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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017
9:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 633, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO ASSISTING DAM AND RESERVOIR OWNERS**

House Bill 633, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 proposes to revise Part XII, Section 39A-341, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by amending the definitions of “appurtenant works”, “dam” and “reservoir” for the purposes of clarifying the definitions. The bill also proposes to clarify that above freshwater storage tanks are included in the definition of appurtenant works for the purposes of the special purpose revenue bond program. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill.**

The Special Purpose Revenue Bond Program provides a means of financing for certain types of projects that have a greater public purpose and are in need of financial support. Dams and reservoirs were included as a qualified type of project, as many of these structures are in need of improvements to comply with dam safety standards. This means of financing will assist owners to implement these improvements. This measure will broaden the types of improvements eligible for special purpose revenue bonds.

The Department understands that this revision will not change the application of the definition contained in Chapter 179D, HRS - Dams and Reservoirs.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
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LAND
STATE PARKS



March 28, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Support of HB 633, HD1, SD1 Relating to Assisting Dam and Reservoir Owners (Clarifies that aboveground freshwater storage tanks are included in the definition of "appurtenant works" for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist dam and reservoir owners. Effective 3/15/2099.)

WAM Hrg: Tuesday, March 28, 2016, 9:30 a.m., in Conference Room 211

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers and a utility company. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, agricultural operations, renewable energy and housing for Hawaii residents of all income levels, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF **supports HB 633, HD1, SD1**, which clarifies that aboveground freshwater storage tanks are included in the definition of "appurtenant works" for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist dam and reservoir owners.

LURF's Position. LURF understands that clarifying the definition of "appurtenant works" to include aboveground freshwater storage tanks will broaden the types of improvements eligible for special purpose revenue bond financing; that providing this additional financing option for waterworks projects will assist dam and reservoir owners in implementing improvements; and the savings realized from lower interest rates will help keep water rates affordable for residents who purchase their water supply.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports HB 633, HD1, SD1**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:44 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB633 on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM*

HB633

Submitted on: 3/24/2017

Testimony for WAM on Mar 28, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	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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