

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Friday, March 20, 2015
11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 502, SENATE DRAFT 2
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION
FOR THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT**

Senate Bill 502, Senate Draft 2 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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:39 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM

SB502

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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, SD2, which makes an appropriation for the Division of Conservation and Resources Management, for personnel services, current expenses, equipment, and motor vehicles of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement. Effective 7/1/2050. (SB 502 Sd2)

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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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 502 SD2 Relating to Appropriations for the Division
of Conservation and Resources Enforcement
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 20, 2015, 11:00AM, Room 325

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 SD2.

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 SD2 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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:26 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: antolinid@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM

SB502

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Antolini	Malama Pupukea Waimea	Support	No

Comments: Malama Pupukea Waimea strongly supports this bill to strengthen DOCARE. As a partner of DOCARE via the Makai Watch program, our organization stewards the Pupukea Marine Life Conservation District. We see on a weekly basis how DOCARE officers and resources are overstretched - Mauka to Makai over huge areas of the North Shore with limited equipment especially for marine enforcement. Thank you for supporting new funding for DOCARE!

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Testimony Before The
House Committee on Water & Land
IN SUPPORT OF SB 502 SD2
Friday, March 20, 2015, 11:00AM, Room 325

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 SD2 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona. This bill would appropriate funds 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. We note that the prior form of this bill specified a \$2 million allocation. We encourage discussions to continue and hope that you will consider funding DOCARE as requested and needed by the division itself.

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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 9:53 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: igibson@hsus.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM

SB502

Submitted on: 3/19/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Water and Land Committee Members The Humane Society of the United States- Hawaii strongly supports SB502 to appropriate critical funds to the Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement for essential personnel, safety, training, equipment and related needs. As our state's lead wildlife law enforcement agency, DOCARE has tremendous responsibilities to enforce and protect our cultural, environmental and wildlife resources and should be funded appropriately. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony. Inga Gibson Hawaii State Director The Humane Society of the United States igibson@humanesociety.org 808.922.9910

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:35 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: cmattyamamoto@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM

SB502

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clarence Yamamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: DOCARE is charged with upholding the laws that serve to protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources for the residents as well as the visitors of Hawaii nei. A mission that can only be accomplished if properly funded. Failure of that mission will impact our future generation and is not an option that we can afford to risk. I humbly ask for your support on this bill.

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cullen4-Rachele

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Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:08 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: etvuong@hotmail.com
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Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: I strongly support SB502 as it would help DOCARE receive the necessary funding to continue with their mission.

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 12:52 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hmanlapao@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM*

SB502

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

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Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 12:57 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hjrodrigues048@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM*

SB502

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Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
howard rodrigues	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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cullen4-Rachele

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:41 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB502 on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM*

SB502

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 10:18 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lisacates@hawaii.rr.com
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SB502

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for WAL on Mar 20, 2015 11:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Cates	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB502 to appropriate funding for DLNR enforcement. Our DOCARE officers require adequate funding to operate in the best interest of our natural, cultural, and historical resources. Please pass this measure so that they can properly do their jobs and fulfill their responsibilities.

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**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i / leo no nā holoholona lōhiu

LATE

Testimony Submitted to the
House Committee on Water and Land
Hearing: Friday, March 20, 2015 11 am Room 325

In Support of SB 502 SD2 Making an Appropriation for the
Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement

Aloha, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 502 SD 2, which makes an appropriation for personnel services, current expenses, equipment, and motor vehicles of the division of conservation and resources enforcement.

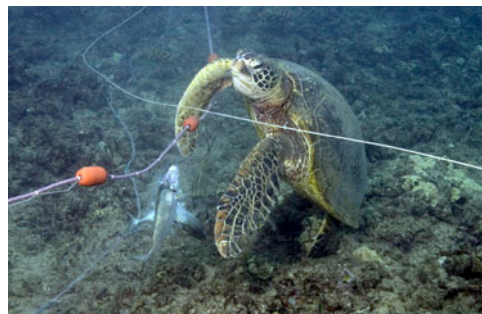
Adequate funding and staff for the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement are essential to protect our public land and public trust resources, and keep our enforcement officers safe from harm. Virtually all DLNR stakeholders agree on the need for increased enforcement. We ask you to invest in DOCARE by appropriating at least \$2 million a year. Please kokua.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.

Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

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President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'auomoana | Koalani Kaulukukui
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters

