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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
Leslie Kuloloio
Po'o, Moku O Kanaloa (Kahoolawe)
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Before the House Committees on
WATER & LAND
And
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Friday, February 6, 2015
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In **SUPPORT** of
House Bill 438
Making an Appropriation to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

House Bill 438 appropriates funds to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for restoration and preservation projects. **The Aha Moku supports this bill as it reflects the State's commitment to oversee the use and restoration of the reserve as it was stated in 2004 when the management and control of the island was transferred to the State of Hawaii from the United States Navy.**

The Aha Moku encompasses the eight main Hawaiian Islands and supports the traditional and generational knowledge of the people who are connected to Kanaloa, the traditional name for Kahoolawe. This includes Native Hawaiians who have generational knowledge of the island yet live within the Moku of Honuauia on the Island of Maui. Traditionally, they traveled back and forth to Kahoolawe and are intimately involved with the cultural practices still held there.

It is imperative that KIRC continue to implement their pioneering restoration projects that have proven to be effective in the extremely harsh conditions on the Island caused by the destructive actions of the past including extensive soil erosion, destruction of sacred places and natural and cultural resources. After 10 years of escalating hope of the Hawaiian people that Kanaloa would one day be a place of safety and peace, we cannot lose this hard-won faith of our people and the public trust in this endeavor because of a lack of funding. Value cannot be measured by funding.

Please pass HB 438 and save Kanaloa (Kahoolawe). Mahalo nui loa!



**TESTIMONY OF JAN K. YAMANE, ACTING STATE AUDITOR,
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 438, RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE
COMMISSION**

**House Committee on Water and Land and
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs**

February 6, 2015

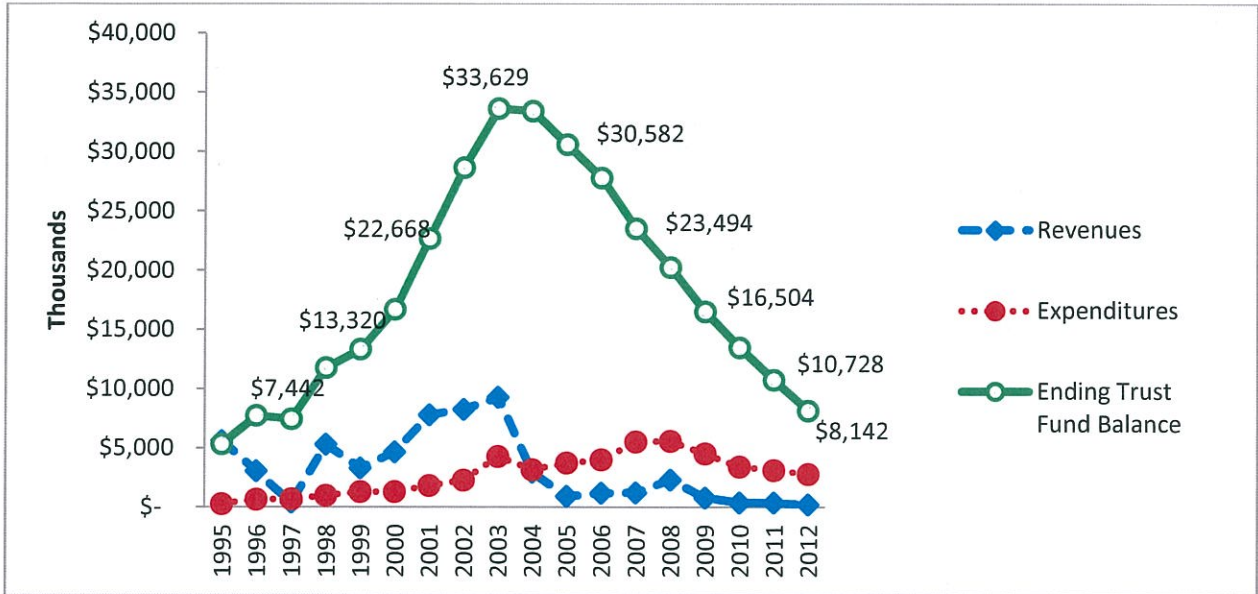
Chair Yamane, Chair Ing and Members of the Committees:

I am Jan Yamane, Acting State Auditor. Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 438, relating to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. This bill would, among other things, appropriate funds to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for restoration and preservation projects.

In July 2013, we released Report No. 13-06, *Audit of the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund*, which responded to a request by the 2012 Legislature via Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63, Senate Draft 1, asking the Auditor to conduct a fiscal audit of the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. The Legislature requested that the audit include a determination of whether trust funds are being used in compliance with state laws and any applicable grant agreements, and to effectuate the purposes of the Chapter 6K, HRS, including the performance of duties and responsibilities of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. In our report, we had two findings:

1. At its current rate of spending, the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission will drain the remaining balance of the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund by 2016, and
2. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission has not developed a comprehensive and measurable restoration plan, including estimated costs and timeframes for completion.

The following exhibit from our report illustrates the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund’s financial revenue, expenditures, and decreasing trust fund balance for FY1995-FY2012. As you can see, expenditures have outpaced revenues for the past decade.

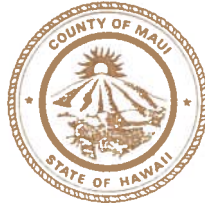


Our report noted that the commission has been unsuccessful at meeting its fundraising goals and unable to secure long-term funding. Although it has cut its budget, it continues to deplete the trust fund and at its current rate of spending, the trust fund will be completely exhausted by 2016.

While this measure will appropriate needed funds to the depleting trust fund for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, it does not address the commission’s rate of spending and inability to successfully raise funds to preserve the trust. If the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund requires annual appropriations to continue, it raises the question whether the trust fund is needed or should be repealed. The commission could be supported through general fund appropriations.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on House Bill No. 438. I am available for your questions, should you have any.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



KEITH A. REGAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

TESTIMONY OF MAYOR ALAN M. ARAKAWA COUNTY OF MAUI

RE: FUNDING FOR THE KAHO`OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Please accept this testimony in strong support of state funding for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). Whether through a share of conveyance tax revenue as proposed by SB 867, or a direct appropriation as proposed by SB 897 and HB 438, support of the KIRC is a state responsibility.

When the state accepted Kaho`olawe back from the U.S. military in 1994, it was recognized that state funding would eventually be needed to maintain and restore the island. As Section 1 notes in each of the above-reference bills, the federally-mandated Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission reported to Congress in 1993 that KIRC's federal trust fund would be used to initiate conservation and other programs, but that state funding was required for the long term.

I was able to travel to Kaho`olawe last month to view the incredible work that the KIRC performs every day – its Restoration Program planting native shrubs and grasses to minimize erosion and restore native ecosystems, its Ocean Program monitoring marine species and the Island Reserve's pristine waters, its Culture Program preserving archaeological sites and promoting traditional Hawaiian practices, and its Operations staff providing all kinds of logistical and maintenance support to these program efforts. The KIRC's annual budget is less than \$3 million; they manage and are steadily restoring an entire island reserve – a former bombing range with 45 square miles of land and 90 square miles of ocean – for less than \$3 million per year; this has to be one of the most efficient government agencies in the state.

The Legislature has rightly recognized the state's responsibility to providing funding for the KIRC, and clearly appreciates the successes that KIRC has achieved. Your careful consideration of these funding measures comes at a critical time, and I respectfully request your support.



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

KAHO`OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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Michael K. Nāho`opi`i
Executive Director

Testimony of MICHAEL K. NAHO`OPTI Executive Director

Before the House Committee on WATER & LAND and OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**Friday, February 6, 2015
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 438 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE KAHO`OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

House Bill 438 appropriates out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai`i funds to be used for projects undertaken by the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission, including but not limited to the restoration and preservation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve and its meaningful and safe use by the people of Hawai`i. The Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

When the State of Hawai`i accepted the return of the island of Kaho`olawe in 1994, it accepted the responsibility "to preserve and protect a corner of their island state so that future generations can become familiar with their island's past human and natural heritage. For many Native Hawaiians and others, Kaho`olawe is a special place that has been sanctified by the loss of life in a struggle between traditional values and Western concepts of land use and management" (Restoring a Cultural Treasure, Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission).

As stated in the Federally-mandated Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission (KICC) final report to Congress in 1993, "in the short term, federal funds will provide the bulk of the program support for specific soil conservation projects and related activities. In the longer term, however, state revenues will be needed to continue and enhance those activities initiated with federal funds." For the past 20 years, the initial Federal funding has allowed the KIRC to establish many of its innovative programs that emphasize ancestral and traditional knowledge, provide a cultural approach of respect and connectivity to the environment, and integrate ancient and modern resource management techniques. Those initial funds will run out by 2016 if no other funding source is secured.

With 25% of the island still uncleared of unexploded ordnance and only 10% cleared for intensive use, the KIRC's continuing presence on Kaho`olawe is needed to ensure the protection of the general public. Without funding, the KIRC will have to terminate on-island operations and close the doors to public access to Kaho`olawe.

Over the past two years, the KIRC in partnership with several dozen community organizations conducted as of state-wide community gatherings to solicit and document the public's input regarding the future of Kaho`olawe. The resultant community-wide planning document entitled "*I OLA KANALOA!*" represents a foundation to encourage the collective impact of many individuals, organizations, and the community-at-large. This arrangement acknowledges that the power, energy and resources to secure the future of Kaho`olawe is shared and dispersed among its many partners.

The funding being sought in this measure is to provide a bridge to allow the KIRC to develop these community-wide partnerships, establish collaborative enterprises with other state and federal government entities, and launch long-term revenue generation and sustainable funding opportunities supporting the future of Kaho`olawe. The passage of this measure is critical to ensure that the struggle, hard work, dedication and lives given to the island will not be wasted, but forms the foundation for Kaho`olawe role as the spiritual, cultural and physical *piko* (center) of the people of Hawai`i.

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 11:36 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: labbott@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyman L. Abbott	Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please pass the bill HB438 so we may continue our future restoration efforts on Kaho`olawe. Thank you, Lyman L. Abbott

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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 Committees on Water and Land and Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs

Hearing: Friday, February 6, 2015 11 am, Room 325

In Support of HB 438 Making an Appropriation to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve
Commission

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 438, which appropriates funds to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for restoration and preservation projects.

It is unfortunate that the United States military did not provide sufficient funding to restore Kaho'olawe to its pre-military target condition. Kaho'olawe is an extreme example of what happens with military occupation of land around the world and in our island home. Damage is done, resources are destroyed, and the people are left to clean up the mess.

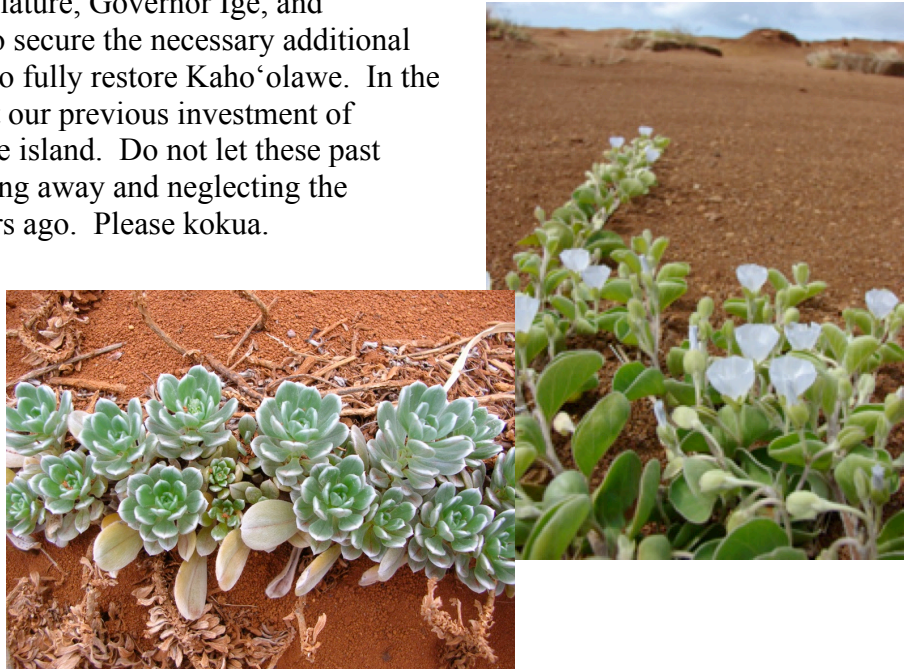
We ask you in the Hawai'i State Legislature, Governor Ige, and Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to secure the necessary additional funding from the federal government to fully restore Kaho'olawe. In the meantime, HB 438 will help to protect our previous investment of federal taxpayer dollars in restoring the island. Do not let these past restoration efforts go to waste by turning away and neglecting the Kaho'olawe as we once did many years ago. Please kokua.

Here are photos of the native hinahina and pa'u o Hi'iaka reclaiming the land on Kaho'olawe. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations. Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org

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President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka

Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'aumoana | Koalani Kaulukukui

Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:30 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii supports the appropriation of general funds, in an amount to be determined by the Legislature, to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for restoration and preservation projects.

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e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
AND
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN
AFFAIRS

For hearing Friday, February 6, 2015

Re: HB 438 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND
RESERVE COMMISSION.

Appropriates funds to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for
restoration and preservation projects.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

SB438 should be deferred or defeated for two reasons:

(1) More than \$400 Million was appropriated by the U.S. government
to clean up unexploded ordnance on Kaho'olawe; and a trust fund
totaling \$44 Million was established for restoration work to be done by
KIRC after the island was transferred to the State of Hawaii. However,

there has not been a fiscal or management audit for how the money was spent, which individuals or companies were paid how much money to do what work, whether contracts were awarded in compliance with state procurement laws, and whether the work was completed satisfactorily. Such management and fiscal audits should be completed and reported to the legislature before any additional funds are appropriated.

(2) So long as the island of Kaho'olawe is set aside by law to be transferred to a future sovereign Native Hawaiian entity, state government taxpayer dollars should not be spent to maintain or improve it. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs has more than \$650 Million in assets in its "trust fund", and its stated purpose is to provide for "the betterment of Native Hawaiians." OHA is the primary entity pushing to create a Native Hawaiian tribe, and has publicly stated that it plans to turn over all its assets to that tribe. Either this bill should be amended to include a clause rescinding HRS Section 6K-9 and making clear that Kaho'olawe is an unalienable part of the State of Hawaii, or else this bill should be amended to require that all funds for the rehabilitation, improvement, and operation of Kaho'olawe must come from the assets of OHA.

As the text of this bill explains, "Pursuant to section 6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the management and control of the Kaho'olawe island reserve will be transferred to a sovereign Native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the state and federal governments. This event is anticipated to occur within the timeframe of the 2026 strategic plan." And indeed, Act 195, Session Laws of 2011, began the process of creating a state-recognized Native Hawaiian tribe with the expectation that once it has been established it will then seek federal recognition. During 2014 the U.S. Department of Interior held hearings in Hawaii and on the mainland to take testimony regarding an Advance Notice of Proposed Rule-Making to change federal law regarding the criteria for recognizing Indian tribes, specifically for the purpose of facilitating federal recognition of the anticipated state-recognized tribe now being created under Act 195.

Does our state legislature really intend to create a Hawaiian tribe and divide the lands and people of Hawaii along racial lines? Will this legislature do anything to protect the 80% of our people who lack a drop of Hawaiian blood, against the rapacious demands of the tribe for land, money, and jurisdictional authority? Please rescind HRS Section 6K-9 and do not appropriate any money to do what OHA has a responsibility to do. I expect my legislature not to give away the store before negotiations with the Hawaiian tribe have even begun.

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Jen Fordyce <jen_fordyce@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:57 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kmchugh@kirc.hawaii.gov; kgapero@kirc.hawaii.gov; mnahoopii@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: Protect Kaho'olawe: HB 438

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha e committee members;

I am writing in support of continued funding for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, and the important work that they are doing not only on Kaho'olawe, but also in Kihei. I am sure you will receive much testimony about the crucial role KIRC has played in the protection and preservation of Hawaiian history, culture, natural resources, and more. All of this is true, and vital to Hawai'i. But I would like to discuss the work that KIRC is doing in Kihei, as well.

As the former director of Kihei Charter School, I worked with KIRC to build a partnership that includes field activities at the Kihei site of KIRC, where they are clearing kiawe and other invasive species, building trails, and planting native Hawaiian plants. This work mirrors the work they have completed on Kaho'olawe, and provides a window into that work for those who are not fortunate enough to be able to travel to the island for a volunteer trip. It also happens to be in a spot that is heavily traveled by tourists and locals, alike, and is the perfect opportunity for educating others about the history and the work of preserving Kaho'olawe.

For the seventh and eighth graders at Kihei Charter School, it is an opportunity to work with real scientists, historians, and preservationists in the field, getting their hands dirty, and making meaningful connections between the things they learn in class and the world around them. For some of our kids, it is the best part of coming to school (and the kind of experience that will hopefully keep them from dropping out in the future). I have seen boys who are completely unable to focus and keep their hands to themselves in class proudly carrying the heaviest branches and digging the biggest holes to make a contribution to this project. They give tours of the site as if it were their own home.

Funding the work of our scientists, historians, and educators is crucial to the future of these islands, not only for the actual preservation of natural resources, but also for the education and inspiration of our keiki. I strongly urge the legislators to continue funding the important work that KIRC has ahead of them. Their strategic plan for the future is solid, and they are passionate, responsible stewards of the land and the responsibilities that come with public funding.

Mahalo nui loa,
Jen Fordyce
Waikapu

Kaho'olawe Testimony

In October of 2014, I had the opportunity to visit the island of Kaho'olawe for the first time via the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission or KIRC.

In October of 2014, I had the opportunity to visit the island of Kaho'olawe for the first time via the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. On the 4-day trip, my twenty-person volunteer group worked on erosion control and other projects to help restore the island. For our particular work project, we built barriers to prevent rain runoff from destroying young plants and washing ancient Hawaiian artifacts from an archeological site into the ocean.

I was able to see the scars and devastation to the island from the nearly 50 years of live fire, bombing, and wild goats. And I gained a greater appreciation of what the island means to the Hawaiian people both culturally and spiritually.

But most importantly, I can tell you that the island is slowly healing and there are trees and plants growing in areas where there was complete devastation a few years ago. This is because of the dedication and work of KIRC and it's volunteer groups.

I was born and raised in Hawai'i but I am not a native Hawaiian. Prior to this trip, I knew almost nothing of the history and cultural significance of Kaho'olawe, nor did I care about the restoration work being done there. However, after just four days of seeing the mission that KIRC is tasked with, their professionalism, and dedication, I am in complete support of KIRC and their efforts. As a Hawai'i resident, I feel it's our obligation to do what we can to restore and heal Kaho'olawe, so that future generations may have the opportunity to visit and learn from this very special place.

I urge you to pass HB438 and continue to fund KIRC and their mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan C.T. Kawamoto

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 6:13 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: skenomoto@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanton Enomoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Yamane and Ing, Vice-Chairs Cullen and Lowen, and members of the committees on WAL and OMH: My name is Stanton Enomoto and I am submitting this testimony as an individual to respectfully request your **STRONG SUPPORT** for HB438. I have been involved with the restoration and preservation of Kaho'olawe Island and its waters for the past 20 years. I am thoroughly familiar with the unique federal legislation that brought about Kaho'olawe's return to the State of Hawai'i and provided funding for ordnance cleanup and environmental restoration activities. These federal funds have allowed the State of Hawai'i to manage the Reserve for nearly two decades. During this time, thousands of individuals, families, researchers, cultural practitioners, and restoration volunteers have been able to safely and meaningfully access Kaho'olawe for the purposes intended in HRS Chapter 6K. Their stories of healing the island, connecting to place, understanding their culture, and improving their lives are compelling and inspiring. I believe many others, residents and visitors alike, should have such opportunities should they desire. Unfortunately, the remaining federal funds, grants, fees and donations are insufficient to allow the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue its management of the Reserve and additional funding sources are necessary. It is respectfully requested that the State of Hawai'i, through the Legislature, step forward to fulfill its responsibility to public trust resources and provide much needed funding to the Commission. Much work and opportunity remains in the coming years, as is articulated in the I Ola Kanaloa Strategic Plan. If you have not done so, I encourage you to read it and to join others in being a part of it; not only through your legislative support and decision making, but at a personal level as well. For implementation of I Ola Kanaloa requires the collective impact of many organizations and individuals doing their part to achieve a shared vision. In doing so, we will be able to restore not only the island and its waters, but ourselves as Hawaiians, residents of these islands, and members of a civil society. As such, I respectfully request your support for HB438 so that the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission may do its part in supporting and contributing to the restoration of Kaho'olawe. I Ola Kanaloa and mahalo piha for this opportunity to provide testimony. Me ka 'oia 'i'o, Stanton Enomoto

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To: waltestimony
Cc: tchowhoy@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Todd Chow-Hoy	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Todd Chow-Hoy, support KIRC bill HB438. As an educator, I've heard colleagues and former students share that being on Kaho`olawe is a "life-changing" experience. And, having had my first access to the island as a volunteer this past summer, I now understand what they meant. The educational value of the island -- culturally, ecologically, economically -- is unparalleled, as are the opportunities that it holds for students. I ask that you please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

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Cc: npuniwai@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noelani Puniwai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Noelani Puniwai, support KIRC bill HB 438. Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. As the only Island Reserve set up entirely in trust for a Native Hawaiian Sovereign Entity, the KIRC is well poised to change the economic landscape and life quality of Native Hawaiians and the communities in which they reside by means of a truly unique experience on the island of Kaho'olawe. The State must maintain the responsibility of supporting the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. As the only island listed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety, containing nearly 3,000 archaeological sites and features, it is imperative that the State preserves this important resource for current and future generations through this financial support system. Without the KIRC's ongoing protection of Kaho'olawe's coastal ecosystem, including the adjacent nearshore environment and coral reefs that can be covered with, and choked by, derelict fishing gear, nets, a huge variety of plastics and other debris items, species including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, threatened green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, endangered humpback whale, endangered Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel, and endangered Newell's shearwater will be put at risk. It is imperative that a trust fund be stabilized to continue this work. Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

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To: waltestimony
Cc: jamie_bruch@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 3:49 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kate.rourke@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katy Rourke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I only visited Kaho'olawe once as a visitor for a beach clean-up, but know that the continued efforts of KIRC are of the utmost importance to preserving the history and culture of the Hawaiian Islands. Please don't let this vital organization's role come t o end because of financing. This is everyone's kuleana.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

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To: waltestimony
Cc: 2kahaualea@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: waltestimony
Cc: c_noneza@hotmail.com
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HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmela Noneza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: anelamarie@gmail.com
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HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anela Evans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: waltestimony
Cc: hspoehr7@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hardy Spoehr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. Over the years, the KIRC has done an excellent job administering Kaho`olawe for the people of the State of Hawai`i, generally, and for Native Hawaiians, specifically. Until such time as a sovereignty entity for Native Hawaiians is formed, it is critical that the State of Hawai'i continues to support the KIRC in its efforts. I was formally honored to have been a part of the Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission (KICC)and, I believe, it was our intent then that the KIRC be adequately funded to carry on it and work towards the vision and mission of Kaho`olawe as a 'wahipana' and a 'pu`uhonua' for all the people of Hawai`i. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 438.

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To: waltestimony
Cc: clindsey@kirc.hawaii.gov
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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles r. Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, (insert name here), support KIRC bill (ENTER BILL #). ... Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. ... As the only Island Reserve set up entirely in trust for a Native Hawaiian Sovereign Entity, the KIRC is well poised to change the economic landscape and life quality of Native Hawaiians and the communities in which they reside by means of a truly unique experience on the island of Kaho'olawe. The State must maintain the responsibility of supporting the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. ... As the only island listed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety, containing nearly 3,000 archaeological sites and features, it is imperative that the State preserves this important resource for current and future generations through this financial support system. ... Without the KIRC's ongoing protection of Kaho'olawe's coastal ecosystem, including the adjacent nearshore environment and coral reefs that can be covered with, and choked by, derelict fishing gear, nets, a huge variety of plastics and other debris items, species including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, threatened green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, endangered humpback whale, endangered Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel, and endangered Newell's shearwater will be put at risk. It is imperative that a trust fund be stabilized to continue this work. ... Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:44 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: elijah.solt@lcpcs.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elijah	Individual	Support	No

Comments: K.I.R.C. is needed. Kahoolawe is a beautiful place that needs to be restored. I went to Kahoolawe on a school trip and got to meet some of the K.I.R.C. staff. They were all very nice and believed in the work that they were doing. Kahoolawe is an amazing place. It is rich with beauty and history. Even after being bombed for almost fifty years Kahoolawe is still the most beautiful place I have ever been in my life. That is why it is important that K.I.R.C. continues their restoration work to restore kahoolawe to its former glory for everyone to see.

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:15 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mhicks07@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislature: I have had the honor of visiting Kanaloa 2 times over the last 4 years and each time it has enriched my life in untold ways. The KIRC has been instrumental in this privilege. I believe our Hawaii citizens have a lot to gain by visiting and being with this island that is symbolic of so many things: human beings' impact on nature or aina; Hawaiian history, culture and traditions that instruct us on how we can live better and more pono lives; Imua: teamwork that on the face of it may seem small in contrast to the vast work that needs to be done to restore ecological balance on the island, but will ultimately heal an island. Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill. Please fund the KIRC and their important activities. Mahalo for your kokua. Mark

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:06 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: wiest_allison@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allison Borell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:09 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support HB 438 to enable the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission to fulfill the legislature's finding that the island of Kaho'olawe is of significant cultural and historic importance to the people of Hawaii and also to enable the implementation of its 2026 strategic plan. Mahalo.
Leimomi Khan

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 11:46 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hodara.rachel@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Hodara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe in the significance of Kaho'olawe and support its management, restoration and preservation through the funding of the KIRC!

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

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To: waltestimony
Cc: dtokishi@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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I, Terri Gavagan, support KIRC bill HB438.

...

Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come.

...

As the only Island Reserve set up entirely in trust for a Native Hawaiian Sovereign Entity, the KIRC is well poised to change the economic landscape and life quality of Native Hawaiians and the communities in which they reside by means of a truly unique experience on the island of Kaho'olawe. The State must maintain the responsibility of supporting the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund.

...

As the only island listed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety, containing nearly 3,000 archaeological sites and features, it is imperative that the State preserves this important resource for current and future generations through this financial support system.

...

Without the KIRC's ongoing protection of Kaho'olawe's coastal ecosystem, including the adjacent nearshore environment and coral reefs that can be covered with, and choked by, derelict fishing gear, nets, a huge variety of plastics and other debris items, species including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, threatened green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, endangered humpback whale, endangered Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel, and endangered Newell's shearwater will be put at risk. It is imperative that a trust fund be stabilized to continue this work.

...

Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 7:44 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lwhite@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lopaka White	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 4, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:
RE: HB 438

Aloha,

My name is Roy Alameida and I teach Hawaiian History (Grade 12) at Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i campus. My first travel to the island of Kaho'olawe was in 2007 with a small group of students from the campus. It was undeniably a cultural learning experience for me and for the students as well. Since then, I have been able to continue travel to the island with students to learn its history and the opportunity for students to actively help in preventing further erosion while learning the different methods used to reduce erosion.

As HB 438 points out the significant and cultural importance of the island to the native people of Hawai'i, it is imperative that funding be made available to continue with the cleanup of unexploded ordinance and to provide support of the innovative management and cultural preservation of the island by the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC).

I ask that the Hawai'i State Legislature fully support and consider appropriating funding for KIRC to continue its effort "...of restoring, preserving, and determining the appropriate uses of the Kaho'olawe island reserve for the people of Hawai'i."

I ka lā maika'i,

/s/ Roy Alameida

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:01 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: taimamcc@udel.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taima McCartney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Taima McCartney, support KIRC bill HB438. ... Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. ... As the only Island Reserve set up entirely in trust for a Native Hawaiian Sovereign Entity, the KIRC is well poised to change the economic landscape and life quality of Native Hawaiians and the communities in which they reside by means of a truly unique experience on the island of Kaho'olawe. The State must maintain the responsibility of supporting the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. ... As the only island listed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety, containing nearly 3,000 archaeological sites and features, it is imperative that the State preserves this important resource for current and future generations through this financial support system. ... Without the KIRC's ongoing protection of Kaho'olawe's coastal ecosystem, including the adjacent nearshore environment and coral reefs that can be covered with, and choked by, derelict fishing gear, nets, a huge variety of plastics and other debris items, species including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, threatened green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, endangered humpback whale, endangered Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel, and endangered Newell's shearwater will be put at risk. It is imperative that a trust fund be stabilized to continue this work. ... Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

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Cc: kmchugh@kirc.hawaii.gov
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HB438

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come.

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To: waltestimony
Cc: kelho@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM
Attachments: HB438.docx

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelvin Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 10:01 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mmsantos@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

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HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mei Mailou-Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Erica Danielle Franz
Makawao, HI

February 5, 2015

Dear Hawaii Legislature,

I have had the great honor of visiting Kahoolawe two times in the past three years as part of a service volunteer group. These trips have been some of the most important events that I have ever participated in.

My bachelor's degree from Cornell University (2000) is in Environmental Policy Analysis and Natural Resources Management with an honors thesis in non-point source runoff pollution. Non-point source runoff is precisely what is occurring every day on Kahoolawe as the island's fragile hardpan dust blows off in the wind and flows down the gullies in the occasional rainstorm. This erosion and runoff directly affects the surrounding waters and barrier reefs of all Hawaiian Islands.

Kahoolawe is a surprising large island. The areas in which reforestation and erosion control have been implemented are a shining example of creative and resourceful land management and pollution mitigation. This large island, however still has a lot of work to do. The amazing work that has been done on the island of Kahoolawe over the past 35+ years has directly benefitted the ocean ecosystems surrounding Maui and Lanai, protecting the reefs, its' marine inhabitants and our lucrative snorkeling and diving industries.

As a guest of Kanaloa, I have been humbled by the beauty of the island. It is a unique treasure not only to Hawaii and the Pacific, but to the world. The camaraderie and teamwork inspired by the challenges ahead is unequalled in most any other daily life situation.

The potential for the island of Kahoolawe to be fully rehabilitated within our lifetime and to serve as an example of Hawaii's commitment to its people, its land, its air and its oceans is an opportunity that cannot be squandered.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Erica Danielle Franz

February 5, 2015

RE: HB438 - RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Dear Senators Yamane, Aquino, Cullen, Ito, Jordan, C. Lee, McKelvey, Morikawa, Nishimoto, Oshiro, Say, and Souki,

I am in support of HB438 which would appropriate funds for the 2016-2017 fiscal year to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for the management, restoration, and preservation of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

As a Kanaka Moali as well as a longtime volunteer of both Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission and Protect Kahoolawe Ohana I know the importance of continuing restoration efforts on Kahoolawe. It is essential to provide funding for these projects, because of the direct impact it has on the natural resources of this island the Hawaiian community and Hawaii as a whole.

Sincerely,

Paahana Kincaid

paahana@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:05 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kevin.gavagan@fourseasons.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Gavagan	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Legislature I am writing to submit my testimony in support of Kahoolawe and its ongoing financial appropriation needs to support the KIRC operation. I believe that we own this Kuleana. As Americans we are the beneficiaries of this island that helped us win wars and secure our freedom since WWII. Like many vets, the island was left damaged and needs healing. It is our was our actions and is now our responsibility The citizenry of Hawaii are eager to participate in this healing process. With the KIRC I have had the privledge to go to the island and experiance some of that restoration process. This Island is a treasure and can teach us so so much about ourselves, malama aina, and our ancestors. Keep it alive. There are costs to everything, we owe this to the island that was there for us. It is time to be good stewards and act. All of Hawaii is watching and expecting action that reflects our values. Malama aina is a part of our state seal

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Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:38 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: stephan@mauielements.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephan Boeker	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Dear Legislature: I have had the honor of visiting Kanaloa 3 times over the last 4 years and each time it has enriched my life in untold ways. The KIRC has been instrumental in this privilege. I believe our Hawaii citizens have a lot to gain by visiting and being with this island that is symbolic of so many things: human beings' impact on nature or aina; Hawaiian history, culture and traditions that instruct us on how we can live better and more pono lives; Imua: teamwork that on the face of it may seem small in contrast to the vast work that needs to be done to restore ecological balance on the island, but will ultimately heal an island. Please watch a little short film I created of our group's very first trip to Kanaloa and the richness it brought to all of our lives and the healing touch it brought to the island in turn/ >> <http://tohealanisland.com/maui-film-festival-official-selection/> Please fund the KIRC and their important activities. Mahalo for your kokua. Stephan

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Chairperson
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CARTY S. CHANG
HŌKŪLANI HOLT

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885
Website: <http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov>

**Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NAHO'OPTI
Executive Director**



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

**Friday, February 6, 2015
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 438
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE
COMMISSION**

House Bill 438 appropriates out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i funds to be used for projects undertaken by the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, including but not limited to the restoration and preservation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve and its meaningful and safe use by the people of Hawai'i. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

When the State of Hawai'i accepted the return of the island of Kaho'olawe in 1994, it accepted the responsibility "to preserve and protect a corner of their island state so that future generations can become familiar with their island's past human and natural heritage. For many Native Hawaiians and others, Kaho'olawe is a special place that has been sanctified by the loss of life in a struggle between traditional values and Western concepts of land use and management" (Restoring a Cultural Treasure, Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission).

As stated in the Federally-mandated Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission (KICC) final report to Congress in 1993, "in the short term, federal funds will provide the bulk of the program support for specific soil conservation projects and related activities. In the longer term, however, state revenues will be needed to continue and enhance those activities initiated with federal funds." For the past 20 years, the initial Federal funding has allowed the KIRC to establish many of its innovative programs that emphasize ancestral and traditional knowledge, provide a cultural approach of respect and connectivity to the environment, and integrate ancient and modern resource management techniques. Those initial funds will run out by 2016 if no other funding source is secured.

With 25% of the island still uncleared of unexploded ordnance and only 10% cleared for intensive use, the KIRC's continuing presence on Kaho`olawe is needed to ensure the protection of the general public. Without funding, the KIRC will have to terminate on-island operations and close the doors to public access to Kaho`olawe.

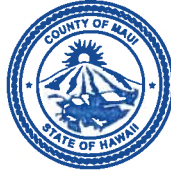
Over the past two years, the KIRC in partnership with several dozen community organizations conducted as of state-wide community gatherings to solicit and document the public's input regarding the future of Kaho`olawe. The resultant community-wide planning document entitled "*I OLA KANALOA!*" represents a foundation to encourage the collective impact of many individuals, organizations, and the community-at-large. This arrangement acknowledges that the power, energy and resources to secure the future of Kaho`olawe is shared and dispersed among its many partners.

The funding being sought in this measure is to provide a bridge to allow the KIRC to develop these community-wide partnerships, establish collaborative enterprises with other state and federal government entities, and launch long-term revenue generation and sustainable funding opportunities supporting the future of Kaho`olawe. The passage of this measure is critical to ensure that the struggle, hard work, dedication and lives given to the island will not be wasted, but forms the foundation for Kaho`olawe role as the spiritual, cultural and physical *piko* (center) of the people of Hawai`i.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor

WILLIAM R. SPENCE
Director

MICHELE CHOUTEAU McLEAN
Deputy Director



LATE

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

Hearing Date: February 6, 2014

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Water & Land
Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Ocean,
Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Aloha Chair Chairs Yamane and Ing, Vice Chairs Cullen and Lowen, and Committee Members,

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR HB438

Please accept this testimony in support of House Bill 438, which seeks a direct appropriation for the continued restoration and management of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve (Reserve), which includes the island of Kaho`olawe and 90 square miles of its surrounding waters.

As the Chair and Maui County representative for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC), I can attest to the urgency and importance of providing this secure, short-term source of funding. Those of you who have been able to visit Kaho`olawe would hopefully agree.

When the State accepted the return of Kaho`olawe from the United States in 1994, it clearly accepted the responsibility to preserve and manage the Reserve. The terms of this acceptance were also stated in the federally-mandated Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission final report to Congress in 1993: "in the short term, federal funds will provide the bulk of the program support for specific soil conservation projects and related activities. **In the longer term, however, state revenues will be needed to continue and enhance those activities initiated with federal funds**" (emphasis added). This funding responsibility, therefore, belongs to the State.

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Water & Land
Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Ocean,
Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
February 6, 2015
Page 2 of 2

With 25 percent of the island remaining uncleared of unexploded ordnance, a continued round-the-clock 24/7 presence on Kaho`olawe is needed to ensure the protection of the general public. KIRC's Restoration, Ocean Resources and Cultural programs have made great strides in restoring and protecting Kaho`olawe's native ecosystems and cultural resources, which benefit all of Hawai'i's people. Thousands of volunteers from throughout the state have contributed to these efforts over the years; their work should be honored by providing support for these programs to continue. HB438 provides this funding support.

Passage of HB438 will fulfill the State's commitment to restore and protect the Reserve; your support will be sincerely appreciated.

Mahalo for your consideration,



MICHELE MCLEAN
Deputy Planning Director, County of Maui
Chair, Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission

LATE

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

LAND FOR PEOPLE

**THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT OF HB438 APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE KAHO'OLAWE
ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION FOR RESTORATION AND
PRESERVATION PROJECTS**

**HAWAI'I STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
FEBRUARY 6, 2015 @ 11AM, HAWAI'I CAPITOL CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

February 5, 2015

Aloha Chair Ing, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committees on Water & Land, and Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs,

The Trust for Public Land **SUPPORTS HB438** which appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for FY2015-2016, and FY2016-2017, so that much needed restoration and preservation projects may continue on Kaho'olawe.

The Trust for Public Land assists public agencies and other nonprofits to protect Hawai'i's most special places. Many of the State, County and Federal staff that we work with, as well as many of the nonprofit staff and volunteers that we assist, have shared with us over the years that their love of the land stemmed from a powerful experience on Kaho'olawe with the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission and/or the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. Inspired by the mālama 'āina practices and values learned on Kaho'olawe, they have gone on to become natural resource managers that serve all Hawai'i residents and visitors by caring for the places that sustain us all. Kaho'olawe is therefore the piko, or center, of our island chain, from which aloha 'āina and a desire to mālama 'āina spreads to the other islands through those who have spent time on Kaho'olawe. Funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission will allow Hawai'i's people to continue learning from and connecting with Kaho'olawe through restoration and preservation projects. Funding for FY2015 and 2016 Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission's projects will benefit Kaho'olawe and its surrounding marine environment, but most importantly, it will benefit Hawai'i's greatest resource – it's people.

The Trust for Public Land Hawaiian Islands Program, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 740, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 -- Ph: (808) 524-8562 -- Fax: (808) 524-8565 -- www.tpl.org

Mahalo for hearing this important matter,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Laura H. E. Kaakua". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Laura H. E. Kaakua

Laura H. E. Kaakua
Native Lands Project Manager
The Trust for Public Land
1003 Bishop Street, Pauahi Tower, Suite 740
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Ph: (808)524-8562
Email: laura.kaakua@tpl.org

PROTECT KAHO‘OLAWE ‘OHANA
P.O. Box 39
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748



Testimony Presented Before the House Committees on
Water & Land
and
Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
Friday, February 6, 2015
11:00 am
State Capitol, Conference Room 325



By
Joshua Kaakua
Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana

IN SUPPORT OF HB 438

Chairs Yamane and Ing, Vice Chairs Cullen and Lowen, and members of the House Committees on Water & Land and Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs. Aloha. My name is Joshua Kaakua testifying on behalf of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (‘Ohana) **in support of HB 438**.

The island of Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe is of significant historical and contemporary importance to the people of Hawai‘i and to Kanaka Maoli. The all-volunteer, grassroots organization Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana understands the unique challenges of restoring, preserving, and stewarding the cultural and natural resources of the island. In this regard, the ‘Ohana fully supports the valuable work of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to address future restoration, appropriate use management, and safe and meaningful access to the island reserve. The ‘Ohana is in support of HB 438 as a means to ensure continuation of the vital service KIRC provides to the State and for the cultural and natural resources of Kanaloa Kaho‘olawe.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Aloha . . . Aloha ‘Āina



TO: Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Rep. Kaniela Ing, Chair
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawaii Foundation

Committee: Friday, February 6, 2015
11:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

RE: **HB 438, Making an Appropriation to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission**

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for HB 438**. The bill would make an appropriation to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission for the restoration and preservation of the natural, cultural and historic resources of the Kaho‘olawe island reserve and its meaningful and safe use by the people of Hawai‘i.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. HHF’s 850 members and numerous additional supporters work to preserve Hawai‘i’s unique architectural and cultural heritage and believe that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

The entire island is home to cultural, historic and archaeological resources. Despite years of military bombardment, Kaho‘olawe retains great cultural and historic significance. While much work has been accomplished to address the issues of degradation of these sites, more work is needed. The bill would provide funding to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue the important work of preserving, restoring and sharing this significant site.

Therefore, Historic Hawai‘i Foundation supports HB 438.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

LATE

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 4:49 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: happyorangemonkey@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

HB438

Submitted on: 2/6/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce Watson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:19 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 3:04 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: dtokishi@kirc.hawaii.gov
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM*

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ikedar009@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB239 on Feb 6, 2015 09:00AM*

HB239

Submitted on: 2/5/2015
Testimony for WAL on Feb 6, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ikeda Family	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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LATE

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: Joel LeBel <lebelj@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 8:38 PM
To: waltestimony
Subject: Support HB 301

Dear Chair Yamane and Committee Members

I am writing in very strong support of HB 301, which extends comprehensive liability protection to the state for actions taken by individuals engaged in hazardous recreational use on state lands. The bill before you is modeled after the California hazardous recreational use statute, and if passed will provide the state with a far better and more coherent protective scheme than current law.

As you all know, last year, the Hawaii legislature barely passed Act 82, which made permanent the requirement that the DLNR post signage warning users of possible hazards on official state trails. However, this legislation leaves large gaps in state protection from hazardous recreational use because of the lack of state protection for injuries caused by non- natural hazards as well as unclear protection for hazardous recreational use on unencumbered state lands. The state needs better protection than this.

HB 301 clarifies that the burden of care rests on the individual outdoor enthusiast. Certainly, the state should remain liable if it knowingly creates harmful conditions, but it is vital that individual recreational users take responsibility for their own actions on state lands, just as they must assume responsibility for their own lives while in the water in Hawaii.

Finally, I can say without a doubt the state would save money if such a bill were to be passed. First, it limits the possibility of such huge payouts like that seen in the Brem case. Second, it saves the state the time and energy of negotiating permits with all user groups for their specific uses. Such a process is legally unwieldy and costs enormous numbers of staff hours. As a hiker and climber I urge that you pass this legislation.

Joel LeBel
Instructor -- Ancient Philosophy (PHIL 211)
PhD Student -- Philosophy
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
1711 Dole St. Apt. 501
Honolulu, HI
96822

LATE

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 5:53 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hswinkler@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
johann winkler	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: johann winkler, support KIRC bill (# HB438). ... Please support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. ... As the only Island Reserve set up entirely in trust for a Native Hawaiian Sovereign Entity, the KIRC is well poised to change the economic landscape and life quality of Native Hawaiians and the communities in which they reside by means of a truly unique experience on the island of Kaho'olawe. The State must maintain the responsibility of supporting the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. ... As the only island listed on the National Register of Historic Places in its entirety, containing nearly 3,000 archaeological sites and features, it is imperative that the State preserves this important resource for current and future generations through this financial support system. ... Without the KIRC's ongoing protection of Kaho'olawe's coastal ecosystem, including the adjacent nearshore environment and coral reefs that can be covered with, and choked by, derelict fishing gear, nets, a huge variety of plastics and other debris items, species including the endangered Hawaiian monk seal, threatened green sea turtle, endangered hawksbill sea turtle, endangered humpback whale, endangered Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel, and endangered Newell's shearwater will be put at risk. It is imperative that a trust fund be stabilized to continue this work. ... Kaho'olawe is a unique ecosystem preserving immensely valuable cultural and biological resources. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish and invertebrates to other islands' waters. The KIRC's massive restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

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Eileen Cain

720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826

eileen@lava.net

February 5, 2015

Dear Chairs Yamane and Ing and Committee Members,

I support HB 438 and I strongly urge you to support this bill: **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION.**

We all know the horrible damage that was done to the island Kaho'olawe. The restoration of this island is a long-term undertaking. Kaho'olawe has a unique ecosystem. It is surrounded by the richest marine ecosystems remaining in the Main Hawaiian islands and providing replenishment of fish to other islands' waters. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission's restoration program designed to revitalize the ecology and cultural history of the island will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. Please support this bill.

Mahalo for your attention to this important matter in our island home.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Cain

LATE

cullen2-Dawn Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2015 9:49 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: kalani.fukumoto@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB438 on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM

HB438

Submitted on: 2/5/2015

Testimony for WAL/OMH on Feb 6, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kalani fukumoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I ask for your support on funding for KIRC. They are the caretakers of a very special place, Kahoolawe. Please allow KIRC to continue the mission of healing this unique island. Fund KIRC. Thank you, Kalani Fukumoto

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