

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Monday, February 9, 2015
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 719
RELATING TO THE LAHAINA FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT**

House Bill 719 proposes to appropriate \$10,160,000 in general obligation bonds in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 to be matched with not less than \$2,540,000 in funds provided by the County of Maui for the completion of the Lahaina Flood Control Project. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

Flood control is essentially a local matter and the Counties have the primary responsibility for flood prevention and control activities. The State and Federal governments assist the Counties in carrying out their flood prevention and control responsibilities by providing technical and financial assistance.

This flood mitigation project is a vital component to mitigate against the risk of flooding to the downstream community and highway, as well as provide support infrastructure to this area as it develops. The Kahoma Stream Flood Control project located in Lahaina on the Island of Maui was completed in 1990 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The local sponsor was the County of Maui, Department of Public Works. As the existing flood improvements are owned, operated and maintained by the County of Maui, the Department suggests that if this measure moves forward, any funding should be authorized to, and expended by, the County of Maui.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

CARTY S. CHANG.
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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