

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**

**Thursday, February 26, 2015
9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 502, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION
FOR THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT**

Senate Bill 502, Senate Draft 1, proposes to make an appropriation for the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (Department) Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE). **The Department supports this measure provided that its passage does not adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Biennium Budget request.**

The Department recognizes that proper operational funding for DOCARE is necessary to protect Hawaii's limited natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources. The Department also understands current funding levels critically hinder the filling of current vacancies and address growing operational costs. As a result, the Department will continue its efforts to strongly advocate for restoration of DOCARE's operational budget, and to promote this issue as a high priority.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's interest in advocating for additional funding for DOCARE.

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

SB502

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Inga Gibson	Humane Society of the US- Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kouchi and Ways and Means Committee Members, The Humane Society of the United States strongly supports SB502 to provide critical funding for the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement. DOCARE is tasked with enforcing essential laws that protect our precious land, water and wildlife, and should be adequately funded to carry out such duties as core public functions of a law enforcement agency. Thank you, Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director The Humane Society of the United States igibson@humanesociety.org 808.354.3211

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Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Ways & means
IN SUPPORT OF SB 502 SD1
Thursday, February 16, 2015, 9:00AM, 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 502 SD1 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona. This bill would appropriate \$2,000,000.00 out of general revenue to support the efforts of the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE) to better protect Hawai'i's natural and cultural heritage for our collective well-being.

KUA employs 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 I'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state. Members of these networks and future generations need a more resourced DOCARE. Indeed some of these communities today have begun to partner with DOCARE through growing community based co-management initiatives on our shorelines and wahi pana (celebrated places).

Many of the communities in the networks we facilitate focus on improving natural resource management and restoration of native food and ecological systems, values and ethics more sensitive to the needs of their wahi (their places). Quite often issues communities work to advance require the DOCARE capacity these funds would help to support.

The communities we work with are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our cultural and natural resources because they have depended on them for generations. We believe our environment is about long term investing and vision. We believe the vision of 'āina momona which our communities hold, includes a properly resourced DOCARE. Passing this bill out of your committee would help to go a long way toward reaching this goal.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

SB502

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii SUPPORTS SB 502, SD1, which makes an appropriation for personnel services, current expenses, equipment, and motor vehicles of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement. (SD1)

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 502 SD1 Relating to Appropriations for the Division
of Conservation and Resources Enforcement
Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Thursday, February 26, 2015, 9:00AM, 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 SB. 502 SD1.

There is widespread agreement amongst a variety of stakeholders that Hawaii's fragile environment is in need of improved compliance, enforcement and prosecution of violations of our State natural resource laws. A 2006 State Auditor's report concludes that DLNR Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) officers are spread too thin and lack the equipment they need to do their jobs. This situation has not substantially improved in the ensuing nine years.

Against this backdrop, a number of communities across the state have been organizing themselves to become more directly involved in the care and management of their natural resources, particularly in coastal and near shore areas. Some communities have partnered with DOCARE to raise awareness of natural resource laws and to improve compliance with those laws.

S.B. 502 SD1 offers necessary funds for DOCARE to properly equip officers to carry out their duties and work with communities to ensure the protection and care of Hawai'i's valuable natural resources.

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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SB502

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles r. Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB502

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Antolini	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support the request for augmenting DOCARE's budget. As a North Shore resident and president of a community marine stewardship organization, I can convey the very strong support our community has for DOCARE and its officers. Unfortunately, DOCARE does not have sufficient resources or officers to cover adequately the millions of acres of land and sea under their jurisdiction. DOCARE is the heart of DLNR - without good enforcement, the rest of the laws are great on paper but meaningless in reality. Please support DOCARE!

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SB502

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ehukai Awo	Individual	Support	No

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SB502

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Vuong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill to provide DOCARE with the funding they need to continue to protect Hawaii's precious and limited natural resources.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hilbert Manlapao	Individual	Support	No

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaac de la Nux	Individual	Support	No

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

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Konane de la NUX	Individual	Support	No

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mei Mailou-Santos	Individual	Support	No

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Momi Awo	Individual	Support	No

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Nainoa Awo	Individual	Support	No

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Randy Awo	Individual	Support	No

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