



# KO`OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

April 3, 2016

To: Sen. Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair  
And Members  
Committee on Ways and Means

From: Alice P. Hewett, President  
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic club

Re: H.B. 2179, HD1, SD1 – Relating to Aha Moku Advisory Committee Funding

Aloha, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club strongly supports and urges your approval of House Bill 2179, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1, which would provide secured funding for the operations of the `Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

Since the Legislature's establishment of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee several years ago, you have never formally accepted or ensured institutional funding for this important advisory body which works to facilitate responsible management of cultural resources and practices. The members of this advisory body all work as volunteers year-round to respond to and address concerns raised for and by state agencies that involve such practices and resources. Administratively attached to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the AMAC has proven invaluable in helping staff and administrators of the agency to understand cultural concepts and practices that can guide decision-makers and policy-setting within and without the agency.

Contrary to the belief that some hold, that the Aha Moku Advisory Committee should be funded by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, we disagree.

The main purpose of the AMAC is to assist the STATE agencies in making their decisions and setting policies that appropriately reflect compliance with state law as it pertains to Hawaiian traditional and cultural practices. This is not an entity which is aimed at assisting OHA; rather, its work usually helps the state in the work you do throughout the islands.

We urge your support for H.B. 2179, HD1, SD1, by passage of this bill and inclusion of this funding in your final budget.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our mana`o.

*The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is one of the largest in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs nationwide. Ko`olaupoko HCC is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are "Hawaiian at heart".*

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Alohalyn Beck, Aha Moku – Moku O Keawe

I am a Aha Moku representative for Moku O Ka u, my name is Alohalyn Beck I do support Bill 2179 HDI SD1 in hearing today and I would like you all to support us.

Thank you,

Alohalyn Beck-Ka u Representative

**From:** [Elizabeth Kuluwaimaka](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Darlyne Vierra](#); [Piilani Kaawaloa](#); [Leimana DaMate](#); [konawaileo@yahoo.com](mailto:konawaileo@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** Support HB2179 HD1 SD1  
**Date:** Sunday, April 03, 2016 6:06:49 PM

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Aloha

I am writing in support of Bill HB2179 HD1 SD1 for we do need to continue with the Aha Moku System. I pray that you all will support this.

Mahalo nui

Elizabeth Kuluwaimaka

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Hanale Hopfe](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Aloha my name is Hanale Hopfe and I'm asking for your support and pass the AHA MOKU Appropriations Bill HD1, SD1. Mahalo Nui Loa.  
**Date:** Monday, April 04, 2016 9:34:18 AM

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**Leimana DaMate**  
**1549 Thurston Avenue**  
**Honolulu, HI 96822**  
**Phone: 808-372-9638**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211, 2:00 P.M.

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2179 HD 1 SD1**

House Bill 2179 HD1 SD1 appropriates funds for the administration, operation, and community outreach expenses of the aha moku advisory committee. I am the Executive Director of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee, and I am testifying as an individual so I can bring forward my personal testimony on this important work.

The Legislature has shown unwavering and unanimous support for the Aha Moku System since its creation by this body in 2006. However, although appropriations were listed in Act 212 in 2007, and again in Act 288 in 2012, no funding was ever released to empower the Aha Moku to fulfill its mandates. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs stepped in to assist from 2013 to 2015, but can no longer help.

The scope of the Aha Moku is to empower ahupua'a communities in their work to sustain and protect the natural and cultural resources within their specific ahupua'a; and, to bring traditional, generational, and community resource issues to the attention and action of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). That covers 46 traditional large land and ocean districts (moku) and the 606 smaller site-specific areas (ahupua'a). All moku and ahupua'a boundaries are based on traditional geographic features of each island. Ahupua'a communities are now organizing and are open to the public.

Each of the Po'o, the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) members have shown complete and total commitment to the perpetuation and protection of the ecosystem and environment of their own islands. We have had to exist on (OHA's assistance of \$79,500 per year) since 2013. That translates to AMAC members and staff paying for much of the necessary expenses such as travel for meetings (including housing and ground transportation) personally.

There is only one staff member to service all eight islands, their moku and ahupua'a. The appropriations, if passed would support the following:

- Help in the form of another staff person is desperately needed. It is very difficult to service all Aha Moku Advisory Committee members, all moku and all ahupua'a in a timely and efficient manner. There simply is not enough time in the day to do this.
- Travel for quarterly meetings for the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC members often pay for their own round-trip tickets)
- Travel for staff to neighbor islands for moku and ahupua'a meetings (while the current budget has managed the round-trip air fare, all lodging and ground transportation has been pro-bono)
- Equipment for moku representatives to hold their own ahupua'a and moku meetings (Many of our moku representatives do not have computers or infrastructure to hold community meetings within their moku and/or ahupua'a. they have borne the cost of meetings, printing, banners, ect.)

I must also give our gratitude and deep appreciation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to whom we are attached per Act 288. Without the support and assistance of DLNR, Aha Moku would not have succeeded as they have shown they can do. Our office is located within the Chairman's Office in the Kalanimoku Building. This is the most appropriate site for Aha Moku because it is centralized, and all divisions and administration have access to the Aha Moku. Aha Moku also has access to DLNR and through that access, the voices of the people of an ahupua'a have been brought forward on resource issues that are now addressed more readily. Communications are steadily improving and rapport is better than it has ever been.

I am committed to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee and the Aha Moku System. Please support H.B. 2179 so the work that began, through the actions of kupuna and expert traditional resource practitioners from all eight islands, can continue. The Aha Moku system was restored and adapted from the 9<sup>th</sup> century through oral chants translated by Historian John Kaimikaua. Please allow this critically important bill to pass and help us to solidify the appropriations needed so we are not shut down on June 30, 2016.

**From:** [1337mary@gmail.com](mailto:1337mary@gmail.com)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Aha Moku Appropriations Bill, HOUSE Bill 2179 HD1 SD1  
**Date:** Monday, April 04, 2016 7:54:15 AM

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To SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Re HOUSE Bill 2179 HD1 SD1, ON MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016 AT 2:00 P.M.

I live Kauai. Please recognize and fund the Aha Moku System. Mahalo.

Mary Neudorffer  
1870 Hoone Rd apt 821  
Koloa, Hawaii

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Reggie Lee](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** \*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\* Funding for Aha Moku  
**Date:** Monday, April 04, 2016 9:22:19 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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To Whom it May Concern

I support funding (HB 2179 HDI 1 SD 1) for Aha Moku.

Reggie Lee  
Shoreline & Public Areas Manager  
Kohanaiki Club, Inc.



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**From:** [Caroline Kaholoa](#)"a  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of Aha Moku Advisory Committee Appropriation Bill 2179 HD 1 SD 1  
**Date:** Monday, April 04, 2016 9:47:28 AM

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Aloha,

We the families of Molokai community support the Bill 2179 HD 1 SD 1. We are the descendants of the Makaiwi Ohana that arrived in the early 1900-1924 to Molokai from Maui...we left our well pristine land in Waikapu, Oluwalu, Hana, to relocate our families to pilot the Hawaiian Homes Land awarding lands to our Hawaiian people...we came to a raw undeveloped land that had no water, roads or even people. They came with their faith, their strength, their courage to shoulder their hard working bodies to till and toil the land with their bare hands. We are defending our rights to support our families and friends to our water, land and ocean that our kupuna cultural legacy lived and taught us. How to manage, share, treat and love our people. To live in peace and harmony we must first acknowledge a Loving Heavenly Father and second to serve and love our brothers and sisters. This is how our Makaiwi Ohana taught and lived....most acknowledge their love and faith...but a few wondered away for their own gain.

We support the Aha Moku Appropriation Bill because all our people from the Hawaiian islands need assistance to manage our land and resources what is left that is ours.

These are the families of the Makaiwi the supports the bill: estimation of 350 persons

Makaiwi/Han Ohana

Makaiwi/Mawae

Han/Agliam

Han/Stone

Han/Kaholoaa

Han/Chang

Han/Teves

Makaiwi/Demello

Makaiwi/Kauai

Aloha, and Mahalo

William and Caroline Kaholoaa