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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
TOURISM**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2037
RELATING TO THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**

House Bill 2037 proposes to appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to host the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (Congress) meeting at the Hawaii Convention Center on September 1-10, 2016. **The Department supports this measure provided that this appropriation does not adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Budget request or any existing funding to the Department's programs.**

The Executive budget request includes \$4,000,000 in special funds to contribute to the State's obligations as a host site for the Congress.

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 human, social, and economic well-being. The Conference hosts approximately 8,000 delegates from around the world for a ten-day event to discuss, debate, and decide on environmental and development issues and policy. IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage, and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural and cultural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

The IUCN Conference offers a unique opportunity to highlight Hawaii's environmental and natural resources as a showcase for the United States to share with the world. The Conference will enhance natural resource conservation in Hawaii and the United States, the Asia-Pacific Region, and internationally. Hosting the conference will support our 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.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

**Testimony of
Leslie Kuloloio, Chair**

**Before the House Committee on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016
10:00 AM
Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2037
RELATING TO THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS**

House Bill 2037 appropriates moneys to the DLNR to host the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress (IUCN) meeting at the Hawaii Convention Center on September 1-10, 2016.

Aha Moku supports this measure.

The IUCN, an international environmental network, holds a conference every four years to bring attention to the organizational management of the natural and cultural environment as well as the protection of earth's fragile and different ecosystems in different countries. For the first time in history, the IUCN is conveying its Congress in the United States, in Hawaii. Its mandate is to impact, inspire and push for environmental policies that can benefit mankind and protect its fragile ecosystem. It focuses on the integrity of natural and cultural resources of a place and, we believe, its relationship to the indigenous people of that place.

The Aha Moku works to secure, protect and sustain the environment and different ecosystems in the State of Hawaii by bringing forth the voices of communities in sustaining their natural and cultural resources by integrating native Hawaiian traditional and generational resource methodology with contemporary scientific ways. This is a unique, yet indigenous approach to protecting the environment because it brings people together who use empirical and generational knowledge to care for their ecosystems.

Aha Moku is committed to supporting and working with DLNR in showing the rest of the world how the indigenous host culture, integrated with the rainbow of other cultures who are now part of Hawaii, can protect and sustain its exceptional environment in one of the world's most beautiful places.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill and we urge that this committee pass this measure.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2037 Relating to the World Conservation Congress
House Committee on Tourism
Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 10:00AM, Room 312

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 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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Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Tourism
Hearing: Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 10 am
Conference Room 312

In Support of HB 2037 Relating to the World Conservation Congress

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 2037, 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.**

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. Hosting the congress should not come at the expense of the DLNR and its meager funding.

Please support the World Conservation Congress **and** the DLNR. Please support HB 2037.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Testimony Before The
House Committee on Tourism & Agriculture
IN SUPPORT OF HB 2037
Wednesday February 10, 2016, 10:00am, Room 312

Aloha Chair Brower and Chair Tsuji and Committee Members:

My name is Kevin Chang, I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA) and this is our testimony in support of HB 2037 with comments.

KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 38 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state.

HB 2037 would appropriate a yet to be determined sum of funds to support Hawai'i's hosting of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's World Conservation Congress. KUA supports HB 2037 with an appropriation at an amount that would not affect DLNR's regular spending for programs and enforcement.

This is the first time the World Conservation Congress is held on U.S. soil, an extremely significant event for Hawai'i and its people on the world stage. The important natural resource management work of our State, and our broader community, to care for our greatest collective heritage- Hawai'i nei- cannot be done without first a strong and capable partner on the state side. Thus the virtues of aloha 'āina and kuleana that our community holds dear will be most importantly represented in our commitment to DLNR and our community on the world stage this year.

I apologize for not being with you in person today as I have a prior commitment. Mahalo for your service to our community and this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.



NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Chartered by Congress to Create a National Resource in Conservation, Research, and Education

8 February 2016

National Tropical Botanical Garden's Testimony In Support of HB 2037
Relating To The World Conservation Congress

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 10:00 am in Conference Room 312

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

Rep. Tom Brower, Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Rep. Clift Tsuji, Chair

Aloha Chairs Brower and Tsuji, and Committee Members:

The NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN strongly supports House Bill 2037 relating to the World Conservation Congress. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Hawaii to host a global event of this nature and it is critical that the State support this effort with the funding needed to pull this off.

This bill appropriates an unspecified amount of money to DLNR to host the World Conservation Congress and it is important that as the details of this are worked out that the funding allocated via this bill NOT take any funding away from DLNR's regular budget allocation or spending. The work that DLNR does is critical and we cannot undermine their ability to conduct their programs and support of their dedicated staff.

The benefits of hosting the WCC to Hawaii are numerous and include the potential to increase foundation and NGO funding for conservation in Hawaii, generate visitor related spending and taxes, and help to secure national and international commitments to help make Hawaii a global model of sustainability (an effort being led by the Aloha + Challenge).

I have personally been involved in helping to secure the USG support for Hawaii hosting the WCC and currently serve as the Vice-Chair of the National Host Committee that is coordinating with IUCN the numerous logistics and details related to successful hosting the Congress in September. We are also raising private funding to support this unique opportunity but that funding will not be enough to meet the requirements of this global event. WCC will bring an estimated 8-10,000 people from 160 countries to our state in just eight months. This is the "Olympics" of conservation and it will generate international press and put Hawaii on the map in a way nothing else could. As the host we have both obligations and opportunities and we need your financial support to fully realize both of these.

The follow is a short list of some of these:

- Estimated \$65M in economic benefits based on 8,000+ delegates, support and workforce participants, and media.
- Significant local, national and international media exposure.

- Supports state goals regarding ecotourism, conservation leadership, and positioning Hawai'i as a destination for high-level and global meetings.
- Positions Hawai'i on international platform for world conservation issues to showcase Hawai'i's knowledge and experience regarding natural and cultural resource management and sustainability.
- Opportunity to gather input from global conservation community to address Hawai'i's challenges.
- Conservation education efforts, including leadership development at the East-West Center, conservation leadership certification at the University of Hawai'i, K-14 Youth Leadership Initiatives.
- Opportunities for participation in the World Conservation Forum, access to IUCN's scientific credibility, extensive networking and exposure to high-level political, economic, and social decision making regarding conservation.

Finally, as someone who has been actively involved in conserving our precious natural and cultural resource for the past 40 years, and who has been personally honored by the Legislature for my work in this field, I can't tell you how important hosting the WCC is for both Hawaii and the world. We need to inspire the world and showcase what we are doing as well as our capacity to host large international meeting – and to do this we need the State to invest public funds. The payoff is huge but I also know that there is fierce competition for every dollar at the legislature each year and 2016 is no exception. The House Committees on Tourism and Agriculture are two key Committees that we need to champion this effort and support this essential funding – and NOT take away from regular DLNR funding and programs.

Mahalo for your support of the World Conservation Congress and the legacy it will leave in Hawaii.

Mahalo a me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chipper Wichman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chipper Wichman, President and CEO, National Tropical Botanical Garden

Vice- Chairman, WCC National Host Committee / Hawaii 2016



HAWAII

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Author

The Trust For Public Land's Testimony In Support of HB 2037 Relating To The World Conservation Congress

House Committee on Tourism & Agriculture, Conf. Room 312
Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 10:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Brower and Chair Tsuji and Committee Members:

The Trust for Public Land supports House Bill 2037 relating to the World Conservation Congress (so long as it does NOT take away from DLNR's regular program spending). This bill appropriates an unspecified amount of money to DLNR to host the World Conservation Congress.

The World Conservation Congress is the "Olympics" of conservation, held every four years. The Congress includes cutting edge research and debate over global conservation policy issues important to Hawai'i, such as sea-level rise, bio-security, and the connection between nature and culture. World conservation leaders from government, non-governmental organizations, and private business attend. Important agreements such as CITES (the treaty banning trade of endangered animal products) emerge from the World Conservation Congress. This is the first time a World Conservation Congress will be held on U.S. soil, an extremely significant event for Hawai'i.

The World Conservation Congress, like APEC, will establish Hawai'i as a place where the world can do business. The benefits to Hawai'i include:

- Estimated \$65M in economic benefits based on 8,000+ delegates, support and workforce participants, and media
- Significant media exposure
- Supports state goals regarding ecotourism, conservation leadership, and positioning Hawai'i as a destination for high-level and global meetings
- Positions Hawai'i on international platform for world conservation issues to showcase Hawai'i's knowledge and experience regarding natural and cultural resource management and sustainability
- Opportunity to gather input from global conservation community to address Hawai'i's challenges
- Conservation education efforts, including leadership development at the East-West Center, conservation leadership certification at the University of Hawai'i, K-14 Youth Leadership Initiatives
- Opportunities for participation in the World Conservation Forum, access to IUCN's scientific credibility, extensive networking and exposure to high-level political, economic, and social decision making regarding conservation

Funding for the World Conservation Congress should NOT take away from regular DLNR funding and programs. The World Conservation



Congress will benefit tourism, the Hawai'i Convention Center's reputation as an international convention center, and statewide education and conservation initiatives.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify. I regret that I cannot make attend the hearing in person due to a prior commitment.

Me ke aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lea Hong". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "H" at the end.

Lea Hong
Hawaiian Islands State Director

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 7:55 AM
To: TOUtestimony
Cc: igibson@hsus.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM*

HB2037

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for TOU on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Inga Gibson	Humane Society of the US- Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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DIAMOND HEAD STATE MONUMENT FOUNDATION

A Volunteer Non-profit Organization

3118 Waiialae Avenue, Suite 101, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

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Clyde Hosokawa,
Advisor

To: Rep. Tom Brower, Chair
Rep. Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair &
Members of the Committee on Tourism

From: Barbara Marumoto, President
Diamond Head State Monument Foundation
repmarumoto@gmail.com

10 Feb. 2016 – 10 am
Capitol - Room 312

HB 2037 - RELATING TO THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

The Diamond Head State Monument Foundation supports the intent of HB 2037. The Foundation favors an appropriation to the DLNR to host the World Conservation Congress meeting sponsored by the International Union for Conservation of Nature at the Hawaii convention Center on September 1 – 10, 2016, provided that there is no diminution of funds for regular DLNR programs, especially for the State Parks Division and, in particular, Diamond Head State Monument.

We understand the amount under consideration is \$4 Million

The Diamond Head Foundation supports the testimony of the DLNR.



House Committee on Tourism

Hawai'i Center for Food Safety Supports HB2037

Dear Chair Brower, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Ashley Lukens and I am the Hawai'i Director for the Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 750,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i. On behalf of CFS and our members, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this important bill.

CFS has been dedicated to addressing the human health and environmental impacts of our increased reliance on pesticide use in food production, both in the State of Hawai'i and nationally. We were instrumental in providing legal and communications support in the passage of numerous ordinances relating to pesticide use and disclosure, such as Kaua'i's Bill 2491. Since 2014, as the inaugural director here in Hawai'i, I have worked closely with community members across the state, in all counties, and have played an instrumental role in the passage of Maui's moratorium on GE production until companies submit environmental and public health impact assessments.

I am writing in support of HB2037, 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.

We support this bill because we believe that funding for the DLNR to host the IUCN World Conservation Congress should not take away from the regular budget. It is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Hawai'i to host this "Olympics" of the conservation world. Being picked as the host location shows how fragile and important Hawai'i's ecosystems are, and the need for the DLNR's budget to stay intact for regular allocation.

Hawai'i will benefit from the Congress through economic stimulation, education opportunities for local scientists and youth, ecotourism, and world-image. Due to the wide range of benefits, we believe that the state should use shared funds, rather than just those from the DLNR.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any follow up questions or provide additional analysis.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Lukens', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ashley Lukens
Director, Hawai'i Center for Food Safety

LATE



OUTRIGGER[®]
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM
Representative Tom Brower, Chair

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
Representative Cliff Tsuji, Chair

2/10/2015
Rm. 312, 10:00 AM

HB 2037
Relating to World Conservation Congress

Chair Brower, Chair Tsuji and Members of both Committees, my name is Max Sword, here on behalf of Outrigger Hotels Hawaii, in support of HB 2037.

Outrigger Hotels was one of the first hotels in Waikiki that started recycling before recycling became fashionable or the norm. Since then we have continued to practice conservation, not only at our Hawaii properties, but also at our properties worldwide.

We have also supported conservation of our ocean and reefs around us, by supporting the Waikiki Aquarium in their effort to preserve our ocean life and our reefs. We call our program Outrigger Ozone or Outrigger O.

When the World Conservation Congress was first proposed we saw the conference not only as a opportunity to bring tourist here to Hawaii, but also to demonstrate to the world what we as a community is doing for conservation and the environment. It is an opportunity to show how we are moving in the direction of preservation of our aina.

This is an important worldwide conference, which we urge you will support thru this appropriations bill. We at Outrigger certainly will do our part to show the world what we can do.

Mahalo for allowing us to testify and urge your support of this bill.

LATE



Testimony of Randall Tanaka in Support of HB 2037
House Committee on Tourism
Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 10:00AM HCR 312

The Honorable Tom Brower, Chair and Committee Members, Committee on Tourism

My name is Randall Tanaka, President, World Conservation Congress, National Host Committee/Hawaii 2016, testifying in strong support of HB 2037, Relating to the World Conservation Congress.

First, I am extremely proud and honored that Hawaii was chosen over many other countries to be the first host of the World Conservation Congress in America.

It is truly an honor, that out of the 8 qualified countries, Hawaii was chosen to showcase and be the leader on issues such as global climate change, biodiversity, native species, water management and of course, environmental leadership in an important cultural setting. Hawaii sets the stage for policies and discussions regarding conservation for generations to come.

We are very thankful of Hawaii's legislative body to assist and take the leadership with the efforts of the World Conservation Congress. The appropriations set aside from this body will help in our efforts of making this World Congress very meaningful and impactful.

The World Conservation Congress will be held September 1 – 10, 2016. Your insight and assistance, will provide a lifetime opportunity for Hawaii and it's people to teach the world how we all malama our islands, and that those practices can provide the seed for other nations to follow.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM
ASSOCIATION

Testimony of

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

Tourism Committee
February 10, 2016

House Bill 2037: Relating to the World Conservation Congress

Chair Brower, Vice Chair Ohno, and members of the Tourism Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. On behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, we support the purpose of House Bill 2037 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.

Our final overarching comment is that it would be more appropriate for the appropriation of funds, and funding of the IUCN World Conservation Congress to come from marketing dollars allocated to HTA. However, we are in support of this measure as it proposes a monetary addition to DLNR as opposed to taking money from its budget.

Mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 8:22 AM
To: TOUtestimony
Cc: ailaw001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM

HB2037

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for TOU on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William J Aila Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support passage of HB 2037. Funding for the WCC should come from the General Fund. The WCC conference will allow all the people of Hawaii and the Nation to demonstrate successful initiatives taking place here in Hawaii. Its benefits will have long lasting financial, networking, and environmental leadership opportunities. William J. Aila Jr., former DLNR Chairman.

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Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 9:15 PM
To: TOUtestimony
Cc: antolinid@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM

HB2037

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for TOU on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Antolini	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Brower & Committee Members, Hawaii is privileged to be hosting the IUCN World Conservation Congress in September 2016. The IUCN puts Hawaii at the center of the world's attention for sustainability for two weeks, a priceless opportunity for our State, both for tourism and international reputation as a green destination for businesses and individuals. I have been personally and professionally involved in several aspects of preparing for the Congress, working with law students, community partners, and colleagues from across the state, national, and the globe. Please support the requested allocation for the WCC - so long as it does not take away from the existing DLNR budget. It would be a shame if our State's contribution to the WCC directly undercut our DLNR's ability to protect our state resources. This is a budget item that must be an ADD, not a hit on an already stretched DLNR staff and budget. Please kokua the IUCN WCC. In the long-run, our investment will come back manifold to our islands. Mahalo nui, Denise Antolini

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 5:28 AM
To: TOUtestimony
Cc: rkayelny@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2037 on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM

HB2037

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for TOU on Feb 10, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This Conservation Congress will be important for Hawaii; it should be supported. But it shouldn't be supported with funds from the DLNR budget, already manini.

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