



**PUNAHOU SCHOOL**

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**LATE**

February 11, 2016

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair  
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology

Via Facsimile: 808-586-6679 Chair Gabbard and 808-586-8588 Chair Wakai

Re: Testimony in **OPPOSITION** to SB3019

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Wakai and Members of the Joint Committee:

Punahou School has made consistent efforts over the years, particularly in our new buildings, to explore and implement methods and structures that reduce the use of potable water, which we believe is an important goal which could be furthered through the increased use of gray water as an alternative.

However, this bill, which would require the installation of gray water systems, would be an expensive enterprise which would not result in a meaningful increase in the use of gray water and could reduce our ability to invest in alternate methods of reducing potable water use.

First, current policies and guidelines concerning the use of gray water significantly restrict how gray water can be used on our campus. Our estimate is that if we were to install a gray water system, we would use less than 10% of the gray water captured due to such policies and guidelines. The remainder, once storage tanks were filled, would then overflow into the sewage system, where it currently goes.

Second, the costs of gray water systems would add a significant expense to new building projects. Those costs would likely reduce the funds available to invest in other water-saving features. Examples of previous investments include waterless urinals and water-efficient fixtures installed in our Case Middle School project.

Punahou remains committed to reducing our campus water usage. We respectfully recommend that the legislature reject this proposed bill.

Sincerely,

John D. Field, Jr.