



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 8:30 am

By
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor
And
Maria Gallo, Dean
And
J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

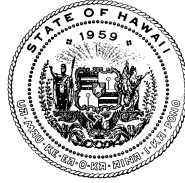
HB 1086 – RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, we respectfully submit testimony in support of HB 1086, which requires the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to update the economic and environmental costs component of its 2002 study on invasive species, and makes an appropriation for that purpose.

Invasive species pose significant threats to agriculture, natural resources, and human and animal health and well-being in Hawai'i. A recent study by the Department of Agriculture reported an average of 24 new insect species introduced to Hawai'i each year. In addition, invasive plant species threaten our native forests (e.g., miconia), and animal health (e.g., fire weed). Many of the resources of the University of Hawai'i, particularly in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) and the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit (PCSU) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, are dedicated to combating these threats.

As a member of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Coordinating Council, the University of Hawai'i supports the actions recommended in HB 1086. The 2002 study of the impact of invasive species in Hawai'i performed by the Legislative Reference Bureau has provided a solid basis for state action for over a decade, but needs to be updated to reflect the current situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1086.



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**Testimony to Support HB 1086
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing Date: February 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m.

Room Number: 325

1 **Office Testimony:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) supports the intent of
2 HB 1086, which requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to update its 1985 study on
3 environmental reorganization for Hawai'i and recommendations of the 1992 department of
4 environmental protections task force, and funds to support the measure.

5 The disjointed nature of environmental management, as described in HB 1086, merits a
6 reevaluation of the current system and its practical implications with respect to the state's
7 response to the various environmental issues today, including for example, climate change,
8 energy, food security, water resource management, and invasive species. An update to the
9 LRB's 1985 study can be a helpful tool to identify how different agencies and programs can be
10 consolidated to cohesively, efficiently and effectively address the state's environmental
11 management and protection strategy.

12 **Fiscal Implications:** OEQC takes no position on the funding request, deferring to the
13 Governor's Executive Budget Request for fiscal priorities.

EEPtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 10:45 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: sarah.allen@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1086 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1086

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Allen	State Procurement Office	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please refer to attached testimony for complete comments. The SPO recommends deleting specified wording from Section 2(b): SECTION 2. (b) The legislative reference bureau may contract the services of another entity to perform any related services that may be required pursuant to this Act. Any contract for services executed pursuant to this Act shall be in compliance with exempt from chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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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EEPtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 9:07 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: carl.campagna@kamakagreen.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1086 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM*

HB1086

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
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State Capitol, Room 446
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Written Comments

HB1086
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT



Comments by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director

Presented to the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

Good morning Chair Lee and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments on H.B. No. 1086, Relating to the Environment.

The purpose of this bill is to:

- (1) Require the Legislative Reference Bureau to update its 1985 study "The Feasibility of Environmental Reorganization for Hawaii" and assess the feasibility of implementing the findings and recommendations of the Department of Environmental Protection Task Force.
- (2) Authorizes the Bureau to contract the services of another entity, without regard to the procurement requirements of Chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to provide services related to the performance of the update;
- (3) Appropriate moneys to the Bureau for the contract.

While the Legislative Reference Bureau takes no position on this measure, we submit the following comments for your consideration.

The Bureau believes that the update requested under this measure, as presently drafted, is manageable and that the Bureau will be able to provide the update in the time allotted; provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many other studies or additional responsibilities, such as conducting, writing, or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or both, for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide written comments.

lowen2-Thomas

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 12:59 AM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: ectrackbills@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1086 on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM

HB1086

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for EEP on Feb 10, 2015 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Environmental Caucus	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. What better role model for Hawaii nei and to utilize the people's tax dollars for our best interest than the leaders who walk the talk!! Much mahalos to the fine and benevolent legislators who draft and support this legislation. Mahalo nui loa kanaka!

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