

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: celia.c.suzuki@dcca.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 1, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Friday, March 28, 2014 5:17:13 PM
Attachments: [SCR31SD1_CCA-PVL_04-01-14_WAM.doc.pdf](#)

SCR31

Submitted on: 3/28/2014

Testimony for WAM on Apr 1, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Celia Suzuki | DCCA/PVLD | 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.

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



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**PRESENTATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

Tuesday, April 1, 2014
9:00 a.m.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31, S.D. 1,
REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE
LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS.**

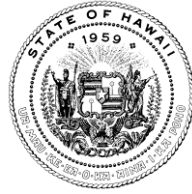
TO THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony on S.C.R. No. 31, S.D. 1.

The concurrent resolution requests that the Auditor perform a sunrise analysis pursuant to section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), on the licensure and regulation of herbal therapists, as proposed in Senate Bill No. 195, introduced during

the Regular Session of 2013, and in Senate Bill No. 2439, introduced during the Regular Session of 2014. The Auditor's analysis would set forth the probable effects of the proposed regulatory measure, assess whether its enactment is consistent with the purposes of section 26H-2, HRS, and assess alternate forms of regulation. The Department agrees with the concurrent resolution that the Auditor should conduct a sunrise review of the licensure and regulation of herbal therapists.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on S.C.R. No. 31, S.D. 1.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESENTATION OF
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMPLAINTS OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

TWENTY-SEVENTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2014

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014
9:00 A.M.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31 S.D.1
REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE
LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

TO THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR,
AND TO THE HONORABLE MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department") appreciates the opportunity to testify on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31 S.D1, Requesting the Auditor to Conduct a Sunrise Review of the Licensure and Regulation of Herbal Therapists. My name is Daria Loy-Goto, Complaints and Enforcement Officer for the Department's Regulated Industries Complaints Office

("RICO"). RICO offers the following testimony in support of the concurrent resolution.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31 S.D.1 requests a sunrise review by the Auditor on the licensure and regulation of herbal therapists as proposed in Senate Bill No. 195. RICO supports a sunrise review in accordance with §26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

RICO notes that Senate Bill No. 195 seems to create a conflict between the authority of the new Board of Herbal Therapy and the Department's Director and does not contain disciplinary or enforcement language typical in most licensing chapters. RICO believes that the Auditor's sunrise review will address these issues, as needed.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 31 S.D.1.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE
LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

March 29, 2014

Aloha, my name is Alyce Dodge.

I am testifying as part of the 'A'ali'i Group **in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, SD1** REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS.

The all-volunteer 'A'ali'i Group is made up of diverse members of our community; students, teachers, parents, healers, nurses, retirees, farmers, researchers and other professionals. Our goal is "to restore the standards and usage of Herbal Therapy to its proper place in today's 21st century".¹

Herbal Therapy has been a proven method of healing for thousands of years. Medicinal plants have been known to provide relief without causing side effects as other medicines often do. Herbal Therapy can be effective with some chronic ailments that don't respond well to current accepted treatments. Under the Affordable Care Act, doctors and hospitals will be looking for better outcomes. Herbal Therapy is a way to "support, strengthen, and enhance the science with the art of healing."¹

Many people in our community could benefit from this kind of complementary and alternative care, but have no access to a knowledgeable, competent Herbalist. You cannot find Herbal Therapy listed in the phone book. There are many who would opt to go to a professional Herbalist, if this choice was covered by their health insurance. We have been told by health insurance companies that they would be willing to add Herbalists only if practitioners are licensed.

There is a growing worldwide movement for legislating Herbalism and Herbs. The World Health Organization reported in 2005, that 96 out of 120 countries had a national policy in place or pending for Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine.²

The numbers are even higher now. Also recently Canada, England, and parts of Europe have enacted laws for licensing, registering, and regulating Herbalists and plants.

Hawaii used to have licensed traditional doctors under the Kingdom of Hawaii; those laws were repealed at the time of the illegal overthrow. In 1919, David Malo Kupihea introduced Act 139 Board of Health to Issue Permits to Qualified Persons to Acknowledge Use of Medicines of Hawaiian Herbs and Plants. Permits for herbal medicine were issued up until statehood, at which time numerous laws were changed.³

Herbal Therapy has helped many of us in the 'A'ali'i Group. Some of us have witnessed Levon Ohai, an extraordinary teacher and Kahuna La'au Lapa'au, heal people in the community including Native Hawaiians, immigrants, military veterans, the young and the elderly. Ohai had a vision of Hawaii as a worldwide center for wellness and healing. One important facet in making this vision a reality is creating a legal, responsible and respectable way for Herbal Therapy practitioners to serve their community and be fairly compensated. SCR 31, SD1 and the accompanying bill can help provide a path for professional Herbal Therapists. Licensing can protect both the public and the practitioner by ensuring high standards of knowledge and training are met for providing the best of care. This deserves a close look and investigation.

Requesting the Auditor to Conduct a Sunrise Review of the Licensure and Regulation of Herbal Therapists is a good idea; please support SCR 31,SD1.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,

Alyce Dodge
383-9108
P.O.Box 61546
Honolulu, HI 96839
alyce.dodge@gmail.com

with 'A'ali'i Group
aaliigroup@gmail.com

1 quotes from Kumu Levon Ohai

2 from World Health Organization reports (<http://apps.who.int/medicinedocs/en/d/Js7916e/6.2.html>)

3 from Chun, Malcolm Naea, [It Might Do Good: The Licensing of Medicinal Kāhuna](#)

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014
COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF
THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Emmalani Makepa-Foley. I am testifying in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS.

I am a student, practitioner, and teacher of Lā'au Lapa'au and have been studying Hawaiian medicine/Herbal medicine since 2008 under Kumu Levon Ohai. Levon Ohai is a well respected Kahuna Lā'au Lapa'au from the island of Kaua'i. He taught on Kaua'i as well as at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, an accredited University for over 10 years. I have witnessed amazing health improvements and recoveries throughout my learning and I am continuously amazed by the benefits that herbal medicine offers.

As a practitioner I want the option to open my own practice to provide service to my community. As a member of the Hawaiian community I want access to quality health care for my family, friends and loved ones. With the high incidence of chronic disease in Hawai'i, the public should have choice in their treatment and have access to alternative health care providers. Historically licenses have been issued in the state of Hawai'i. It is time to once again license herbal practitioners. Standards must be made to ensure protection of the community as well as the protection for the practitioner. By issuing licenses these standards will be met, upheld and regulated by well respected, knowledgeable members of the Herbal community.

Experienced practitioners deserve respect and compensation, and the public deserves quality health care. I am continuing my study and refining my practice so that I can make this calling my profession.

For these reasons I support SCR 31

Ke Aloha Nui,
Emmalani Makepa-Foley
emf@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: daukemaster@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 1, 2014 09:00AM
Date: Sunday, March 30, 2014 6:16:19 PM

SCR31

Submitted on: 3/30/2014

Testimony for WAM on Apr 1, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kaike Akama | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: THE SENATE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2014 COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS Senator David Y. Ige, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Aloha my name is Richard Akama. I am in favor of scr31 because of two reasons, which is it will stimulate the economy, with the seven trillion dollar deficit by allowing herbal products to be sold worldwide and stimulate the farming industry which is currently suffering. The second reason is it will perpetuate the Hawaiian practice and tradition. Which was practiced during the term of David Kalakaua. It is also in favor with Obamacare bill which was recently passed. Thank you for reading my testimony. Aloha, Richard Akama 808-639-8147 daukemaster@yahoo.com

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.

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

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE
REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211

State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Dear Committee Members,

Aloha, my name is Patricia Fifita and I would like to provide testimony in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS.

I am a doctoral candidate in Medical Anthropology and Ethnobotany at the University of Hawai'i. I am a student of the late Kumu La'au Lapa'au Levon Ohai of Kaua'i and a member of the A'ali'i Council, a group organized by Kumu Levon Ohai for the purpose of continuing the practice and perpetuation of his particular lineage of Hawaiian Herbal Medicine and healing.

I have been studying and practicing Herbal Medicine for over fifteen years. I completed a two-year apprenticeship with an U.S.-based Herbalist and I have spent several years as an undergraduate and graduate student conducting ethnobotanical and ethnomedical research focusing on Herbal Medicine and the use of medicinal plants for healing. These studies have taken me to various parts of the world, including New Zealand, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Hawai'i, West African and the Caribbean. I have witnessed first-hand the value of Herbal Medicine these various cultures, where herbal medicine has often provided the first and most important line of prevention and defense against serious infectious diseases such as malaria and typhoid fever. I have witnessed the efficacy of Herbal Medicine in reducing inflammation in sports or other physical injuries, in the detoxification of body

systems, also in treating various viral and fungal infections; ailments that are common in many of these countries but often difficult to treat with conventional biomedicine. Herbal Medicine, I believe, also has an incredible potential to reduce morbidity and mortality rates for non-communicable diseases that according to the World Health Organization (2011) are responsible for killing more than 36 million people each year.¹ I have personally witnessed the efficacy of Herbal Medicine as a complementary treatment for individuals with cancer. My mother is a two-time cancer survivor and utilized Herbal Medicine to strengthen her immune system while undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Not only did she experience increased strength in her overall system, the uncomfortable side effects normally experienced with adjuvant and radiation therapy such as dry mouth, burns, loss of hair and appetite, were dramatically reduced for her. She attributes her successful recovery to her integrative medical approach.

Herbal Medicine is not only sustainable, but can provide a pathway to health and healing that is not always obtainable through a conventional biomedically based health care system. For many people, Herbal Medicine would be the first line of defense in their health care journey, however there are very few contexts in which Herbal Medicine can be administered and practiced legally in Hawai'i. The fact that health insurance companies are not able to provide coverage for Herbal Medicine not only privileges other health care modalities but also limits the range of practice and availability of health care options that the public should have access to.

While I may be able to continue to use and practice Herbal Medicine within my own home and among close friends and family, I feel strongly that this is too limiting. If I were able to legally provide services, I would be able to reach a larger demographic of deserving people, who I believe could benefit from Herbal Medicine. I believe that all people should have the ability to use Herbal Medicine in a safe and affordable way. I believe those who choose to practice, and if they do so in a safe and appropriate way, deserve the right to be acknowledged and compensated as other health care practitioners using other health care modalities currently are. It is my understanding that SCR 31 SD1 will provide the opportunity for this pathway to open and the use of complementary health care treatments to further develop in mainstream medical care.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage you to consider my testimony in support of SCR 31, SD1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Patricia Fifita
PhD Candidate
Medical Anthropology Program
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
pfifita@hawaii.edu

¹ WHO. (2011). Fact Sheet: Noncommunicable Diseases.

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF
THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Aloha,

My name is Leina‘ala Bright, I am testifying in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS.

I am a 2nd year graduate student at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies. I am a licensed massage therapist/lomilomi practitioner for over 25 years now and have been studying/teaching la‘au lapa‘au for 6 years. I would like to be able to add herbal medicine to my current practice.

My research at UH Mānoa bridges Hawai‘inuiakea School of Hawaiian Knowledge and College of Tropical Agricultural and Human Resources involving the propagation, cultivation and processing methods of our Hawaiian medicinal plants, both endemic and introduced. Currently my focus has been on developing the best methods for growing, harvesting, and processing of the ‘ōlena or turmeric (*Curcuma longa L.*) plant. My goal is to enhance the quality and bioavailability of its healing agents (curcuminoids). ‘Ōlena is a Polynesian introduction used by Native Hawaiians and other indigenous peoples for medicine, spiritual protection, cleansing and strengthening, dietary supplementation and as a natural dye. This polyphenolic compound has been reported to possess anti-oxidative, anti-inflammatory, anti-mutagenic and anti-carcinogenic properties.

The next step as a Native Hawaiian Lā‘au Lapa‘au Practitioner is to be able to outreach to our Hawaiian communities as a licensed herbal practitioner offering unique research and understanding of our herbal medicines to strengthen the health and well-being of our families.

For these reasons, I support SCR 31. If you have any questions you may contact me at (808) 429-9470.

Mahalo,

Leina‘ala Bright, LMT

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE
LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

I am in support SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW
OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS as adopted and amended by
the CPN Committee on 3/25/2014.

Allopathic medicine and herbal healing can complement each other and enhance
wellness options.

Multicultural herbal healing is practiced in parens in Hawaii, but without formal licensing,
standards, and regulation. Basically there are no safety guidelines to protect both the
client and the practitioner.

Both allopathic medicine and herbal healing wellness alternatives are part of a
distribution network of services and products that ought to be identifiable, researchable,
and incorporate an oversight/assessment process.

Shirley H. Yamada
yamadas1@hotmail.com
737- 5806

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE on WAYS AND MEANS
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

RE: SCR 31, SD1 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE
LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL THERAPISTS

DATE: Tuesday, April 01, 2014
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha! My name is Sister Malia Wong.

I am testifying in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 REQUESTING THE AUDITOR
TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE REVIEW OF THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF HERBAL
THERAPISTS.

As a la'au lapaau - Hawaiian herbal medicine student of Kumu Ohai Levon at the University of Hawaii, Department of Hawaiian Studies for 6 years, I am grateful for the knowledge gained that I was able to use to help others where Western medicine had failed, after a long period of time, to produce beneficial results. I would like to see that the knowledge and experience of other teachers and practitioners like Kumu Ohai Levon be acknowledged for the solid, tried and proven over generations of wisdom elders, medicinal path they do offer that other generations may be able to benefit from the medicine of the land over the chemicals of the laboratory.

On one hand, I brought my Kumu Hula to see Kumu Ohai when he expressed his fear over an upcoming surgery with four blocked arteries. Kumu Ohai sat down with him, went through a set of protocols and then wrote a prescription of herbs which included the dosages, preparation and length of time for their consummation. When time for the surgery did come, my Kumu Hula shared that the doctors were surprised that they only needed to work on three arteries, and that the procedure went more quickly than expected. In addition, his recovery time was speedier than that of others of his same age and procedure had experienced. Today, he is well and still actively involved with the Hawaii Civic Clubs.

On the other hand, when I was on mission in the Philippines, I noticed one nun with a 2 ½" x 3" gaping black hole in her foot. I was shocked to see the open wound. The caregiver said that the doctors had been trying to treat it with medicine for three months- internally and with an external salve. But, nothing had been working to heal the wound. The next morning I gathered herbs I was familiar with and daily applied them for the two weeks I was there. The wound gradually turned pink and one could see on the sides of the wound new flesh growing in. That happened in only a two week period. Everyone, including her doctor was amazed.

On a personal note, I was diagnosed with two types of cancer and an immune system that had gone down to the negative numbers in 2007. With the choice of chemotherapy and radiation before me, I declined saying that I wanted to heal naturally. With Kumu Ohai's assistance and my classmates gathering fresh herbs and making juices and other formulas for me, it was a long road. But, with herbal medicine, it is not only about the illness and the prescription, it is about one's whole being-mind, body and spirit that needs to be brought back into harmony for healing to take place. July 7, 2009 I rejoiced with a new leg on life.

There are many more people I have taken my herbal knowledge to, to offer assistance. A long time ago, before the first chemicals were formed into pills, capsules, or liquid form, our ancestors depended upon the properties of plant life to nourish and nurture our natural life. There are times, due to the different toxins in our environment that Western medicine may be needed as they are formulated to work faster. But, more often than not, this quicker route is met with damage to other internal organs through the unnatural recognition of synthetics in the bloodstream.

As my Kumu Ohai has passed, along with Aunty Alapaki and other great la'au lapaau teachers, it is important that for this generation that they be able to carry on the service to humankind through offering herbal remedies, and be able to sustain their life through such dedication of work.

When I travel to other states and countries, their native medicine practitioners are openly known for such, e.g. "Tibetan Medicine," "Traditional Chinese Medicine," "Ayurvedic Medicine," "Alaskan Native Medicine," "Native American Traditional Healers" and "Fijian Traditional Herbal Medicine," etc. I feel it is about time, Hawaii should be recognized for its natural treasure. Wouldn't it also be a unique attraction and added benefit to the islands if visitors to Hawaii could find not only recreational rest, but holistic physical assistance by licensed and insurance covered therapists of the Native Hawaiian herbal tradition? The benefits would be numerous- from those seeking and receiving treatment from Hawaii's own complementary and alternative medicine, to the increased number of farmers growing the herbs, to the consciousness of our keiki surrounded by the resurgence of the wisdom of the land and our elders on how to care for themselves and others, and more.

For these reasons, I support SCR 31, SD1.

Thank you,

Sister Malia Wong

Sister Malia Wong
94-1249 Lumikula St.
Waipahu, HI 96797
(808) 676-1452
srmaliad@juno.com