

SR 1

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, March 2, 2016
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1/SENATE RESOLUTION 1
SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN
ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO
PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1/Senate Resolution 1 proposes to recognize introductions of game mammals and game birds among the natural resources recognized by the Hawai'i Constitution. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes these measures.**

A state constitutional mandate directing game animals on state lands as resources to be managed and conserved by the State creates an unnecessary conflict with the Department's public trust responsibilities and its obligations to balance numerous other statutory mandates.

Our constitutional public trust mandate is to conserve and protect Hawai'i's natural resources, and to promote the development and use of these resources consistent with their conservation and in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the State (Hawai'i Constitution Article 11.1). Pursuant to state and federal statutory mandates, the Department also manages watershed resources and native forests and protects threatened and endangered species.

Hawaii's native ecosystems evolved over millions of years into an intricate web of native Hawaiian species, many found nowhere else on earth, which make up our native forested watersheds and our reef ecosystems, and which serve as the foundation of our host culture. Protecting our source of water and conserving our native species and ecosystems are essential elements of Hawai'i's self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Game mammals and game birds were introduced by Europeans and Americans into Hawai'i in the modern era (pigs and goats by Vancouver in 1778; cattle and sheep by Vancouver in 1792, deer in 1868, mouflon in 1958). Game mammals and game birds are important resources for food, including subsistence hunting, and for sport, and are managed as game resources for food and sport in game management areas and public hunting areas.

In intact native Hawaiian ecosystems, however, introduced game animals are highly destructive species that unravel the fabric of our intact forests and destroy our watersheds and native Hawaiian plants, birds and insects, and in turn results in erosion which washes sediment and diseases into our streams and reefs.

Pursuant to statutory mandate Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Department manages a robust and successful hunting program that maintains and enhances opportunities for public hunting across the State. The Department regularly distributes game for the purpose of increasing the food supply in appropriate locations; manages and regulates game management areas and public hunting areas on most of the main Hawaiian Islands; and remains dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting public hunting statewide as required under the statute referenced above. Currently, the Department manages approximately 900,000 acres for public hunting (majority of the public lands) and has an active program to secure additional access rights to previously unavailable lands for recreational hunting opportunities. These programs have opened thousands of acres of new land to hunters in recent years (e.g. Waimea Heights, Unit L on Kaua'i, Pu'u Mali Mitigation area and the Ka'u forest reserve on Hawai'i Island). The Department continues to work with private and public landholders across the State to identify and negotiate access to more lands for public hunting (e.g. Kanaio on Maui).

The Department is committed to continually implementing its statutory duty to provide a successful public hunting program throughout the State. However, we believe that this resolution would create a direct conflict with our public trust responsibilities.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

**Testimony of
Leslie Kuloloio, Chair**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND AND AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, March 02, 2016
2:45 PM
Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1
SENATE RESOLUTION 1
SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE
SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND
CULTURAL PRACTICES.**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 recognizes that the practices of fishing and hunting have a long history in the culture of Hawaii. It also acknowledges that in Hawaii, traditionally and in contemporary communities, the availability of locally caught fish, meat, and the farming of vegetables is basic expectations of residents.

Aha Moku acknowledges and appreciates the intent of this bill, but opposes this resolution for the following reasons.

Native Hawaiians traditionally and continue today to hunt, gather and fish for subsistence on their ahupua'a and on their islands. However, challenges arise because all islands and moku are different in terrain, access and resources. For the protection and sustainability of natural resources for the State, DLNR manages a diverse and successful hunting program that is geared to address the needs of the different islands. DLNR is also mandated to protect endangered flora and fauna. Aha Moku supports these programs as many of the ahupua'a and moku residents on the different islands actively participate in them whether it is in hunting, conservation, marine protection or protecting watersheds.

This resolution asks that the policies on conservation and protection of terrestrial and marine resources should promote the concept that game mammals, including the pig, goats, sheep, and deer be recognized as game mammal and bird resources; and, further that they be included among the natural resources recognized by the Hawaii State Constitution. We find this request to be problematic and of great concern. In the Hawaiian culture, natural resources are symbiotic with cultural resources. This resolution does not address the incompatibility of some of these species with the necessary conservation of other species such as endemic and indigenous plants.

While food security and sustainability of natural resources are recognized as critically important issues, we believe this resolution is too broad in its attempt to include all agricultural resources, fish, minerals, forests, water, land, game mammals, game birds, and other natural resources into one category – natural resources – which would be recognized by the Hawaii State Constitution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution. Because of the concerns listed above, we oppose this resolution.

The Society for Hawaii Heritage Animals

SUPPORTING SCR1/SR1

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016
Wednesday, March 02, 2016 2:45 p.m. Conference Room 224

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Committee Members

SUPPORTING GAME MAMMAL, GAME BIRD, AND FISHING RESOURCES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY AND TO PRESERVE LONG STANDING LOCAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES.

Outdoor recreation, including hunting is an integral part of the health and well being of Hawaii's residents. Of further importance and of necessity to many residents in rural communities is the ability to enjoy and share in a sustainable subsistence lifestyle.

Hawaii's game animals were introduced to the Islands as an alternative source to ocean protein dating back to the arrival of early Polynesians. They have become a fixture in our culture as a sustainable food resource.

Properly managed, they contribute to our Islands self-sufficiency, generate income, and provide recreational opportunity for the people of Hawaii.

To further enjoy this lifestyle a more balanced approach to resource management is required. This means more balance in policy making and implementation.

The removal of game as a natural resource from our State constitution in the 1978 constitutional convention was in error as noted in this resolution.

Please recognize the importance that our wild food resources have to the people of Hawaii by passing Senate Resolution SR1.

Mahalo for your support!

Tony Sylvester
Executive Director
The Society of Hawaii Heritage Animals

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: brianLey0522@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 6:31:34 AM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Ley	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Game animals should be managed for the people. For sport and food. Also could be a economic boost if we managed it properly Other states make millions each year off there game animals. The helicopters need to be grounded and the fences taken down.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: davidnorris@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 10:49:44 AM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

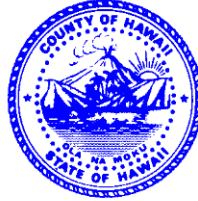
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Norris	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help conserve what we have left. Game mammals and fish are a crucial part of my family and friends diet and it need to be managed and protected.

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DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396
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EMAIL: donishi@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 29, 2016

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF SCR 1 / SR 1

A SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND AGRICULTURE

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Honorable Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of SCR 1 / SR 1, supporting game mammal, game bird, and fishing resources in order to promote sustainability and food security and to preserve long standing local and cultural practices.

Our game, fish and natural resources are very important and valuable to the people of Hawai'i. These resources were once protected by the State Constitution but erroneously removed during the 1978 constitutional convention. Only under the protection of the constitution will we be able to conserve our wild food resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jnakamoto007@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Monday, February 29, 2016 4:42:40 PM

SCR1

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support SCR 1/SR1 and the Senate's effort to reaffirm the status and importance of game birds and game mammals as natural resources in the Hawaii Constitution. First and foremost, I believe that these animals contribute to healthier communities by providing outdoor recreational opportunities (hunting and related activities) and sustainable food resources (free of growth hormones, antibiotics, etc.). There is also an economic benefit, as they generate spending in our communities for weapons and supplies, travel and accommodations (off island hunting), and in some cases for private guides or ranches that offer pay to hunt services. They also can indirectly benefit native wildlife in that proceeds from hunting license fees, tag fees, and fines are placed in the Wildlife Revolving Fund (HRS 185D-10.5) which can be used to benefit non-game animals (programs or activities to implement or enforce HRS 195D) and non-hunters (hiking trail acquisition and maintenance). Finally, I believe that all of the State's natural resources, including game mammals, should be managed using a balanced approach without the need to sacrifice one for the other (See the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan for Game Management at Pu'u Wa'awa'a and Pu'u Anahulu dated 10-20-15 proposed by DLNR-DOFAW for one example of how this can be accomplished). In today's changing world (global warming, ease of introduction of new species or diseases, extreme weather conditions and events, development impacts, etc.), we cannot reasonably expect to return Hawaii to what it was 100, 50 or even 10 years ago without dedicating considerable resources and funding (which is probably not available). What we can do is identify what is important to us and direct our limited resources via a balanced management plan to protect what we value. I believe this resolution is the first step to renew our State's commitment to game animals as a resource of value and I humbly ask for your support. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kabel.g@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM*
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 3:10:52 AM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kabel gebeke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: occupyphilomedia@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016 11:47:08 PM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support. It's about time we got back to basics and support the hunters, gatherers, and fisherman that have been feeding us for eons.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: luanajones777@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM*
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016 11:17:44 PM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/25/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luana Jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jrrudeboy@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM*
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2016 8:56:45 AM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/27/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ricky Ferreira Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: surf77@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2016 10:02:23 AM

SCR1

Submitted on: 2/27/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROBERT DUERR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I FULLY SUPPORT SCR 1 / SR 1. Help recognize the importance and value of our game, fish and natural resources to the people of Hawaii. These resources were once protected by the State Constitution but erroneously removed by slight of hand during the 1978 constitutional convention. Only under the protection of the constitution will we be able to conserve our wild food resources.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: shyla.moon@ymail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM*
Date: Saturday, February 20, 2016 7:51:25 PM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/20/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: autaylor5@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Friday, February 26, 2016 6:45:23 AM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/26/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Au	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Game animals are an invaluable resource that I would like to see the future generations have access too. Please help preserve hunting in Hawaii.

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: stonebridge@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR1 on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM
Date: Monday, February 29, 2016 1:10:04 PM

SR1

Submitted on: 2/29/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 2, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wallace A. Ishibashi Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT THIS BILL

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