

HCR 22,  
HD1

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Friday, April 15, 2016  
2:50 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 22, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN  
ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO  
PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES**

House Concurrent Resolution 22, House Draft 1 urges support of game mammals, game birds, and fishing resources in order to promote sustainability and food security, and to preserve long standing local and cultural practices. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

The Department finds the resolution as unnecessary. The Department's constitutional public trust mandate is to conserve and protect Hawai'i's natural resources, and to promote the development and use of these resources consistent with their conservation and in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the State (Hawai'i Constitution Article 11.1). Pursuant to state and federal statutory mandates, the Department also manages watershed resources and native forests and protects threatened and endangered species.

Hawai'i's native ecosystems evolved over millions of years into an intricate web of native Hawaiian species, many found nowhere else on earth, which make up our native forested watersheds and our reef ecosystems, and which serve as the foundation of our host culture. Protecting our source of water and conserving our native species and ecosystems are essential elements of Hawai'i's self-sufficiency and sustainability.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**KEKOA KALUHIWA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Game mammals and game birds were introduced by Europeans and Americans into Hawai'i in the modern era (pigs and goats by Vancouver in 1778; cattle and sheep by Vancouver in 1792, deer in 1868, mouflon in 1958). Game mammals and game birds are important resources for food, including subsistence hunting, and for sport, and are managed as game resources for food and sport in identified game management areas.

In intact native Hawaiian ecosystems, however, introduced game animals are highly destructive species that unravel the fabric of our intact forests and destroy our watersheds and native Hawaiian plants, birds and insects, and in turn results in erosion which washes sediment and diseases into our streams and reefs.

Pursuant to statutory mandate Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Department manages a robust and successful hunting program that maintains and enhances opportunities for public hunting across the State. The Department regularly distributes game for the purpose of increasing the food supply in appropriate locations; manages and regulates game management areas and public hunting areas on most of the main Hawaiian Islands; and remains dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting public hunting statewide as required under the statute referenced above. Currently, the Department manages approximately 900,000 acres for public hunting (majority of the public lands) and has an active program to secure additional access rights to previously unavailable lands for recreational hunting opportunities. These programs have opened thousands of acres of new land to hunters in recent years (e.g. Waimea Heights, Unit L on Kaua'i, Pu'u Mali Mitigation area and the Ka'u forest reserve on Hawai'i Island). The Department continues to work with private and public landholders across the State to identify and negotiate access to more lands for public hunting (e.g. Kanaio on Maui).

The Department continues to work cooperatively with local fisheries agencies to ensure long-term sustainability of the fisheries around the Hawaiian Islands and the Central Pacific. The Main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery and the Hawai'i based longline fishery are good examples of these efforts to ensure these insular and pelagic resources will continue to provide for the people of Hawai'i.

The Department also supports recreational freshwater and marine fishing opportunities through more localized management at fisheries management areas and other facilities. Trout stocking at the Koke'e Public Fishing Area on Kaua'i is one example of where we culture and stock fish to supplement the supply of resources for the fishing public.

The Department is committed to continually implementing its statutory duty to provide a successful public hunting program throughout the State. However, we believe that this resolution would create a direct conflict with our public trust responsibilities.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

**William P. Kenoi**  
*Mayor*



**Randall M. Kurohara**  
*Managing Director*

**Robert H. Command**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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### Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission

Hawaii State Senate  
Committees on WAL\_GOV  
Hearing Room 224; 4/15/2016; 2:50 PM

April 14, 2016

To the Committee Chair, Vice Chair on Water, Land, and Agriculture and the  
Committee Chair, Vice Chair on Government Operation and respective Committee  
Members,

Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission is in **SUPPORT of HCR22.**

Game mammals and game birds are essential sustainable food resources and have long term economic potential as well. Fishing, also a strong economic and sustainable ocean resource, gives us the opportunity to integrate the local fish and game industry and economies into our food security profiles.

This Resolution stresses the importance of creating strengthened policies and practices for the conservation and protection of game mammals, game birds, and marine resources as integral elements of our island culture. We endorse HCR22 and ask that you pass this resolution.

With Much Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Lodge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Lodge, Chair

# **The Society for Hawaii Heritage Animals**

## **SUPPORTING HCR22/HD1**

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016  
Friday, April 15, 2016 2:50 p.m. Conference Room 224

### **COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE**

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

### **COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES.

Outdoor recreation, including hunting is an integral part of the health and well being of Hawaii's residents. Of further importance and of necessity to many residents in rural communities is the ability to enjoy and share in a sustainable subsistence lifestyle.

Hawaii's game animals were introduced to the Islands as an alternative source to ocean protein dating back to the arrival of early Polynesians. They have become a fixture in our culture as a sustainable food resource.

Properly managed, they contribute to our Islands self-sufficiency, generate income, and provide recreational opportunity for the people of Hawaii.

To further enjoy this lifestyle a more balanced approach to resource management is required. This means more balance in policy making and implementation.

Please recognize the importance that our wild food resources have to the people of Hawaii by passing House Resolution HR22 HD1.

Mahalo for your support!

Tony Sylvester  
Executive Director  
The Society of Hawaii Heritage Animals



***Hawaii Hunting Association  
To Protect & Promote Sustainable  
Public Hunting in Hawaii***

**In Support of HCR22**

Hawaii State Senate  
Committees on WAL\_GOV  
Hearing Room 224; 4/15/2016; 2:50 PM

April 14, 2016

To the Committee Chair, Vice Chair on Water, Land, and Agriculture and the Committee Chair, Vice Chair on Government Operation and respective Committee Members,

Hawaii Hunting Association is **in Full Support** of HCR22.

In all due respect to the DLNR's lament that "In intact native Hawaiian ecosystems, introduced game animals are highly destructive species that unravel the fabric of our intact forests and destroy our watersheds and native Hawaiian plants, birds and insects, and in turn results in erosion which washes sediment and diseases into our streams and reefs." our pig, an introduced **food** resource, has been here in our forests for a thousand years and the rest of our introduced game mammals also introduced as **food resources**, have migrated through our forest lands for almost **240 years** and yet, apparently, we still have "intact 'native' forests". What we don't have is an interested DLNR adequately managing our forests for the benefit of all of our resources and resource users.

Almost all of our game animals were gifts to the Monarchy and proposed for the benefit of the people. Our game resources, in spite of their removal from the original text of this Resolution were rightfully a protected resource and addressed

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as such in the Hawaiian Constitution. Arguably, they still remain despite the machinations of the 1978 Constitution Convention.

Our Game animals are indeed a **food resource** and demand just as much attention as do our watersheds and forest lands. We take issue with the DLNR's characterization that they manage "approximately 900,000 acres for public hunting (majority of the public lands) and has an active program to secure additional access rights to previously unavailable lands for recreational hunting opportunities."

Nowhere, you notice, does DLNR say they are managing **any** of our 900,000 acres for game. In fact, they couldn't find a **single acre** within this **900,000 acres** to relocate approximately 150 to 200 sheep rescued from Mauna Kea to escape the hail of bullets waiting for them with the DLNR's aerial eradication efforts.

The destructive rhetoric of the DLNR and a host of "industry" partners is not only misleading, when regarding game animals, it totally seems to dismiss the mandates of §183D.

Game mammals and game birds are essential sustainable food resources and have long term economic potential as well. Fishing, also a strong economic and sustainable ocean resource, gives us the opportunity to integrate the local fish and game industry and economies into our food security profiles.

This Resolution stresses the importance of creating strengthened policies and practices for the conservation and protection of game mammals, game birds, and marine resources as integral elements of our island culture. We endorse HCR22 and ask that you pass this resolution.

With Much Aloha,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Lodge".

Tom Lodge

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Beth Tokioka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bruce R. Faulkner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This resolution is long over due. The State needs to recognize and protect all our islands resources not just native ones. We have many non native species that have been here for so long now that they have become an ingrained part of the bio diversity that we have become dependent upon. Outside island residents still choose a sustainable rural lifestyle which should not be infringed upon. Basic food sources that allow people to live off the land is nothing new. This needs to be preserved for future generations and all of Hawaii's people. For the reasons above, I respectfully urge your Committee's support on HCR22. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this resolution.

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Edwin Watamura	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support this long overdue resolution. Fish and fishing has gone too long being unrecognized as an important food source and valuable economic entity. Aside from being an important part of the culture and tradition of catching, gathering, and eating fish, it is an essential for food consumption. Fish do not require additional resources in order for them to reproduce and grow. We don't need to allot land, feed, or water them. All we need to do is to make sure that their environment is clean and unpolluted and that we manage the fisheries sustainably using the best available, peer reviewed, science. There are many cultures and nations around the world that prioritize fishing to the point of subsidizing fishermen's expenses to make it more economically viable to be a fisherman. Farmers are subsidized and receive tax breaks, why shouldn't fishermen. The auction system needs to be investigated also. The foreign imports of lesser quality fish drive the prices down and further exacerbates the economic viability of being a fisherman. The middle man is the real culprit in the system. Fishermen get paid \$1 a pound for prime ahi during the summer and the consumer still pays \$10-\$15 a pound. This forces the fisherman to sell the fish underground. Regarding the crisis scenario, it is an absolute must that fishing and hunting be recognized, nurtured, and cherished as a food source. I urge you to pass this resolution.

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Felicia Cowden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this resolution to recognize and support basic hunting and fishing as an essential part of our sustenance economy. The hunting is particularly important as we have an abundance of pigs and goats on most of the islands and seemingly too many sheep on Hawaii island. It is better to manage these animals as a food source than to either simply kill them or to allow them to significantly damage the watershed through over-grazing. Fishing needs to be allowed to continue but in a managed fashion. The fish do not seem to be over-abundant, nor causing ecologic problems. Perhaps if it were more possible to sell the meat that is hunted, there would be less pressure on the fish.

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jim Hori, DDS	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I whole heartly support this measure! I'm grateful that guidelines are being established for such an important and abundant resource that is an integral part of our tradition and culture for a sustainable protein source!

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joel Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Griffiths jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We must support are way of living in Hawaii ,living off the land . All of us living in Hawaii know we are only a dot in the Pacific Ocean n at anytime we can be cut off from mainland support that we so Desperately live on to the point of almost 100% . Why ? Why are we letting ourselves be so limited n Insecure ? U have a chance here in this bill by starting to help secure are natural resources And being self sustainable , any other thoughts of not supporting is a failure to all in Hawaii . Strongly support . Thank u John (Joe) Griffiths

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
makani	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES. Outdoor recreation, including hunting is an integral part of the health and well being of Hawaii's residents. Of further importance and of necessity to many residents in rural communities is the ability to enjoy and share in a sustainable subsistence lifestyle. Hawaii's game animals were introduced to the Islands as an alternative source to ocean protein dating back to the arrival of early Polynesians. They have become a fixture in our culture as a sustainable food resource. Properly managed, they contribute to our Islands self-sufficiency, generate income, and provide recreational opportunity for the people of Hawaii. To further enjoy this lifestyle a more balanced approach to resource management is required. This means more balance in policy making and implementation. Please recognize the importance that our wild food resources have to the people of Hawaii by passing House Resolution HR22 HD1.

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
nani pogline	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Legislators, Please support HCR22. It only makes sense to have other eggs in the basket. The DLNR once encouraged wild game as an alternative food resource. The need is still the same. There is nothing to eat in the native forests. Dependency on imported and limited locally grown food in the middle of the ocean is precarious in the event of a disaster. Managed game resources can co-exist with native species in many cases. Wild food resources have untapped potential, and this recognition encourages historical and cultural values that make Hawaii unique.

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**Date:** Thursday, April 14, 2016 8:45:37 AM

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
neil kanemoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HCR 22, HD1. We are an island community who's populace needs to learn retain the skills necessary to be able to hunt and fish for food. Hawaii has become to complacent with the majority relying on air cargo and matson containers for our food when we have access to numerous mammal, avian and marine food resources right at our doorsteps. Support this measure would not only serves to strengthen our communities and preserve whats left of our unique island culture and heritage that is slowly eroding away. Thank you for allowing my testimony. Neil Kanemoto, Honolulu/Honoka'a, HI

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Manning	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, As a neighbor island resident, the opportunity to hunt & fish for both enjoyment as well as providing high quality food for friends and family is important! Sustaining habitat for wildlife and support of the ecosystem should be a priority! Many individuals on the outer island use hunting & fishing as a way to make ends meet in what is a very expensive place to live! Please support this legislation, Sincerely, Robert Manning Kihei

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR22 on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM\*  
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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rouen Liu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shyla Moon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly support this bill to encourage sustainability and food security for Hawaii. The WAL committee took out all language related to the State Constitution: "WHEREAS, in 1978, the State of Hawaii held a Constitutional Convention; and WHEREAS, a proposal of the 1978 Constitutional Convention removed the former section 1 of the former Article X, which read: "Section 1. The legislature shall promote the conservation, development and utilization of agricultural resources, and fish, mineral, forest, water, land, game and other natural resources."" We shouldn't ignore the fact that a constitutional convention is needed to update Hawaii. It's very important we secure our hunting and fishing resources for food. Please pass this bill with the right language that benefits us all.

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephen Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a fisherman/hunter and support HCR 22. It is very important that the State recognize the contributions that fishermen and hunters contribute to the economy, livelihood and strategic importance of fishing and hunting. There is no department or state agency which recognized the importance of these resources. While the State throws money to agriculture and has a Department of Ag, fisheries and hunting is not accorded a place in any department. We are the forgotten child. Fishing and hunting should be a part of the sustainability equation because of its importance to the citizens of this State. In the case of an emergency where the State is cutoff from the mainland there are not enough resources to feed our citizens for a sustained period of time. I respectfully urge you to begin the inclusion of fishing and hunting as important factors in this State's economic, sustainability and employment considerations by passing this legislation.

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa L. Nakama	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We live on a tiny Island in the middle of the huge Pacific Ocean, and we need to be sustainable and to teach the next generation to fish, hunt, and farm and not be 100% depended on imports and fast foods. I would like to concur with the insertion of the following on this measure: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges state departments to develop and update their rules and policies to integrate the local hunting and fishing industries into any food security or sustainability strategies they employ and to preserve, protect, and promote these industries and local cultural practices to nurture them into viable and sustainable economic, nutritional, and cultural resources; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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## **HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/14/2016

Testimony for WLA/GVO on Apr 15, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge, Chair	Individual	Support	No

Comments: in Full Support of HCR22. In all due respect to the DLNR's lament that "In intact native Hawaiian ecosystems, introduced game animals are highly destructive species that unravel the fabric of our intact forests and destroy our watersheds and native Hawaiian plants, birds and insects, and in turn results in erosion which washes sediment and diseases into our streams and reefs." our pig, an introduced food resource, has been here in our forests for well over a thousand years and the rest of our introduced game mammal and CATTLE, also introduced as food resources, have migrated through our forest lands for almost 240 years and yet, apparently, we still have "intact 'native' forests". What we don't have is an interested DLNR adequately managing our forests for the benefit of all of our resources and resource users. Almost all of our game animals were gifts to the Monarchy and proposed for the benefit of the people. Our game resources, in spite of their removal from the original text of this Resolution were rightfully a protected resource and addressed as such in the Hawaiian Constitution. Arguably, they still remain despite the machinations of the 1978 Constitution Convention. Our Game animals are indeed a food resource and demand just as much attention as do our watersheds and forest lands. We take issue with the DLNR's characterization that they manage "approximately 900,000 acres for public hunting (majority of the public lands) and has an active program to secure additional access rights to previously unavailable lands for recreational hunting opportunities." Nowhere, you notice, does DLNR say they are managing any of our 900,000 acres for game nor sustainable hunting opportunities. In fact, they couldn't find a single acre within this 900,000 acres to relocate approximately 150 to 200 sheep rescued from Mauna Kea to escape the hail of bullets waiting for them with the DLNR's aerial eradication efforts. This Resolution hopefully will set a course towards a sustainable and integrated management of all of our ocean and terrestrial resources.

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**HCR22**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

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<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William K.Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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