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

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Thursday, March 31, 2016
9:05 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2037, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**

House Bill 2037, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to host the 2016 International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (Congress) meeting at the Hawaii Convention Center on September 1-10, 2016. **The Department strongly supports this measure and provides the following comments.**

This meeting offers a unique opportunity to highlight Hawaii's environmental and natural resources as a showcase for the United States to share with the world, as this is the first time that the IUCN Congress is convening in the United States. The meeting will enhance natural resource conservation in Hawaii and the continental United States, the Asia-Pacific Region, and internationally. Hosting the conference will support Hawaii's economy, environment, and quality of life, and will generate economic benefits, such as visitor spending, tax revenues, potential federal and international grant funding, and research opportunities.

The meeting will also showcase and support Hawaii's goals for sustainable development outlined in the Aloha+ Challenge, sustainable ecotourism, conservation leadership, and in positioning Hawaii as a destination for high-level and global meetings. Educational opportunities for Hawaii residents and students will include leadership development at the East-West Center, conservation leadership certification at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, K-14 Youth Leadership Initiatives, and access to IUCN's scientific credibility, extensive networking and exposure to high-level political, economic, and social decision-making regarding conservation.

IUCN, the world's oldest and largest global environmental network, holds a conference every four years and encourages member organizations to improve their management of the natural and cultural environment for ecologic, social and economic well-being. The World Conservation Congress consists of more than 1,200 member organizations including over 200 Governments, 900+ Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and 85 Member Organizations in the United States. More than 8,000 delegates from over 160 countries are expected to attend this meeting in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Leimana.K.Damate@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 31, 2016 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 12:19:43 PM
Attachments: [HB2037 HD1 SD1 AMAC-LK 03-31-16 WAM.docx](#)

HB2037

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 31, 2016 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Apiu Kuloloio	Aha Moku Advisory Committee	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.

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Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing: Thursday, March 31, 2016 9:05 am
Conference Room 211

In support of HB 2037 HD 1 SD 1 Relating to the World Conservation Congress

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 2037 HD 1 SD 1, which appropriates moneys to the DLNR to host the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress meeting at the Hawaii Convention Center on September 1-10, 2016. Requires matching private funds. (SD1)

Our understanding is that the administration's current request to the Legislature to make changes to the supplemental budget for FY 17 includes \$4 million to host the congress. However, the request is to move \$4 million out of the DLNR's Special Land and Development Fund into the General Fund, at the expense of DLNR programs that would be funded by the SLDF. We oppose this shell game and support a direct appropriation by the legislature from the General Fund.

Funding for DLNR to host the congress should be additive, and should not come at the expense of existing DLNR programs to protect public land and public trust resources. DLNR is already seriously underfunded.

Support for the congress should be shared among state agencies and the visitor industry, and should come from the General Fund without raiding DLNR special funds.

The 2016 congress is the first one to be held in the U.S. It is an opportunity for Hawai'i to showcase its unique cultural and natural resources, and our cutting-edge conservation work addressing formidable threats to our island home. The congress will also bring spending and increase tax revenues for the state.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjorie Ziegler".

Marjorie Ziegler

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2037 HD1 SD1 Relating to the World Conservation Congress
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, March 31, 2016, 9:05 AM, Room 211

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 2037 HD1 SD1 to provide funding in the Department of Land and Natural Resources' budget to contribute to the cost of hosting the 2016 World Conservation Congress (WCC); provided that it does not result in the reduction of funding to DLNR's programs that are contributing to the direct care and management of Hawai'i's natural resources.

Hawai'i's combination of globally unique ecological resources coupled with the challenges of addressing climate change, development pressures and invasive species make it an ideal location to host the World Conservation Congress. The WCC hosts approximately 8,000 delegates from around the world to discuss and decide on environmental and development issues and policy to assist societies to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that natural resource use is equitable and sustainable.

The WCC is also estimated to generate \$65M in economic benefits to the state and it supports the tourism goal of positioning Hawai'i as a destination for high-level international meetings.

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Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Wednesday, March 23, 2016 — 2:45 p.m. — Room 224

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 2037 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to the World Conservation Congress

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 2037 HD 1 SD 1, which appropriates funds for the IUCN World Conservation Congress meeting.

Ulupono believes that the State of Hawai'i should honor its commitment to host IUCN, especially as this is the first time IUCN has come to the United States. We are hopeful that the seniority of the conference attendees and the quality of the work of the IUCN scientists will have direct benefits across Hawai'i in many different sectors.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: kevink59@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 31, 2016 09:05AM
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:15:42 PM

HB2037

Submitted on: 3/29/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 31, 2016 09:05AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Kelly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support providing matching funds for the World Conservation Congress and appreciate the legislature's to ensure the success of this prestigious global event.

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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