



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
FEBRUARY 27, 2015

S.B. 435, S.D. 1

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on S.B. 435, S.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) does not support S.B. 435, S.D. 1, because it places additional requirements in the procurement code that will cause certain procurements to be more complex, more expensive, and more prone to protests.

While DAGS agrees that the use of Hawaiian plants is fundamental to preserving and fostering a Hawaiian sense of place, we encourage the Committee to consider other methods to encourage use of Hawaiian plants such as building codes or tax credits.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 27, 2015
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Room 211

S.B. 435 SD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill, which proposes to require that Hawaiian plants be used in the landscaping for new or renovated buildings, complexes facilities, or housing.

However, the DOT has the following concerns regarding the language of the bill. The terms “plant footprint” are used throughout the bill but are not clearly defined. Clearly defining “plant footprint” is important so that there is no misinterpretation.

DOT is also concerned with the inclusion of the landscape percentages as it fails to take into account the variety of considerations that goes into plant selection. DOT currently incorporates Hawaiian plants to the extent feasible and practicable. In addition to plant type, DOT also considers Hawaiian plant availability, suitability of the environment, and maintenance requirements for plant selection. For example, if plants are not widely available, it may increase cost and may delay completion of projects. Also, DOT facilities traverse a multitude of environments that is challenging to many plant species.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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 Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Friday, February 27, 2015
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 435, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

Senate Bill 435, Senate Draft 1 proposes to, subject to exceptions, require all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and provides the following comments.**

The Department agrees the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects will contribute to a Hawaiian sense of place, reduce the use of non-native invasive plant species, and support the preservation of Hawaii's cultural and ecological heritage.

This bill defines "Hawaiian plants" as: *"any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, growing or living in Hawaii without having been brought to Hawaii by humans; or any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, brought to Hawaii by Polynesians before European contact, such as kukui, kalo, wauke, niu, noni, and kamani."*

The Department notes native* Hawaiian plants and Polynesian introductions are two separate categories of species each with their own unique significance, importance, and considerations. Lumping the two categories via this definition could lead to confusion.

*From a scientific point of view, a species is considered to be native to a region if it arrived in that place by natural processes without the aid of humans. Native species can be either endemic (found only within a particular region) or indigenous (found both within the region and elsewhere).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

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

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
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ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR

PAULA A. YOUNGLING
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Telephone: (808) 587-4700
e-mail: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>

TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
February 27, 2015, 1:00PM

SENATE BILL 435, HD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB435, HD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) met with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and agreed to the revisions to SB 435 HD1. The SPO supports SB435 SD1 relating to Hawaiian plants.

Thank you.



The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Ronald D. Louchi, Vice Chair

Friday, February 27, 2015, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

by
Rodney A. Maile
Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 435, S.D. 1, Relating to Hawaiian Plants.

Purpose: Subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. Effective 6/30/2016.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary is in general support of this bill's proposed revisions to HRS § 103D-408, the spirit of which the Judiciary has incorporated in the planning and design of its newer facilities, including that which is in progress for the new Kona Judiciary Complex in West Hawai'i, as well as the recently completed landscaping renovations at Ali'iōlani Hale in downtown Honolulu's Capitol District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 435, S.D.1.



SB435 HD1
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 27, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SB435 SD1, which is a bill in OHA's 2015 Legislative Package. SB435 SD1 amends the Public Procurement Code to require a gradually increasing minimum percentage of Hawaiian plants in new and renovated publicly-funded landscaping projects. **By passing this bill, the state would continue to place itself at the forefront of promoting the use of Hawaiian plants, an important step towards preserving our cultural and threatened ecological heritage.**

SB435 SD1 provides clear yet flexible guidelines for state and county agencies in procuring landscaping projects that incorporate Hawaiian plants. Currently, the Procurement Code requires indigenous and Polynesian-introduced plants to be used "wherever and whenever feasible"; however, this has not substantially increased the use of Hawaiian plants in urban and suburban environments. By replacing the ambiguous phrase "wherever and whenever feasible" with a specific percentage of the total plant footprint that must use Hawaiian plants, and providing a mechanism for exemptions when use of Hawaiian plants is not feasible, SB435 SD1 will make compliance with the spirit of the existing procurement law substantially easier for procuring agencies and their applicants.

In setting the minimum required percentages for the total footprint, SB435 SD1 sets up a phased in approach—10 percent by 2019, 25 percent by 2025, and 35 percent by 2030. This timetable was developed in close consultation with stakeholders and experts, and provides nurseries, landscaping professionals, and other plant suppliers with sufficient time to increase their stocks of Hawaiian plants. Financial implications are minimal as the law already requires incorporation of native plants, and **SB435 SD1's phased in approach further minimizes fiscal burdens: while many Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian plants are already comparable in cost, the cost of Hawaiian plants should continue to decrease as the local plant market develops to meet demand.**

Hawaiian culture is intimately tied to the land and its resources. Historically, each island, moku, and ahupua'a supported varied and diverse plant life. Such plants were and continue to be essential to perpetuating place-based Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, as well as Native Hawaiian traditional knowledge. The connection between Hawaiian culture and Hawai'i's plant life is also evident in other forms: from place names based on regional flora (e.g., 'Aiea, Hau'ula, Kapālama), to mo'olelo (e.g., 'Ōhi'a and Lehua), chants (e.g., the Kumulipo), and hula relating to and inspired by Hawaiian plants. Accordingly, the increased presence of Hawaiian plants in state landscaping will ensure that our cultural heritage is reflected in our public spaces, educating both residents and visitors as to the value and significance of our islands' flora.

In addition, the increased use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping will help to reverse the rapid decline of these ecologically important species, as well as other native life that may depend upon them. The displacement and decline of Hawaiian plants, which have been integrated in our islands' ecological landscape for hundreds if not thousands of years, have contributed significantly to Hawai'i's reputation as the "endangered species capitol of the world." OHA recognizes that the extinction of a plant species can result in the extinction of associated traditional and customary practices, as well as associated indigenous knowledge that has been passed down for generations. Increasing the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects can help to reverse this trend, not just directly, but also through the development of Hawaiian plant nurseries and greater knowledge of Hawaiian plants' ecological importance.

OHA notes that SB435 SD1 was amended as a result of collaboration between OHA and the State Procurement Office. SB435 SD1 retains the required minimum plant footprint percentages in SB435, but provides for any exemptions to be addressed through administrative action rather than specified in the bill itself. In furtherance of this purpose, OHA offers the following amendment to provide greater clarity and guidance to the policy board, as well as flexibility and efficiency to the exemption process, by authorizing the policy board to establish procedures, standards, or guidelines without going through chapter 91 rule-making. Specifically, OHA recommends amending the language found on page 4, lines 13-19 of SB435 SD1 to read as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding chapter 91, for the purposes of satisfying the percentage footprint requirements under subsection (c), the purchasing agency may exclude from total plant footprint calculations those areas where available Hawaiian plant species are not appropriate for the particular landscaping needs or environmental conditions of such areas. The exclusion of such areas shall be determined using procedures, standards, or guidelines established by the policy board at the time of issuance of the invitation for bids, request for proposals, or other solicitation under this chapter. Such procedures, standards, or guidelines may be established by board action notwithstanding chapter 91.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS WITH AMENDMENTS** SB435 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SB435SD1 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Friday, 2/27/15; 1:00 pm; Room 211

Aloha Madam Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. On January 17, 2015 staff members of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs came before the Board of Directors of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs to discuss the OHA legislative package. The Board was unanimous in support of this bill calling for the use of Hawaiian plants in landscaping wherever public projects occur.

While it is true that many plants grown in Hawaii are also found in other parts of the world, Hawaiian plants are symbolic of the Hawaiian people and Hawaiian culture. Although “landscaping” usually has a design and beautifying connotation, Hawaiian plants are not decorative....they were all useful and enabled the ancients to live and thrive in an agrarian society without metal implements. The Hawaiian plant pharmacopeia was remarkable and is still being studied by modern science.

Landscaping of public projects using Hawaiian plants will be unique to Hawaii, especially if accompanied by small signs explaining their use and importance.

The AHCC supports this bill and urges its passage. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Contact: Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

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Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

February 25, 2015

TESTIMONY OF KIPUKAI KUALII
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON
SB 435, SD 1, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 27, 2015
1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB 435, SD 1, Relating to Hawaiian Plants. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as the Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair and as an individual Councilmember of the Kaua'i County Council.

SB 435, SD 1 requires that all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. As the Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair and as a Native Hawaiian, this requirement will not only support the preservation of Hawai'i's cultural and ecological heritage and increase the use of native plant species, but it will also create more demand for Hawaiian plants, which will benefit our local Hawaiian plant growers.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

KIPUKAI KUALII
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth in Support of SB435 SD1
Relating to Hawaiian Plants**

House Committee on Ways and Means
27 February 2015, 1:00pm, Room 211

Audrey Newman
Hawai'i Green Growth
P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 70 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) supports the Office of Hawaiian Affairs priority SB435 SD1 to increase Hawaiian plants in public landscaping. **SB435 SD1** will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'ōia*, a joint leadership commitment to sustainability for the State of Hawai'i signed by the Governor, Mayors, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs in July 2014. Native plant restoration is a key piece of the *Aloha+ Challenge's* 2030 target to "Reverse the trend of natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing freshwater security, watershed protection, community-based marine management, invasive species control, and restoration of native species."

HGG supports amending the state procurement code to require that a clear and progressively-increasing percentage of all future publicly-funded landscaping projects utilize native and Polynesian-introduced plants to promote a Hawaiian sense of place, cultural preservation, biodiversity, biosecurity and ecosystem management.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Audrey Newman

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy

<http://www.hawaiiingreengrowth.org/>

SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	King Kamehameha HCC	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony Before The House
Committee on Ways and Means
IN SUPPORT OF SB 435 SD1
Friday, February 27, 2015, 1:00PM, Room 211

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

KUA supports SB 435 SD1 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona. This bill would require that, subject to exceptions, all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing incorporate native Hawaiian plants.

We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko l'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state.

Many of the communities in the networks we facilitate focus on better natural resource management and restoration of native ecological systems and values more sensitive to the needs of their wahi (their places). This often includes the use of native plants as part of an appropriate place based approach to restoration from mauka to makai.

Our communities are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our cultural and natural resources because they have depended on them for generations. This bill among others is an exciting trend towards increasing government's role as a partner with our communities to restore the abundance that we are often so nostalgic about.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 435 SD1 Relating to Hawaiian Plants
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 27, 2015, 1:00PM, Room 211

For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i, and support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 435 SD1 to amend the state procurement code to mandate increased use of Hawaiian plants in publicly-funded landscaping.

Most people around the world have a vision of Hawai'i that includes sand, surf, coconut palms, and plumeria. All of us would agree that few places are more renowned for their natural environment than Hawai'i. However, even for many who were raised here, there is a Hawai'i they might not recognize. Hawai'i's natural landscape includes an amazing and beautiful set of ecological systems; with over 10,000 native plants and animals, more than 90% of which are found nowhere else on Earth. Over thousands of years, wind and ocean currents carried seeds, insects, birds and fishes to these islands. Once here, plants and animals adapted into beautiful and unique life forms and ecosystems. These along with early Polynesian introductions created a unique and balanced blend of plants and animals. Hawaiian culture identifies an intrinsic relationship of people to land as ancestor.

Unfortunately, we have lost more than half of our native ecosystems over time, primarily due to land conversion for a variety of human uses. Today, our native forests have retreated to the uplands. A major threat to what remains is invasive species—plants, animals and diseases that harm our environment, economy and quality of life.

This bill can play an important role on many levels, including:

- Enhancing the market for locally grown products;
- Reducing the risk of imported pests and diseases;
- Educating residents and visitors about Hawai'i's globally unique ecology and culture; and
- Promoting the sense of place and quality of life we desire and expect in our home.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support for this bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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SB435

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Godfrey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sabra Kauka	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leanne Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Showcasing Hawaiian plants in our public spaces will promote our ecological integrity, cultural heritage, scientific/botanical reputation, and tourism draw, while also supporting local nurseries and jobs focused on growing plants unique to our island. Please support this measure!

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Tanimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
G Asi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deja	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. Landscaping that uses non-Hawaiian plants does not reflect the uniqueness of Hawai'i, and contributes to the extinction of native flora, fauna, and Hawaiian culture. Rather than promote a true sense of place by using our public tax dollars to procure, plant, and manage endemic plants found only here in our islands, we continue to perpetuate a manufactured idea of Hawai'i that is no different than the landscape in Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, or Mexico. When we just keep planting more plumeria, monkeypod, non-native hibiscus, rainbow shower, monstera and other non-Hawaiian plants, we are using our public tax dollars to eliminate culture and reduce the economic value of our islands creating fake icons that are not Hawaiian. We spend millions on invasive species eradication. Please make sure our public tax dollars procuring landscaping also reflect and support our unique Hawaiian plants, and therefore the unique culture of our islands. Please PASS this important bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aulii Dudoit	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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SB435

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 27, 2015 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoa O'Connor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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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