

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committees on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
and
WATER & LAND

Tuesday, March 21, 2017
9:35 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 6
RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP
UNDER THE TRADITIONAL KONOHIKI FISHING RIGHTS SYSTEM IN
SUSTAINING AN ABUNDANT NEARSHORE ENVIRONMENT AND A THRIVING
POPULATION AND CULTURE, AND URGING THE STATE TO SUPPORT THE
DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURALLY
GROUNDED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS TO
STEWARD, RESTORE, AND PERPETUATE OUR NEARSHORE RESOURCES AND
MAINTAIN AND PROTECT ASSOCIATED CULTURAL TRADITIONS AND VALUES.

House Concurrent Resolution 6 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to support culturally grounded, community driven, fishery management proposals that would restore nearshore resources and protect cultural traditions and values. **The Department supports this measure to recognize and further the implementation of community based management of fishery and cultural resources.**

The Department is authorized under Section 188-22.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to establish community based subsistence fishing areas, and under Section 188-53, HRS, to establish fisheries management areas, public fishing areas, and other managed areas. Through these and other statutes, the Department establishes a variety of managed fishing areas with community input into these areas incorporated as a standard part of the Chapter 91, HRS, rule-making process. The Department encourages the public to get involved in the Department's efforts to manage our shared natural resources, regardless if this measure passes. The Department already supports community involvement in the rule-making process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment of this measure.



HCR6

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP UNDER THE TRADITIONAL KONOHIKI FISHING RIGHTS SYSTEM IN SUSTAINING AN ABUNDANT NEARSHORE ENVIRONMENT AND A THRIVING POPULATION AND CULTURE, AND URGING THE STATE TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURALLY-GROUNDED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS TO STEWARD, RESTORE, AND PERPETUATE OUR NEARSHORE RESOURCES AND MAINTAIN AND PROTECT ASSOCIATED CULTURAL TRADITIONS AND VALUES.

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Water & Land

March 21, 2017

9:35 a.m.

Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HCR6, which is a measure in OHA's legislative package. **This resolution would express the Legislature's recognition and support of subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system.**

The ahupua'a-based konohiki fishing rights system ensured sufficient abundance in Hawai'i's nearshore waters to sustain a pre-Western contact population of up to a million or more residents. This system allowed hoā'āina ("tenants") and konohiki ("landlords") to directly control harvesting and conservation practices in the coastal waters of their ahupua'a, based on their intimate knowledge of, connection to, and reliance upon the resources of their place.

After the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom, the Hawai'i Territorial government's largely successful effort to abolish the konohiki fishing rights system led to a century of decline in our once abundant nearshore fisheries. The ongoing decline in our nearshore fisheries today may threaten the survival of Hawai'i's few remaining subsistence, kīpuka communities, as well as undermine Hawai'i's economic, ecological, and recreational interests.

Fortunately, many kīpuka, subsistence communities are now seeking to work with the state on local marine management initiatives, to protect and perpetuate traditional practices and subsistence lifestyles dependent upon abundant nearshore resources. These communities possess deep and intimate knowledge of their nearshore areas, informed by generations of daily observation and reliance. As described in this resolution, adopting their management proposals, which seek to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their local waters, would apply many of the fundamental principles underlying the success of the konohiki fishing rights system, including:

1. Looking to those with the most intimate knowledge of and connection to an area's resources and ecological features, to establish harvesting and conservation guidelines for the area;

2. Incorporating place-based traditions and customs that preserve cultural and community connections to the nearshore area and its resources; and
3. Fostering a continued sense of kuleana in community members, to actively steward and care for the nearshore resources of their place.

Accordingly, state support of these community efforts may have the best chance of successfully restoring and maintaining abundant nearshore fishery resources. Notably, the success of these communities' efforts may also inspire other communities to reconnect and take responsibility for the resources of their place, thereby transforming our nearshore resource management paradigm, and helping to save our ocean environment, our cultural heritage, and a foundation of our islands' economies and local ways of life.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committees to **PASS** HCR6, and recognize the potential for community-driven fisheries management to once again restore and sustain abundance in our nearshore waters. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs
And House Committee on Water and Land
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:35 am
Room 312

Support for HCR 6 RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP UNDER THE TRADITIONAL KONOHIKI FISHING RIGHTS SYSTEM IN SUSTAINING AN ABUNDANT NEARSHORE ENVIRONMENT AND A THRIVING POPULATION AND CULTURE, AND URGING THE STATE TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURALLY-GROUNDED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS TO STEWARD, RESTORE, AND PERPETUATE OUR NEARSHORE RESOURCES AND MAINTAIN AND PROTECT

Chair Ing, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Gates, Vice Chair Kong, and Members of the Committees,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HCR 6. Effective natural resource protection and management requires partnerships between communities, stakeholders, and government. Community stewardship of ocean resources has been successful historically, and we should encourage similar management strategies in this modern era. We are off to a good start with the programs at Ha'ena, Kaua'i, Ka'upulehu, Hawai'i, and now Mo'omoni, Moloka'i.

Please support community stewardship of fisheries by adopting HCR 6. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www@conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 215 | Honolulu, HI 96814
President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.C.R. 6 Recognizing the Historic Success of Community Stewardship
Under the Traditional Konohiki Fishing Rights System in Sustaining and Abundant
Nearshore Environment and a Thriving Population and Culture
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Water and Land
Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 9:35AM, Room 312

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy H.C.R. 6. Hawai'i's reef fish populations have declined by more than 75% over the past 100 years. This loss is not only a loss to Hawai'i's fishers, it is a loss to all of Hawai'i's people, and to a cultural heritage that is unique in the world.

There is widespread agreement amongst a variety of stakeholders that Hawai'i's coastal environment needs improved management by government, communities, cultural practitioners, and the general public all working together. Many coastal communities across the islands have been organizing themselves to become more directly involved in the care and management of their coastal resources. Many of these communities are partnering with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to improve compliance with existing resource regulations, seek subsistence fishing area designations, and propose additional management rules tailored to the history, resources and conditions in their area.

Empowered communities can help the DLNR ensure that the State's marine resources are managed sustainably into the future. Lasting success depends on building strong partnerships with the people who live in and care for these places. These on-the-ground stewards are developing strategies to restore and care for reefs and fisheries, guiding and implementing those strategies, and helping monitor the effectiveness of their efforts over the long term. By being directly involved with management actions, these communities also help to build greater resilience to future pressures and extreme events related to climate change.

The Nature Conservancy's marine conservation program is focused on assisting communities with caring for coral reefs and near shore marine resources to help ensure that the benefits that these areas provide – including food, shoreline protection, recreation and cultural values – will be available for generations to come. Together with the DLNR and other conservation partners, TNC is helping 19 coastal communities on O'ahu, Maui Nui and Hawai'i Island restore healthy reef habitats and an abundance of fish in their communities. These are but a small representation of the many communities on every island that are applying their experience, culture, observation, and hard work to protect and restore their reefs and fisheries.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Agne Paul Alston Christopher Benjamin Dr. C. Tana Burkert Anne Carter Richard Cooke III Brian Doyle
Thomas Gottlieb James Haynes III Sean Hehir Eiichiro Kuwana Duncan MacNaughton Kathy Matsui
James Polk Jean Rolles Scott Rolles Crystal Rose Dustin Sellers Nathan Smith Peter Tomozawa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:56 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ohana@kipahulu.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Crawford	Kipahulu Ohana, Inc.	Support	No

Comments: Kipahulu Ohana practices community management of the Kipahulu moku based on traditional konohiki methods. We support local efforts based on traditional knowledge as crucial in the effective management of our resources.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:07 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM*

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton	Individual	Support	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:12 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: auliig@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aulii Dudoit	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HCR6 which is a resolution that seeks to support subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system. Many subsistence community members and long-time fishers have voiced the critical need for better fisheries management now, to save our remaining stocks from irreparable collapse. Unfortunately, the Western, top-down model of fisheries management has clearly failed to conserve and sustain our vital ocean resources. The historical success of the traditional konohiki fishing rights system demonstrates that community-driven, place-based management approaches may give us the best chance of successfully saving our nearshore fisheries from the numerous threats they currently face. This resolution will signal the legislature's support of restoring such community-driven fisheries management approaches to government agencies and communities alike. I urge the Committees to PASS this resolution.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:38 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strongly SUPPORT HCR6 which is a resolution that seeks to support subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system. Many subsistence community members and long-time fishers have voiced the critical need for better fisheries management now, to save our remaining stocks from irreparable collapse. The historical success of the traditional konohiki fishing rights system serves as a model that community-driven, place-based management approaches may give us the best chance of successfully saving our nearshore fisheries from the numerous threats they currently face. This resolution will signal the legislature's support of restoring such community-driven fisheries management approaches to government agencies and communities alike. I urge passage of this resolution.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:35 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: jlweatherwax808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jayna L Weatherwax	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I Support Community Based Fishing Practices I strongly SUPPORT HCR6 which is a resolution that seeks to support subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system. Many subsistence community members and long-time fishers have voiced the critical need for better fisheries management now, to save our remaining stocks from irreparable collapse. Unfortunately, the Western, top-down model of fisheries management has clearly failed to conserve and sustain our vital ocean resources. The historical success of the traditional konohiki fishing rights system demonstrates that community-driven, place-based management approaches may give us the best chance of successfully saving our nearshore fisheries from the numerous threats they currently face. This resolution will signal the legislature's support of restoring such community-driven fisheries management approaches to government agencies and communities alike. I urge the Committees to PASS this resolution. Mahalo, Jayna L. Weatherwax

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:03 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM*

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 6:00 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mamaupin@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM*

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Maupin	Individual	Support	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 4:44 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl M Jellings Sr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha WAL and OMH Chairs and Members I know what it takes to be a Konohiki I had a little taste of it in Our Nanakuli Community thru the aha moku system, Today to be a Konohiki is far more complex, Today You need to balance use from businesses who use areas on a daily basis who are not from the Konohiki's Moku, It's not just resource management, Its managing coastal impacts that have far reaching impacts on the marine environment which the Konohiki is to Protect, It's balancing none residents who come to do a hundred different things that impact the Konohiki's Moku and ahupuaa's, This is just the tip of the iceberg, We have a "Konohiki".For this administration Her name is Susan Case She is set up to tackle disputes Disagreements lawlessness enforcement Fisheries Water etc,etc,etc. As much as I respect Our Hawaiian Tradition's and My Culture as a Hawaiian a Konohiki has to have a "Big Hammer" otherwise who will protect the Konohiki from lawsuit's retaliation etc. Mahalo for allowing me to write testimony Carl Pao Jellings Sr

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 8:02 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kksbaker@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM*

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Baker	Individual	Support	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

omhtestimony

From: Jayna Weatherwax <jlweatherwax808@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:36 PM
To: omhtestimony
Subject: Testimony in Support of HCR6

I Support Community Based Fishing Practices

I strongly **SUPPORT HCR6** which is a resolution that seeks to support subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system. Many subsistence community members and long-time fishers have voiced the critical need for better fisheries management now, to save our remaining stocks from irreparable collapse. Unfortunately, the Western, top-down model of fisheries management has clearly failed to conserve and sustain our vital ocean resources. The historical success of the traditional konohiki fishing rights system demonstrates that community-driven, place-based management approaches may give us the best chance of successfully saving our nearshore fisheries from the numerous threats they currently face. This resolution will signal the legislature's support of restoring such community-driven fisheries management approaches to government agencies and communities alike. I urge the Committees to **PASS** this resolution.

Mahalo,
Jayna L. Weatherwax

Aloha,
Jayna
jlweatherwax808@gmail.com

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 7:02 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: rossdavis777@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gene Ross K. Davis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I do not support HCR6, this intent was not inclusive of the Hawaiian Homelands Beneficiaries and Fisherman who utilize this area for gathering resources for their families. All policies being implemented was not created with community input. It was driven with one mans ideology having partnered with DLNR. Our Hawaiian Homeland community's only access to ocean resources is being decided upon without their consideration. Mahalo

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



HOUSE JOINT COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN
AFFAIRS AND WATER & LAND

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:35 AM Room 312

LATE

In SUPPORT HCR 6 Relating to Konohiki Fishing Rights

Aloha Chairman Ing, Chairman Yamane and members of the Joint Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters throughout the Hawaiian Islands, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly supports HCR 6, which recognizes the historic success of community stewardship under the traditional konohiki fishing rights system in sustaining an abundant nearshore environment and a thriving population and culture. HCR 6 further urges the state to support the development, adoption, and implementation of culturally-grounded, community-driven fisheries management proposals to steward, restore, and perpetuate our nearshore resources and maintain and protect associated cultural traditions and values.

Modern living, without sufficient management, has sparked a drastic decline in the health of our nearshore fisheries.¹ Overfishing has been found to be one of, if not the, "greatest challenges to maintaining and restoring healthy coral reefs."² Community-driven fishery management practices are a proven technique to offset the harms of overfishing and rebuild our reefs.

Healthy nearshore fisheries are important to the health and safety of the Hawaiian Islands. In addition to serving as nurseries for our native fish, nearshore fisheries also protect the coastline by reducing the strength and size of incoming waves.³ Given the impending challenges related to

¹ Catherine Griffin, *Fish Populations are Reduced by 78 Percent in Hawaii Due to Human Impacts*, Science World Report (Apr. 3, 2015), available at:

<http://www.scienceworldreport.com/articles/24036/20150403/fish-populations-reduced-78-percent-hawaii-due-human-impacts.htm>; Kenneth R. Weiss, *Hawaiian reef fish are in decline*, Los Angeles Times (July 9, 2008), available at: <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/jul/09/nation/na-reef9>.

² Kenneth R. Weiss, *Hawaiian reef fish are in decline*, Los Angeles Times.

³ The Nature Conservancy, *The Nature Conservancy and its partners are literally nursing coral reefs back to health in an attempt to restore this vital marine habitat*, The Nature Conservancy website, available at:

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/habitats/oceanscoasts/howwework/restoration-works-coral-reefs.xml>; World Wildlife Foundation, *Coral reefs: importance*, WWF website, available at: http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/blue_planet/coasts/coral_reefs/coral_importance/.

climate change that we will be facing, it will be crucial that there are practices in place to effectively protect our nearshore fisheries, and thus our coral reefs.⁴

The konohiki fishing rights system has proven to be successful in sustaining an abundant nearshore environment. We agree with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs that a modern version of this system, which empowers communities who possess the “most intimate knowledge of and connection to” specific areas and the resources contained within them, would be the most effective means to conserve and restore our nearshore fisheries.⁵ This system would create a sense of ownership among members of the community and would create a sense of responsibility for protecting our nearshore fisheries among future generations.⁶ For these reasons, we are in strong support of HCR 6.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Mahalo,

Marti Townsend
Director

⁴ University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program, *Climate Change Impacts in Hawaii: A summary of climate change and its impacts to Hawaii's ecosystems and communities*, (2014), available at: <http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/sites/default/files/publications/smfinal-hawaiiclimatechange.pdf>.

⁵ The Office of Hawaiian Affairs, *OHA-3: Recognizing the Success of the Konohiki Fishing Rights System and Supporting Community-Driven, Place-Based Management for Hawai'i's Nearshore Fisheries*, OHA website, available at:

<http://19of32x2yl33s8o4xza0gf14.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/OHA-3-Konohiki-Reso-External-White-Paper-FINAL-122016.pdf>.

⁶ *Id.*

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 5:40 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR6 on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM

HCR6

Submitted on: 3/20/2017
Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 21, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We STRONGLY SUPPORT this resolution.

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

To whom it may concern,

I wish to submit of testimony in support of House Concurrent Resolution 6 (HCR6). I have spent the past 6 years working with local fishermen, the state of Hawaii DLNR Division of Aquatic Resources, and the University of Hawaii to gather the biological information needed to set management regulations. These include size at reproductive (L50) which is used to establish minimum size limits for the fishery, fecundity or the number of eggs produced with fish size (used to set upper size limits), and the spawning season (used to set seasonal closures). The regulations that are being proposed concur with the biological information and make good fisheries management sense. The traditional and local knowledge that has been used to set these management regulations is similar to what trained scientists use to estimate these important biological metrics. I have worked with the fishers that are proposing these HCR6 and the care and amount of long term observational information for these fishery species is very impressive. If the resolution is passed I am confident that this community managed area will serve as a model for effective community-based fisheries management and perhaps beyond for the entire state of Hawaii. I have listed recent scientific studies as further evidence of the importance of species and spatially specific regulations and the value of incorporating local fishers' knowledge into management.

Schemmel, Eva, Alan Friedlander, Pelika Andrade, Ku'ulei Keakealani, Linda Castro, Chad Wiggins, Bart Wilcox, Yumi Yasutake, and John Kittinger. "The codevelopment of coastal fisheries monitoring methods to support local management." *Ecology and Society* 21, no. 4 (2016). <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol21/iss4/art34/>

Schemmel, E. M., and A. M. Friedlander. "Participatory fishery monitoring is successful for understanding the reproductive biology needed for local fisheries management." *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 100, no. 2 (2017): 171-185.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eva Schemmel

eschemmel@gmail.com

LATE



LATE

Testimony Before The
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Water and Land
IN SUPPORT OF HCR 6

Thursday March 21, 2017, 9:35a, Room 312

Aloha Chair Ing and Yamane, Vice Chairs Gates and Kong and Committee Members:

My name is Kevin Chang, I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA) and this is our testimony in support of HCR 6.

KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports three statewide networks: more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 38 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing group of Limu practitioners called the Limu Hui.

KUA strongly supports HCR 6 which supports subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system.

This bill recognizes long standing efforts and voices of rural and Native Hawaiian communities across our state including participants in our networks. In fact today, on O'ahu at Kawanānakoā Intermediate there is a public scoping meeting on the Mo'omomi community-based subsistence fishing area (CBSFA) proposal. It is the work of Mo'omomi that has been the impetus of much of the work on community natural resource management of nearshore resources over the last twenty years. The language of this resolution recognizes the work like that at Mo'omomi and that the Native Hawaiian community did not just thrive off the fat of the land but played a strong traditional role in its caretaking and development. A community stewardship ethic was and should be a part of citizenship, especially in our island home.

Many subsistence community members and long-time fishers have voiced the critical need for better fisheries management now, to save our remaining stocks from irreparable collapse. Unfortunately, solutions derived solely from centralized top-down model of fisheries management have often proven inadequate to conserve and sustain our vital ocean resources. Hawai'i has a history of practicing a hybrid approach which included community as part of the resource management system which managed to feed a population similar to today.

Indigenous people and local communities throughout the world hold similar sentiments especially in deep rural regions where subsistence and traditional management and values continue to be a part of life. This was evident at the 2016 World Conservation Congress- hosted

by Hawai'i. Community has been part of a deep and evolving global best practice in cultural and natural resource management.

Professor Carlos Andrade's thoughts on the konohiki in his book "Hā'ena: Through the Eyes of the Ancestors," are prescient in these times

"In pre-European times, all segments of island society were entirely interdependent. Sources of livelihood and the resources available for use by the people were all contained within the environs of the island. By today's standards these resources were very basic but they were sufficient for the ancestors to have a full and meaningful life as long as they fulfilled their mutual responsibilities to each other and the *'āina*. *Konohiki* therefore had to possess a wide array of skills. They had to know all the *waiwai* (assets) contained within each *ahupua'a*- hydrologic, biologic and geologic. They had to know the state of the soil, plants, and animals on land and sea, and guide decisions on their use. Most important, konohiki had to know how to deal with human beings.

In traditional society, *konohiki* were bridges connecting the governing and the governed..."

We constantly debate about our State's capacity and whether it is, has or can be the appropriate mechanism to bring people together, to resolve issues of difference and move forward for the betterment of our cultural and natural resources and their ability to support community well-being and prosperity. Some who prefer status-quo or oppose more or less regulation often do not outright oppose community stewardship but often doubt the capacity of our state to be an accountable partner. This is a nihilistic view. Without mechanisms to address this view our response is a favoring of rights over corollary responsibilities. This creates a pattern in which we may ultimately deplete an environment to exercise those rights. Community based natural resource management provides the mechanism to shape a middle ground where rights and responsibilities are once again merged.

This resolution will signal the legislature's support of a step toward building a contemporary bridge between citizens and their government through community-driven fisheries management.

It also acknowledges a potential often overlooked matter in governance issues of our time, especially on islands: the ability of our community, the governed to be the solutions they seek in governance. Why would we want to see such potential go to waste?

I urge the Committees to **PASS** this resolution.

Mahalo for your service to our community and this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

Dennis H. Fujii
Pamela Lota Fujii
520 Kuli'ou'ou Road
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
kapiolehua@gmail.com
(808) 255-6207



Written Testimony for The
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
House Committee on Water and Land
IN SUPPORT OF HCR 6

Thursday March 21, 2017, 9:35a, Room 312

Aloha Chair Ing and Yamane, Vice Chairs Gates and Kong and Committee Members:

My name is Dennis H. Fujii and my wife is Pamela Lota Fujii. We have lived in the ahupuaa of Kuli'ou'ou for 35 years and volunteers with the Ewa Limu Project, Limu Hui, Paepae O Heeia, Keiki O Ka Aina, Hui Malama O Ke Kai, the Maunalua Fishpond Heritage Center, Hui Maka'ainana o Makana and Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA) and this is our testimony in support of HCR 6.

As volunteers for these community organizations we have the humble privilege to help restore our fishponds, native limu and nearshore habitats to ensure that traditional and cultural practices are sustained for future generations.

WE STRONGLY SUPPORT HCR 6 which supports subsistence, kīpuka communities' efforts to guide harvesting and conservation practices in their nearshore waters, consistent with the principles underlying the highly successful konohiki fishing rights resource management system.

This bill recognizes the efforts and voices of rural and Native Hawaiian communities across our state. This evening on O'ahu at Kawanānakoā Intermediate there is a public scoping meeting on the Mo'omomi community-based subsistence fishing area (CBSFA) proposal. It is the work of Mo'omomi that has been the impetus of much of the work on community natural resource management of nearshore resources over the last twenty years. The language of this resolution recognizes the work like that at Mo'omomi and that the Native Hawaiian community did not just thrive off the fat of the land but played a strong traditional role in its caretaking and development.

Supporting HCR 6 will empower rural and Native Hawaiian communities across the state to continue to PROTECT, PRESERVE AND PERPETUATE our native resources FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

We urge the Committees to **PASS** this resolution.

Mahalo for your service to our community and this opportunity to submit our written testimony.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

Dennis H. Fujii and Pamela Lota Fujii