION, REFORESTATION OF HAWAII'S NATIVE TREES, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND ENERGY PRODUCTION, AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT AND BENEFIT KEIKI AND KUPUNA, TO ESTABLISH AN ECO-TOURISM PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS VISITORS AND RESIDENTS OF HAWAII TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PLANTING NATIVE OR FOOD-BEARING TREES IN DESIGNATED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, AND TO REPORT ON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE PRIOR TO THE 2015 REGULAR SESSION.

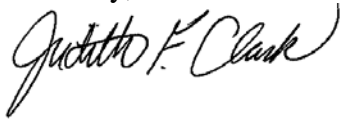
Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SCR 147/SR 83.

This remarkable and innovative resolution has many potential benefits to the environment and to vulnerable children, youth and seniors. It has the potential to become an ongoing revenue source for the State of Hawaii. It can become a sustainable funding source for programs that allow our children to grow up safe, healthy, and ready to succeed as well as meeting the care needs of our growing elderly population. And it honors the

recommendations of Hawaii's youth who, at the annual Children and Youth Summit, have consistently advocated for environmental preservation (including planting of native trees).

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith F. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director