

*Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that coordinates across government, non-governmental and cultural organizations, business, academia and philanthropy to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals.*

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## Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth In Support of SB2773 SD1 Relating to The Aloha+ Challenge House Committee on Ways & Means 1 March 2016, 1:40pm, Room 211

Aloha Chair Tokuda and Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees:

**Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports SB2773 SD1** to provide critical, increased funding for the Department of Land and Natural Resources' programs on watershed protection, invasive species control, public access and education, community fisheries enforcement, and wildfire prevention and native plant and wildlife restoration.

Annual funding for natural resource management is essential to protecting Hawai'i's unique environment, improving the quality of life for residents and visitors, and maintaining important revenue streams in Hawai'i's economy. As the host of the upcoming IUCN World Conservation Congress in September 2016, this legislative session is an important opportunity for Hawai'i to showcase leadership on sustainable development and conservation.

Watershed protection and invasive species management significantly increases water availability by ensuring that our forests function to effectively absorb rain, deliver it into streams and aquifers, and decrease erosion and siltation, which also benefits our reefs and fisheries. This is especially urgent in the face of climate change and projected long-term decline in rainfall. Protection of Hawai'i's coastal communities, ocean resources and fisheries also requires action and investment.

HGG public-private partners identified SB2773 SD1 as an important shared 2016 legislative priority to advance the *Aloha+ Challenge* natural resource goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a statewide commitment by the State Legislature (SCR 69), Governor, Mayors and Office of Hawaiian Affairs to achieve six sustainability goals for 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resources, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, and green jobs and education. Statewide HGG public-private partners are identifying shared measures to track progress and provide accountability with the online *Aloha+ Challenge* Dashboard, while developing an annual policy and action agenda to advance Hawai'i's shared 2030 sustainability goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* has been recognized nationally and internationally by the US State Department and Global Island Partnership as a model for locally appropriate implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth supports SB2773 SD1 to help drive implementation on the Aloha+ Nature goal, and demonstrate the state's commitment and investment in natural resource management to national and international conservation partners at the World Conservation Congress and beyond.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Mar 1, 2016 13:40PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 12:07:50 PM

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**SB2773**

Submitted on: 3/1/2016

Testimony for WAM on Mar 1, 2016 13:40PM in Conference Room 211

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

Comments: Aloha 'o Kaila Boisey ko'u inoa. A hele au i ke kula 'olelo hawai'i ma Nawahiokalani'opu'u. Kako'o au i keia pila no ka mea, ia'u he mea nui ka hiki ke 'ike ke kanaka ma'amau i ka pilina me ke kumu waiwai ao kulohelohe. A ia'u he mea nui ka hiki ke 'ike i kela.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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