



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 Water, Land, and Agriculture
And Senate Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
Hearing: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:45 pm
Conference Room 224

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

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 2037 HD 1, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to host the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress meeting at the Hawaii Convention Center on September 1-10, 2016.

Please make an appropriation sufficient enough to cover expenses relating to the congress from this point forward, and to replace the \$4 million from the DLNR's budget last year to pay for the congress. Support for the congress should be shared among state agencies and the visitor industry. 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.

My understanding is that the administration's current request to the Legislature for the FY 17 supplemental budget includes \$4 million to host the congress, but it is coming out of the Natural Area Reserve Fund, probably at the cost of DLNR programs that are funded by the NARF. Hosting the congress should not come at the expense of the DLNR and its meager funding.

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.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler

LATE



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
ASSOCIATION

Testimony of

Mufi Hannemann
President & CEO
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

LATE

Committees on
Water, Land, and Agriculture
Tourism and international Affairs

House Bill 2037 HD1: Relating to the World Conservation Congress

Chair Gabbard, Chair English, and members of the Committees on Water, Land and Agriculture, & Tourism and International Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. On behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, we support the purpose of House Bill 2037 HD1 which would appropriate monies to the state department of land and natural resources to host the IUCN World Conservation Congress in September of this year.

The IUCN World Conservation Congress, often referred as the *Olympics of Conservation*, has provided an incredible opportunity for Hawai'i to stand on a global stage, much like the APEC Conference did in 2011. The problem lies in the fact that the IUCN World Conservation Congress is currently underfunded. This Congress which is held once every four years will attract thousands of leaders from around the globe representing government, civil society, indigenous people, business, and academia to our state. As the host state, and first ever to host it in the United States, we have been given a golden opportunity to demonstrate our capability to accommodate large international gatherings, showcase our many expertise, and to reaffirm our standing as a gathering place in the Pacific.

We are in support of this measure as it proposes the monetary addition to DLNR's budget as opposed to just taking money from it. Another consideration would be to add additional dollars to HTA's marketing fund to support this conference.

Mahalo.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 8:53 PM
To: WLA Testimony
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Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Mar 23, 2016 14:45PM

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HB2037

Submitted on: 3/22/2016

Testimony for WLA/TSI on Mar 23, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill as it will go a long way to show casing Hawai'i to the world & our commitment to conservation.

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