

# SB 518

## Testimony –

Measure Title: RELATING TO LAND TRANSFER.

Report Title: West Oahu Land Transfer; University of Hawaii; Department of Land and Natural Resources

Description: Transfers fee title ownership of certain undeveloped land in Kapolei from the University of Hawaii to the department of land and natural resources.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HEA/WTL, WAM

Introducer(s): L. THIELEN

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 Committees on  
HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE ARTS  
and  
WATER AND LAND**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015  
2:30 P.M.  
State Capitol, Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 518  
RELATING TO LAND TRANSFER**

Senate Bill 518 proposes to transfer the undeveloped state lands originally planned for the University of Hawaii West Oahu Campus to the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("Department"). **The Department supports this bill.**

This measure would require the University of Hawaii ("University") to transfer fee title ownership of the parcels identified as Tax Map Keys (1) 9-2-002:001, 003, 005, and 007 ("Mauka Parcels") with a total area of 991 acres to the Department. The Mauka Parcels were originally transferred to the University of Hawaii ("University") in 1999. In December 2002, the State conveyed about 500 additional acres of State lands in Kapolei, currently identified as tax map keys (1) 9-1-016:120, and 179 to 183 ("Makai Parcels") to the University. To date, portions of the Makai Parcels have been developed into the University's West Oahu Campus, and the Mauka Parcels remain vacant. While the bill is focused on the undeveloped portions of the lands on which the University had planned to develop a new campus, the Department believes any lands owned by the University which are considered excess to the needs of campus development should also be returned to the Department.

**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  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts  
And  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
February 10, 2015, 2:30 p.m.  
by  
Jan Gouveia  
Vice President for Administration  
University of Hawai'i

### SB 518 – RELATING TO LAND TRANSFER

Chairs Taniguchi and Thielen, Vice Chairs Inouye and Galuteria, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 518, which proposes to transfer the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu campus's mauka parcel to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The University opposes this bill.

At its August meeting, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i approved a Conceptual Land Use Plan (Plan) for all land parcels associated with the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu. In particular, the Plan anticipates the development of a 250 acre utility-scale photovoltaic (PV) farm on the lower slopes of Pu'u Kapuai with the goal of producing approximately 40-50 megawatts to power, potentially, all O'ahu campuses thereby reducing total energy consumption by 40%. To this end, the University has secured a consultant to identify best siting and feasibility.

Additionally, the University has recently entered into a Right of Entry with the National Park Service as part of its effort to have the Honouliuli site designated as a national park. Any long-term easement, however, must be compatible with our utility-scale PV plan. Any precipitous land transfer at this time has the risk of endangering expected federal designation of Honouliuli as a national historic park.

In conclusion, transferring the mauka parcel to the DLNR seriously disrupts the University's active and ongoing efforts to manage our land and energy costs on O'ahu. As such, the University strongly opposes Senate Bill 518.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [laiana.wong@gmail.com](mailto:laiana.wong@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB518 on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:48:46 AM

---

**SB518**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HEA/WTL on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laiana Wong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Rather than remove lands from the UHWO campus, I am asking that the legislature prioritize the development of UHWO on those lands in order to accommodate the critical demand for higher education, particularly at the undergraduate level, for young people in Waipahu, Kapolei, the Leeward Coast, and homestead communities statewide. I respectfully ask that you vote in OPPOSITION to SB518. Associate Professor, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [taradale44@gmail.com](mailto:taradale44@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB518 on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 10:47:20 AM

---

**SB518**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HEA/WTL on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret Maaka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Rather than remove lands from the UHWO campus, I am asking that the legislature prioritize the development of UHWO on those lands in order to accommodate the critical demand for higher education, particularly at the undergraduate level, for young people in Waipahu, Kapolei, the Leeward Coast, and homestead communities statewide. I respectfully ask that you vote in OPPOSITION to SB518. Professor, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mbrumaghim@gmail.com](mailto:mbrumaghim@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB518 on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 08, 2015 6:56:48 PM

---

**SB518**

Submitted on: 2/8/2015

Testimony for HEA/WTL on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Myron Brumaghim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in opposition to this bill, because UHWO needs to fully equip its school with all the resources opportunities necessary to provide the best education possible for the population in this underserved area.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)