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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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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 Committees on
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
and
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, February 8, 2017
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 640
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES

Senate Bill 640 proposes to establish a pilot project at Makua Beach, Oahu and Hawai'i Island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices and appropriate funds for the pilot project. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the potential value in re-establishing coconut groves in Hawai'i, but is in strong opposition to conducting a pilot project at Makua Beach within Ka'ena Point State Park.

Ka'ena Point State Park - Makua Beach Section has been subjected to years of informal and unauthorized camping that had escalated to over 900 people camping on certain weekends and illegally driving on the beach, having pallet bonfires and leaving both the charcoal and nails in the sand, in addition to campers leaving large amount of rubbish that on every Monday, the Division of State Parks' (State Parks) sole employee for that side of O'ahu had to collect and haul away. Makua does not have a comfort station, and the years of human waste accumulation and associated public health issues and aesthetic degradation of one of Oahu's most beautiful beaches made it imperative to close the beach for nighttime public use.

Makua is significant to the Hawaiian community, and State Parks has been in close coordination with community members including the Waianae Neighborhood Board and Aha Moku representatives, both of whom support the closure, on the most appropriate management protocols. Currently, the Protectors of Paradise, which is headed by a lineal descendent of Makua, has an Adopt-A-Park agreement with State Parks, and has been instrumental in providing volunteer services to help remove rubbish and clear non-native vegetation so the area can be restored. The Department has prioritized these restoration efforts over further impacts.

In addition, this measure contains several elements that are problematic:

- Determining what in fact is the appropriate traditional and customary use for the planting and gathering of coconuts, and who are authentic practitioners for the area, requires detailed discussion, establishing criteria, and issuing park permits to ensure appropriate use.
- The permit would stipulate that this activity cannot be commercial in nature, and the sale of the coconuts would be prohibited. A permit is required for this important distinction.
- Due to previous military use, unexploded ordinance pose a potential safety hazard at Makua, requiring careful regulation of activities.
- Location of activities must be planned carefully to ensure it doesn't interfere with established public use.
- Coconut trees can create public safety issues from falling coconuts. State Parks routinely contracts the trimming of coconut trees in parks to minimize this hazard.
- In regard to Hawai'i Island, there is no location specified in the measure, so the Department cannot comment further.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 3:45 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: tiare@hapahi.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiare Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support of this project. Will be good for the community.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:44 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: Fehren.jones@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fehren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Fehren Jones and I reside in the Honolulu area. I would like to see SB640, which states "RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project." go through with my full support! This SB640 will not only help better Hawai'i, but it will make hawaii sustainable and we cannot complain about the benefits of ulu and Niu besides the fact that these plants are not only healthy with fiber (ulu) and full of electrolyte (niu) but we can also use these plants like the Hawaiians of old has been using them. Cordage, hale building and so forth. Maybe when ulu and Niu are in its full potential farming, there could be a money making crop of a baby food line..? Anyway, So yes, in conclusion, I am in full support of SB640. Mahalo for your time and I hope u have a beautiful week. Aloha

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SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fehren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Fehren Jones and I reside in the Honolulu area. I would like to see SB640, which states "RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project." go through with my full support! This SB640 will not only help better Hawai'i, but it will make hawaii sustainable and we cannot complain about the benefits of ulu and Niu besides the fact that these plants are not only healthy with fiber (ulu) and full of electrolyte (niu) but we can also use these plants like the Hawaiians of old has been using them. Cordage, hale building and so forth. Maybe when ulu and Niu are in its full potential farming, there could be a money making crop of a baby food line..? Anyway, So yes, in conclusion, I am in full support of SB640. Mahalo for your time and I hope u have a beautiful week. Aloha

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SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fehren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Fehren Jones and I reside in the Honolulu area. I would like to see SB640, which states "RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project." go through with my full support! This SB640 will not only help better Hawai'i, but it will make hawaii sustainable and we cannot complain about the benefits of ulu and Niu besides the fact that these plants are not only healthy with fiber (ulu) and full of electrolyte (niu) but we can also use these plants like the Hawaiians of old has been using them. Cordage, hale building and so forth. Maybe when ulu and Niu are in its full potential farming, there could be a money making crop of a baby food line..? Anyway, So yes, in conclusion, I am in full support of SB640. Mahalo for your time and I hope u have a beautiful week. Aloha

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:43 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: Fehren.jones@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fehren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Fehren Jones and I reside in the Honolulu area. I would like to see SB640, which states "RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project." go through with my full support! This SB640 will not only help better Hawai'i, but it will make hawaii sustainable and we cannot complain about the benefits of ulu and Niu besides the fact that these plants are not only healthy with fiber (ulu) and full of electrolyte (niu) but we can also use these plants like the Hawaiians of old has been using them. Cordage, hale building and so forth. Maybe when ulu and Niu are in its full potential farming, there could be a money making crop of a baby food line..? Anyway, So yes, in conclusion, I am in full support of SB640. Mahalo for your time and I hope u have a beautiful week. Aloha

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Cc: Fehren.jones@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
fehren	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Fehren Jones and I reside in the Honolulu area. I would like to see SB640, which states "RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project." go through with my full support! This SB640 will not only help better Hawai'i, but it will make hawaii sustainable and we cannot complain about the benefits of ulu and Niu besides the fact that these plants are not only healthy with fiber (ulu) and full of electrolyte (niu) but we can also use these plants like the Hawaiians of old has been using them. Cordage, hale building and so forth. Maybe when ulu and Niu are in its full potential farming, there could be a money making crop of a baby food line..? Anyway, So yes, in conclusion, I am in full support of SB640. Mahalo for your time and I hope u have a beautiful week. Aloha

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 9:09 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: laurenelaide721@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Ampolos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:02 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Coconut has so many purposes from medicinal to food to water and have been a staple in our culture. It is wonderful to see this legislature to continue to perpetuate our culture and voting to pass this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 5:25 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: tampaltin@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Coconut is one of the most versatile plants and creating groves of (my opinion samoan or shorter) coconut trees will go a long way in helping us to be more self reliant should the barges ever stop coming

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 4:51 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 4:12 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: jflowers7733@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Wayne FlowersJr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 3:30 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: tulsigreenlee@icloud.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulsi Greenlee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 1:38 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: forestaf@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Forest Frizzell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a wonderful idea and I would love to see this in my community of Waimanalo. Please support this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 1:35 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill but dont think it goes far enough. Not just coconut, but ulu and kalo and other plants/trees deemed proper for the park.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 10:15 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: In Strong Support Carl Pao Jellings Sr

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 3:09 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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: Friday, February 3, 2017 2:57 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Coconut trees were one of the many flora that played an important role in customary practices that are still used today. The list includes, medicinal, general food consumption, and water.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:48 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: maemae16@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nohealani Hirahara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:11 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kakou, Aloha e Luna Ho'omalulu o ke Kōmike no ke Kuleana Hawai'i Shimabukuro, Aloha e Luna Ho'omalulu o ke Kōmike no ka Wai a me ka 'Āina Rhoades, Aloha e na lālā komike, He kāko'o au (I support) ka pila SB 640 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES. Establishes a pilot project at Makua beach and Hawaii island to designate areas in public parks for planting and growing coconut trees for Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering practices. Appropriates funds for the pilot project. While this is only a pilot project consisting of coconut tree's, I look forward to other traditional and customary plants (edible, medicinal, material, etc.) and sites too. The future expansion will increase the awareness and benefits of the plants and of traditional Hawaiian knowledge. Mahalo 'ia 'oukou no kou kāko'o no ka pila SB 640. Me ka ha'aha'a Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai He hopohopo nei au mai ke kaiāulu Wai'anae Concerned Waianae Community Member

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:54 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: aubrey_aea@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aubrey Aea	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I urge you to support and pass this bill. Ulu niu provides basic needs, cultural needs, and in times of severe hurricanes, has proven to be an excellent lifesaver. Our keiki deserve a chance to once again have abundant ulu niu in Hawai'i. Mahalo, Aubrey Ae'a

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 10:44 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: Luanajones777@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/WTL on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Strong Support!#1 FOOD SUSTAINABILITY CROP!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:42 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mindyolvera@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melinda Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:41 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mindyolvera@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB640 on Feb 8, 2017 14:45PM*

SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melinda Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:02 PM
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Cc: aluhi@yahoo.com
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SB640

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alohi Aea	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. Coconuts are an excellent source of nourishment, and as island people thousands of miles away from another land mass, we need to begin cultivating more resources that will lead to self-sustainability. It's time once more to have coconut groves in Hawaii that people can access! Please consider adding a site on the Windward side of the island to this pilot!

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