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HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Monday, March 21, 2016
9:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 183
REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO COMPLETE THE MAKUA VALLEY
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, HALT ALL ACTIVITIES IN MAKUA
VALLEY, AND INITIATE CLEAN UP TO RETURN MAKUA VALLEY TO FAMILIES
WHO LOST THEIR HOMELANDS GENERATIONS AGO

House Concurrent Resolution 183 requests the United States Army to complete the Makua Valley Environmental Impact Statement, halt all activities in Makua Valley, and initiate clean up to return Makua Valley to families who lost their homelands generations ago. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

The Department notes that the State has jurisdiction only over a minority portion of the lands in Makua Valley. With respect to the suggested return of that portion of Makua Valley classified as ceded lands (as defined by section 5(b) of The Admission Act of March 18, 1959 providing admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union) to families who lost their homelands generations ago, there is currently no statutory means of returning such lands to ancestral claimants. Those lands are currently in lawful use by the United States Army for its Makua Military Reservation under General Lease No. S-3848. The lease was issued to the United States on August 17, 1964 by the State of Hawaii through the Department for a term of 65 years, and is in effect until August 16, 2029. The lease covers approximately 1,830 acres of ceded lands.

The remaining lands of Makua Valley within the Makua Military Reservation were reserved by the United States in fee simple under The Admission Act, and, as such, the State of Hawaii has no jurisdiction over such lands.



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

Testimony of
Hanalei Hopfe
Waianae Moku Representative – Moku O Kakuhihewa (O'ahu)

Before the House Committee on
Veterans, Military & International Affairs & Culture and the Arts

Monday, March 21, 2016
9:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

**In Consideration of
House Concurrent Resolution 183
REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO COMPLETE THE MAKUA VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT, HALT ALL ACTIVITIES IN MAKUA VALLEY, AND INITIATE CLEAN UP TO
RETURN MAKUA VALLEY TO FAMILIES WHO LOST THEIR HOMELANDS GENERATIONS AGO**

House Concurrent Resolution 183 requests the United States Army to complete the Makua Valley Environmental Impact Statement, Halt all activities in Makua Valley, and initiate Cleanup to return Makua Valley to families who lost their homelands generations ago. **Aha Moku supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

One of the most sacred traditional areas on the Waianae coast is the Makua Ahupua'a. Extremely important to the people of Waianae, Makua holds a special place in their hearts as it has long been known for its many cultural sites. This special place was once home to a thriving community who, because of the accessibility of pristine natural resources, streams and access to water, were able to successfully farm kalo and uala, gather medicinal native plants so the practice of la'au lapa'au could be maintained, and protect and sustain the plentiful coastal and near-shore fisheries of that ahupua'a.

Unfortunately, to the heartbreak of native Hawaiians who had lived in, protected and sustained the rich resources of Makua for generations, they were evicted from their homes by the military who stated that Makua needed to be secured in the interest of public safety due to World War II. The people were promised that their lands would be returned after the war. However, that never happened and from 1943, Makua Valley was used by the joint Army-Navy wartime training forcing most residents to leave.

In 2001, due to intense public pressure, the Army agreed to do an environmental impact statement (EIS) at Makua Valley. In 2009, Malama Makua filed suit to set aside the Army's EIS for proposed military training in the valley until the Army completed contamination studies and archaeological surveys. None of this was completed.

Aha Moku believes that Makua Valley must be returned to the people of that place. It is the right thing to do. The military must keep their promises. We urge this committee to pass this resolution requiring, not requesting, the Army to complete the EIS, to halt all activities in Makua Valley, and clean up their debris of unexploded ordinances so Makua can be returned to the generational families from whom their homelands were taken by this very Army.

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 6:43 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR183 on Mar 21, 2016 09:00AM



HCR183

Submitted on: 3/21/2016

Testimony for VMI on Mar 21, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We STRONGLY SUPPORT this resolution!

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2016 9:28 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: pkaleikini@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR183 on Mar 21, 2016 09:00AM



HCR183

Submitted on: 3/20/2016

Testimony for VMI on Mar 21, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaanohi Kaleikini	Individual	Support	No

Comments: STRONGLY SUPPORT THAT THE ARMY COMPLETE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AT MAKUA VALLEY AND CLEAN UP THE VALLEY BEFORE THEY LEAVE IN 13 YEARS. WE DO NOT WANT THEM TO LEAVE THE VALLEY TRASHED LIKE THEY DID WITH KAHOOLAWA. START THE CLEAN UP NOW, NOT AFTER THEY LEAVE. KAHOOLAWA, STILL HAS TONS OF RUBBISH, ALL THE MONEY IS GONE AND THE ISLAND IS LEFT PILAU. DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN WITH MAKUA VALLEY. YES, THERE ARE SACRED SITES; YES, THERE ARE BURIALS IN MAKUA. THE ANCIENT BONES OF MY KUPUNA LIE THERE; IF THEY HAVE NOT BEEN DESTROYED BY THE ARMY'S BOMBING. THEY NEED TO VACATE MAKUA VALLEY, THATS FOR SURE. THEY MUST CLEAN UP BEFORE LEAVING, NOT AFTER.
P. KAAHOHI KALEIKINI

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