

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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 Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Monday, February 8, 2016
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2040
RELATING TO WATER SECURITY

House Bill 2040 proposes to establish a two-year pilot program for a water security advisory group to enable public-private partnerships that increase water security by providing matching state funds for projects and programs to increase groundwater recharge, encourage water reuse, and improve the efficiency of potable and agricultural water use. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that this appropriation does not adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget request or any existing funding to the Department's programs, and has the following comments:**

While SECTION 4 of the bill provides the Department with the ability to contract with an independent non-profit entity to carry out the duties and activities associated with this measure, the Department is concerned existing staff resources are insufficient for the workload involved with procurement, management and monitoring of the agreement with the non-profit, services to carry out the projects and programs approved by the water security advisory group, and contracts for approved projects and programs. Additional staff resources would be needed for this project oversight. SECTION 6 of the bill provides for an unspecified amount of general revenues to support the two-year pilot program, which should include sufficient resources for staff oversight.

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
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 8, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON
HB 2040: RELATING TO WATER SECURITY

Room 325
9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports HB 2040, establishing a two-year pilot program in the Department of Land and Natural Resources that enables public-private partnerships to provide funds for projects that increase water security

Advancements in the State's water infrastructure have far lagged population increases. At the same time, the time to prepare for a drought is when it is raining. Hawaii has had increased rainfall during the past few years and a sense of complacency to drought has developed. Yet forecasters predict prolonged droughts in the near future.

Recent reports on Maui, the island most dependent on surface water is dire:

The U.S. Geological Survey's gauge on Puu Kukui in the West Maui Mountains, **one of the wettest places in the world, logged its lowest January since 1977** and its lowest total for any month since May 1989, according to the weather service. **Only 1.08 inches - or 3 percent of normal rainfall - fell in January. The average rainfall for the month is 31 inches.**

Ulupalakua in Upcountry also was dry with **only 0.2 inch of rain; 4.71 inches** fall on average.

Maui News: February 5, 2016

This program creatively seeks to incentivize efforts to increase water supplies by increasing efficiency, encouraging recharge and encouraging reuse.

We request your **support of HB2040**, urgently needed to increase Hawaii's tolerance and resiliency to drought event. Thank you.



Wai Maoli

HAWAII FRESH WATER INITIATIVE

827 Fort Street Mall | Honolulu, HI 96813 | (808) 537-6333
HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org

Fresh Water Council Members

William Aila

Stephen Anthony*

Michael Buck

Suzanne Case

Reginald Castanares

Meredith Ching

Derek Chow

Ka'eo Duarte

Sumner Erdman

Mark Fox

Thomas Giambelluca

Timothy Johns

Howard Killian

Patrick Kobayashi

Ernest Lau

Keith Okamoto

Jerry Ornellas

Monty Richards

Kapua Sproat

David Taylor

Dennis Teranishi

Barry Usagawa

*US Geological Survey
Liaison/Scientific Advisor to HCF

Testimony of the Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative

on

H.B. 2040

Relating to Water Security

House Committee on Water & Land

Monday, February 8, 2016

Conference Room 325

The Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative strongly supports H.B. 2040, which establishes a two-year pilot project to leverage state funds for projects and programs that increase water security in the State of Hawaii.

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. Among the concepts in that strategy is a two-year pilot program that:

- Establishes a water security advisory group of water managers, agricultural water system experts, private landowners that are active watershed partners, knowledgeable experts in Hawaiian cultural practices, and experienced conservationists;
- Authorizes the advisory group to establish criteria to evaluate and assign priorities for proposals by public and private agencies or organizations that are able to provide matching funds to increase water security; and
- Authorizes the advisory group to recommend priorities to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the grant of matching funds for water security programs.

In establishing the priorities for the pilot project, the advisory group is directed to encourage innovative proposals that:

- Establish new techniques and projects supporting the recharge of groundwater;
- Reduce the use of potable water for landscape irrigation and encourage the reuse of Hawai'i wastewater; and
- Improve the efficiency of potable domestic water or agricultural irrigation water use.

H.B. 2040 requires the selected projects to submit reports on the amount of water conserved, recharged, or reused, and requires the Department to track progress with the submission of an annual report on the pilot program to the Governor and to the Legislature.

This pilot program will double the impact of state funds deployed to increase water security in the near term, and establish base-line information for the implementation of longer-term programs and projects.

For these reasons, we strongly support S.B. 2640 and urge its passage.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 7:18 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dale@hicattle.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	Yes

Comments: The maintenance and exploration for water resources is critical for the future of natural resources in Hawaii. Increasing the efficiency of water resources for agricultural systems will provide for better infrastructure and overall delivery of water.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 4:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kristiadachi@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristi Adachi MD	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 3:28 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:59 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: milholen.jennifer@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/8/2016
 Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:07 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: scoleman@surfrider.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/8/2016
Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Surfrider Foundation	Support	No

Comments: Surfrider's Hawaii Chapters support this bill and the efforts to increase our water security by creating a pilot project to raise funding for public-private efforts to conserve our water supply. Mahalo, Stuart Coleman 2927 Hibiscus Pl. Hon., HI 96815

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 8:48 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: rbergstrom@surfrider.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2040 on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM

HB2040

Submitted on: 2/8/2016
Testimony for WAL/EEP on Feb 8, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rafael Bergstrom	Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committees on WAL/EEP, In Support of HB2040 The Surfrider Foundation's Oahu Chapter strongly supports programs that reduce the loss of freshwater supplies and simultaneously help protect our near shore ecosystems by reducing the amount of stormwater runoff that enters our stormdrains. A public/private partnership to spur innovation in this field would have huge benefits in pushing our State towards more sustainable water use.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov