

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, February 8, 2016  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1749  
RELATING TO WATER MANAGEMENT**

House Bill 1749 proposes to amend Section 174C-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to add “The attainment of one hundred percent utilization of reclaimed water in all state facilities” as an objective of the Hawaii Water Plan. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill to commit to water reuse on a broad scale throughout Hawaii, but notes that one hundred percent utilization may be difficult to attain.**

There are numerous state facilities scattered throughout the islands, ranging from small base yards to schools, harbors, parks, hospitals, prisons, office buildings, etc. Most of the facilities are not proximal to a wastewater reclamation facility or within or near the service areas of existing recycled water distribution systems. In order to achieve this objective, either reclaimed water would have to be trucked in to each facility on a regular basis or separate dual water systems or many new wastewater reclamation facilities would have to be constructed throughout the State, which would be extremely costly. There are also costs associated with operation and maintenance of these systems.

The Department of Health (DOH) has just released its updated Reuse Guidelines (January 2016). The Reuse Guidelines identify areas within the State where recycled water application is conditional and restricted. Conditional Areas are areas where recycled water application is currently allowed, but may, in the future, be subject to monitoring requirements or restrictions. Restricted Areas are areas where recycled water application is prohibited. It is very likely that state facilities are located in Conditional and Restricted Areas.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**KEKOA KALUHIWA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.**  
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  
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

The bill should clarify what “one hundred percent utilization” means. Many state facilities have a potable component of water use. Direct potable reuse is not currently practiced in the State of Hawaii. Does the bill intend to include the potable component of water use at state facilities as well? If not, state facilities would be required to be retrofitted with dual water systems, which would also be very costly. An appraisal of opportunities and a feasibility study with cost-benefit analysis should be conducted to provide a better understanding of the human, financial and technological resources that would be needed to meet this objective and the likelihood of success.

The Department’s Commission on Water Resource Management has no authority or jurisdiction over the development and use of reclaimed water and defers to DOH regarding their rules, regulations, standards and guidelines on recycled water use.

We note that Act 229, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015 appropriated funds for the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on the use of water scalping technology in state airport facilities and to develop a process design for the processing portion of the implementation of water scalping technology. A similar bill, Senate Bill 2097, has been introduced this session for the Department of Public Safety, Corrections Divisions’ Halawa Correctional Facility. We respectfully recommend that these studies be allowed completed and better information obtained regarding the feasibility of scalping projects before establishing global policies regarding reclaimed water use in state facilities.

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB1749 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM\*

**HB1749**

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB1749**

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christine Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB1749**

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ruston Utu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I just want to thank Representative Ty Cullen for pioneering water conservation initiatives in the state of Hawaii.

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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

February 8, 2016  
9:00 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL NO. 1749  
RELATING TO WATER MANAGEMENT

Chairperson Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1749. The purpose of this measure is to amend the goal of the Hawaii Water Plan to include the one hundred percent utilization of reclaimed water in all state and county facilities. The department recognizes the intent of this bill, however, has strong concerns about its impact and implementation costs.

The department respectfully asks for clarification of the proposed language. If the intent is a proposal to treat and reuse on-site, all potable water used, then we believe that is a laudable goal, which unfortunately may be extremely difficult to achieve. Under this scenario, all water would have to be treated on-site to an acceptable Department of Health standard. As we understand it, the technology to "regionalize" wastewater treatment to a community or neighborhood level is currently available; however, we are unaware of how scalable these localized treatment plants are. The department operates and maintains small base yards to support our irrigation systems. These base yards typically consist of one or two hose bibs, a restroom, and possibly a utility sink. Would it be possible to exempt these types of facilities from this requirement? We will respectfully defer to the wastewater community to answer questions of scalability and cost.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.





# Wai Maoli

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**LATE**

## Fresh Water Council Members

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Barry Usagawa

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Liaison/Scientific Advisor to HCF

**Testimony of the  
Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative  
on  
H.B. 1749  
Relating to Water Management  
House Committee on Water & Land  
Monday, February 8, 2016  
Conference Room 325**

The Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative was launched in 2013 to bring many diverse parties together to develop a forward-thinking and consensus-based strategy to increase water security for Hawaii. A blue ribbon panel of water stakeholders drawn from multiple perspectives came together to jointly and unanimously recommend key strategies and policies that will increase Hawaii's water security in the face of declining rainfall levels and climate change.

The Council identified a single goal for Hawaii: to create 100 million gallons per day (mgd) in additional, fresh water capacity for our islands by 2030. One of the key strategies to achieve this statewide goal is to increase water reuse by 30 mgd over the next 15 years.

H.B. 1749 amends the goals of the Hawaii water plan to include the one hundred percent utilization water in all State and county facilities.

The Council believes that improving our overall water reuse rate is an important step towards a more secure fresh water future. Innovative new programs and methods to encourage water reuse are increasingly required.

The Fresh Water Council supports the intent of H.B. 1750 to increase reuse in our state to reach our state goal of 100 mgd in additional fresh water availability by 2030, but defers to state and county agencies regarding the ability to achieve a one hundred percent reuse rate in all facilities.