

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
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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 House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Thursday, March 30, 2017
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 808, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Senate Bill 808, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate an unspecified amount of general revenues in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for operating expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget request.**

The purpose of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Program is to educate, construct, maintain, and assist in the development of conservation plans to protect soil and water resources. Each SWCD is operated by a five-member volunteer board. HACD is an umbrella organization formed by the 16 SWCDs under Chapters 180 and 180C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and administratively attached to the Department. In each of fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, HACD and the SWCDs received \$322,500 in general funds, appropriated by Act 84, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015. The Department notes that the SWCD Program does not have a base budget appropriation and funding would be required for the continuance of their activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
HACD
USING AVAILABLE TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES TO MEET THE CONSERVATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S USERS.

P.O. Box 1411, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Phone: (808) 214-5388

HACDhawaii@gmail.com; <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/swcd/>



Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308

2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Michelle Watkins, Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. HACD is comprised of 16 Hawaii Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) across the state. With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

The Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts strongly supports SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD greatly appreciates the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR that represent the State's share of this unique partnership.

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.
 - Multiply this out by a nominal \$25/hr consulting rate and this adds \$432k to the value of the partnerships;
- State funding then becomes a modest investment, leveraging every State dollar (\$332K) 4.3 times to \$1432K of agricultural based services.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples)

A conservation plan (similar to a blueprint for a house) is a blueprint for managing ranches, farms and conservation lands. This plan not only helps the owner of the plan, but also helps to protect neighboring properties from runoff and streams from being polluted by inadvertent practices.

By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and in developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff, and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state.

In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Examples include:

- On Maui, Water Source Development for the Community, e.g. Kahakapao Reservoirs
- On Kauai, Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Project
- On Hawaii, watershed-based plans like the Waiulaula Watershed Management project
- On Oahu, EPA-funded 319(h) Water Quality Projects, such as the Ala Wai Watershed Project to control and reduce soil erosion, and prevent and reduce sediment reaching the ocean waters
- On Molokai, the Moomomi Watershed Project with the same objectives

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented projects include:

- Lahaina Temporary Flood Control Project
- Funding to haul water to drought impacted farmers and ranchers.

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

Attached is a detailed accounting of our funding request and a brochure describing HACD activities. As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **HACD REQUESTS THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET**. Should you have any questions, please contact me, Michelle Watkins, HACD Executive Director, 808-230-4228.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our input on this important matter.

FY2018 and FY2019 HACD/SWCD YEARLY BUDGET PROPOSAL

No. Item	Total #, Hrs/ Trips/Units	Hourly Rate/ Unit Cost	Full year Funding
A. ¹ Personnel Services			
Professional Staff: 40hrs/wk x 52weeks	4	\$60,000.00	\$240,000.00
Conservation Specialist's (1 ea.: HI, Kauai, Maui, Oahu)	1	\$57,000.00	\$57,000.00
Executive Director			
Grand Total for Item A			\$297,000.00
B. Travel/Training (airfare, per diem, reg fees, etc.)			
CS travel/training	4	\$1,200.00	\$4,800.00
² SWCD National Training- National staff to HI for training and/or SWCD rep to attend national training	16	\$1,200.00	\$19,200.00
² SWCD Travel- State HACD Quarterly Board Meetings	16	\$800.00	\$12,800.00
NACD National Meetings- HACD Rep- 2 meetings or 2 people for 1 meeting: DC, Annual & Pacific	2	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00
HACD Travel: President, Officers, Legislative Committee Member, Exec. Director- Interisland Travel for Meetings	1	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
Grand Total for Item B			\$53,300.00
C. Operating Costs			
CS Office Supplies, NRCS security clearance, advertising, etc..	4	\$1,500.00	\$6,000.00
² SWCD Office Supplies: Equipment, postage, paper, copies, reports, etc..	16	\$3,200.00	\$51,200.00
² NACD Dues-National requirement per SWCD	16	\$750.00	\$12,000.00
HACD Expenses: Office Supplies, Monthly phone&internet charges, postage, equipment, yearly D&O Insurance, etc.	1	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
Grand Total for Item C			\$77,700.00
D. CS Misc. Expenses			
Administrative Fees for CS Management	1	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00
Grand Total for Item D			\$22,000.00
TOTAL A-D			\$450,000.00

¹ All personnel includes total benefits such as: complete medical coverage, workmans comp., TDI, liability, 401K, vac/sick leave, hourly pay etc...

² SWCD Operating Costs within DLNR budget currently \$2,250/Yr/District (Total=\$36,000/Yr): request increase to operate and pay NACD dues, attend required monthly meetings, etc.

MAHALO TO OUR PARTNERS

Federal Partners

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service,
<http://www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov>
 NRCS is the main technical assistance provider for the 16 SWCDs in Hawai'i. District planners work out of NRCS Field Offices and all of our conservation plans are done according to NRCS standards.

USDA Farm Service Agency,
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/>
 FSA administers and manages farm commodity, credit, conservation, disaster and loan programs. Hawaii farmers produce a variety of agricultural commodities, and the Hawai'i FSA strives to serve our unique agricultural communities with farm programs and low-interest loans.

Environmental Protection Agency,
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/>
 EPA strives to protect human health and the environment nationwide. In Hawai'i, EPA develops and enforces regulations, provides financial assistance for environmental programs, sponsors volunteers, and expands the community's knowledge of the environment through education and research.

USDA Rural Development,
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/hi/>
 RD seeks to meet the needs of our diverse rural population by delivering Rural Development programs and services in housing, rural utilities, and business-coops.

State of Hawai'i Partners

Department of Land & Natural Resources,
<http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr>
 As a sub-entity of the State, HACD falls under the State of Hawai'i DLNR. DLNR has a wide range of responsibilities, ranging from land management and permitting to historic preservation and natural resources conservation.

Department of Health – Clean Water Branch,
<http://health.hawaii.gov/cwb>
 The State of Hawai'i DOH aims to protect and improve the health and environment for all people in Hawai'i. Its Clean Water Branch focuses on keeping our inland and coastal waters healthy, and directs the Polluted Runoff Control Program, which administers grant money from EPA through Section 319(h) of the Federal Clean Water Act to address polluted runoff throughout the State.

University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension Service,
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/extprograms.aspx>
 UH Extension Service provides science-based information in agriculture, natural resources and human resources. Its Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center provides insect identification and disease diagnosis; soil, plant, water and feed analysis; and seed sales of cultivars of vegetables and papayas developed by the College.

Coastal Zone Management Program,
<http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/czm/>
 The Hawai'i CZM Program partners several environmental programs in Hawaii to promote a sustainable coastal environment by building upon our heritage and inspiring island stewardship.

County Partners

County of Kaua'i,
<http://www.kauai.gov/>
 Kaua'i County serves the transportation, safety, environmental and developmental needs of Kaua'i citizens. The County has been actively supporting East & West Kaua'i SWCDs activities for many years.

City & County of Honolulu,
<http://www.honolulu.gov/>
 The City & County of Honolulu offers a variety of services to the citizens of O'ahu. Over the past 2 years, the City has helped fund two O'ahu SWCDs planners through the O'ahu RC& D.

County of Maui,
<http://www.co.maui.hi.us/>
 Maui County encompasses the islands of Maui, Molo-ka'i, Lāna'i and Kaho'olawe. The County has offered financial and in-kind support for the Maui SWCDs over many years.

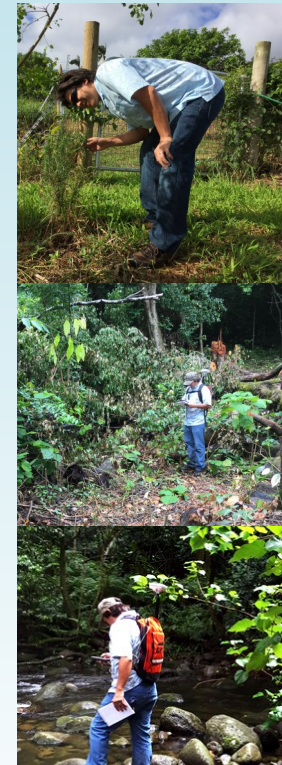
County of Hawai'i,
<http://www.hawaii-county.com/>
 In addition to the many services it offers, Hawai'i County is a long standing supporter of the Hawai'i Island SWCDs.

Non-Profit Partners

HAWAII FARM BUREAU **Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation,**
<http://www.hfbf.org/>
 The Hawaii Farm Bureau is a non-profit organization that promotes local farming by analyzing issues and formulating actions to ensure the future of Hawai'i agriculture. Issues include taxes, land use, water, legislative activity and marketing. All agricultural producers are strongly encouraged to join.

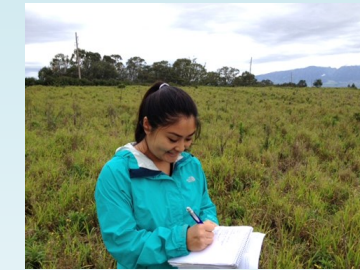
Resource Conservation & Development,
<http://www.pacrimrcd.org/>
 NRCS established the RC & D program to accelerate natural resources conservation and development and utilization of natural resources. RC & D groups improve the capability of state and local agencies in rural areas by focusing efforts and assistance on individual producers.

O'ahu RC & D: <http://www.oahurcd.org/>
 Garden Isle RC & D: <http://www.gircd.org/>
 Tri Isle RC & D: <http://tri-isle.org/>
 Big Island RC & D: <http://www.bigislandrcd.org/>



CONSERVATION PLANNING

CONSERVATION EDUCATION



People
Land
And
Nature

WATERSHED PLANNING/PROJECTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH





Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
sustainable quality of life through visionary conservation

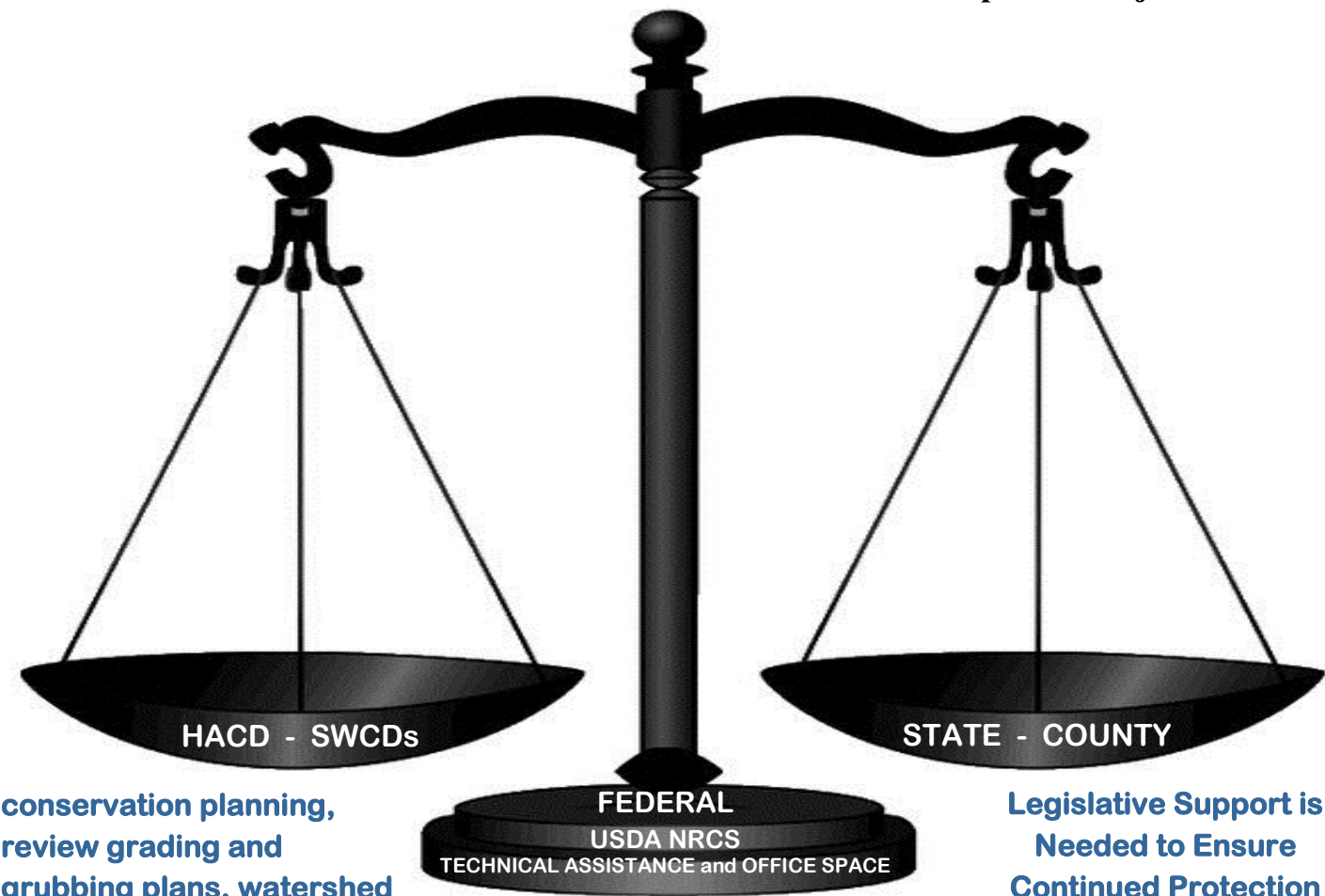


Who we are

The Soil & Water Conservation Districts are legally constituted, self-governing units under the Hawaii Soil and Water Conservation Law, Chapter 180, Hawaii Revised Statutes. We were organized under the State Department of Land and Natural Resources for the protection and conservation of soil and water resources in the interest of the health, safety, and general welfare of people in this region.

What we do

- ◆ **Conservation Planning**
- ◆ **Public Outreach**
- ◆ **Special Projects**



A voluntary board cannot adequately provide enough time to initiate, implement, and support its program.

Conservation Education Program

- Sammy Soil & Ruby Raindrop
- Conservation Awareness Program - Land Judging Contest
- Conservation Poster Contest
- Make a Splash with Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)
- Hanalei Elementary School Conservation Education Area.
- Fireweed Eradication and Education Project
- Agricultural Road Drainage Techniques
- Created a Windbreak educational video.
- Animal waste management, stream bank protection, and erosion control to assist farmers in employing better practices workshops
- Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/ Streambank Stabilization Preliminary Investigation Project
- Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways
- Year of the Soil - Soil Health Workshops throughout the state
- Educate elected officials as to what our community's resource concerns are and how to address them
- Kona's Native Hawaiian Plant Book



Community Outreach

- USDA Grant Programs to Improve and Protect Ag and Conservation Lands
- Maui Fair
- Hawaii State Capitol Ag Day
- Ag Fest
- Watershed Education for elementary and high school students, and community organizations.
- Initiating optimum water utilization meeting with the community and landowners.
- Coordinated Resource Management Plan



(CREP)

- Worked with County, State, and Piihonua Community Association on gaining visible access to Diversion No. 4 of the Wailuku/Alenaio Inspection Project.
- Earth Day

Other Miscellaneous Items

- Lanai and Molokai Market Places
- Molokai Heifer Program
- Coqui Frog Eradication Program
- Miconia Eradication Program
- Maui Invasive Species
- Animal Stocking & Quarantine Station
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans
- MoMISC – Molokai (Maui) Invasive Species Committee
- Molokai Agricultural Community Program
- Molokai Recycling Center Proposal
- Molokai Heifer Project
- Molokai Junk Car Removal
- Maalaea Wind Farm project.
- Developed a Hawaiian Arboretum in Wailua.
- Kekaha Game Management Area
- Participate in the Kauai County Drought Mitigation Committee.
- Kupulena Ag Park Development
- Applied for funding from the Bureau of Reclamation to haul water to 291 landowners, farmers, ranchers and residential property owners who do not have access to the municipal water supply and are being affected by severe drought conditions.
- Ahu Lani Sanctuary Restoration Project



For a complete list of SWCD partnership projects, visit <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/swcd> or email hacdhawaii@gmail.com

SOME OF SWCDs' STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

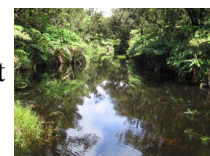
Conservation Planning

- State DLNR Requirements for Conservation Plans on All New Land Leases
- Develop and Review Conservation Plans
- Review and Comment on County Grading and Grubbing Plans
- Honolua Bay Coral Reefs Initiative Projects.
- Rural Water Project
- Molokai Ag Development Projects
- Maui Ag Development Projects Phase 1, 2
- Kanae Water Flume Restoration Project
- Kahakuloa Stream Intake Project
- Guidelines to Hawaii State Livestock Waste Management
- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Project
- Operations and Maintenance Inspection of the Wailuku/Alenaio Project.
- Irrigation Project at Kokee
- Improved Access of Hoopii Pond
- Ookala Re-forestation Project.
- Native species vegetation restoration plan, fire management plan, sediment management plan and educational materials
- Agricultural Road Stabilization Project at Pioneer Hi-Bred's Waimea Research Center.
- Restore irrigation systems abandoned by Lihue Plantation Co.



Watershed Planning and Projects

- West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative
- Honolua Watershed Project
- West Maui Algae Bloom Projects
- Lahaina Interim Flood Control Project
- Lahaina Watershed Project
- West Maui 319 Projects
- Puamana Channel Maintenance Project
- Lahainaluna High School Drainage Improvement Project



- State Land Terraces – Lahaina
- Sugarcane Diversion Improvements
- Kamehameha School Diversion Improvements
- Feral Animal Control Fencing Project
- Upcountry Dual Waterline
- TAKO POKE Project: construction of multiple Best Management Practices (BMPs) within drainage ways mauka of Wailea/Kihei.
- Watershed Base Plan for South Molokai
- Kula Storm Water Reclamation Study
- Southwest Maui Watershed Based Plan.
- Moomomi Watershed Project
- Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP)
- Kekaha Watershed Project
- Lower Hamakua Ditch Project
- Hilo Bay Watershed-Based Restoration Plan to improve water quality in Hilo Bay.
- Emergency Funding for Flood Damages and Prevention on North Shore Kauai
- Emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki in 1992
- Ulumalu-Peahi Water Line Distribution
- Kahoolawe Restoration Project
- Operations and Maintenance Inspection of the Naalehu Debris Basin Watershed project.
- Pelekane Bay Watershed Project
- Proposing studies to determine and address runoff into Kealakekua Bay.
- Manawainui Watershed Implementation Project
- Waiahewahewa Watershed Project
- Sponsored the Hanalei River Suspended Sediment Monitoring Project
- DOH Agreement to perform baseline survey of Makeahua Gulch
- DOH Agreement to update CRMP Waiulaula Watershed Management
- Waipio Valley Flood Damage Reduction and Stream Stabilization Preliminary Investigation
- Kona SWCD Flood Control Structure Inspections and Assists with Flash Flood Damage Assessments



CONSERVATION PLANNING



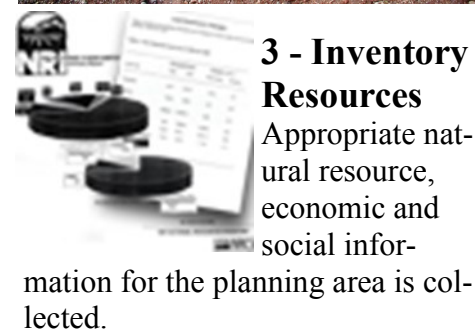
1 - Identify Problems and Opportunities

Planning can start with a problem, an opportunity, shared concerns, or a perceived threat.



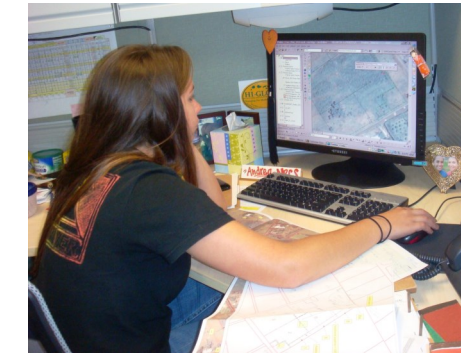
2 - Determine Objectives

The stakeholders identify their objectives.



3 - Inventory Resources

Appropriate natural resource, economic and social information for the planning area is collected.



4 - Analyze Resource Data

Study the resource data and clearly define existing conditions for all of the natural resources, including limitations and potential for the desired use.



5 - Formulate Alternatives

to achieve the goals for the land, by solving all identified problems, taking advantage of opportunities, and meeting the social, economic, and environmental needs of the planning project.



6 - Evaluate Alternatives

to determine their effectiveness in addressing the client's problems, opportunities and objectives.

Conservation Plan



7 - Make Decisions

The land owner/manager chooses which project or plan will work best for their situation.



8 - Implement the Plan

Technical assistance is provided to help with the installation of adequate and properly-designed conservation practices.



9 - Evaluate the Plan

Conservation planning is an ongoing process that continues long after the implementation of a conservation practice.





Hawaii Soil & Water Conservation Law
Chapter 180



Department of Land & Natural Resources

National Association of Conservation Districts
3000 Conservation Districts Represents America
<http://www.nacdnet.org/about/districts/index.phtml>

Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/swcd>

Sixteen (16) Soil & Water Conservation Districts



Our Boards

<u>Olinda-Kula</u> 808-871-5500 ext. 3	<u>Molokai-Lanai</u> 808-567-6869 ext. 102	<u>Waiakea</u> 808-933-8350	<u>West Oahu</u> 808-541-2600 ext. 103	<u>Ka'u - Puna</u> 808-933-8350
<u>South Oahu</u> 808-541-2600 ext. 103	<u>Kona</u> 808-322-2484 ext. 100	<u>East Kauai - West Kauai</u> 808-245-9014 ext. 3		<u>Hana</u> 808-871-5500 ext. 3
<u>West Maui</u> 808-871-5500 ext. 3	<u>Mauna Kea</u> 808-885-6602 ext. 100	<u>Central Maui</u> 808-871-5500 ext. 3	<u>Windward Oahu</u> 808-541-2600 ext. 103	<u>Hamakua</u> 808-933-8363



VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS
each board consists of
5 Voting Members - 3 elected, 2 appointed
+ Associate Directors - non-voting members

Our Partners

Our mission is to provide a healthy natural resources environment for the people by coordinating technical, financial, and educational resources.

Federal

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Forest Service;
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;
U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service

State

Department of Land & Natural Resources,
Department of Health – Clean Water Branch,
University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service,
Coastal Zone Management Program

County

County Of Kauai, City & County of Honolulu, County of Maui, County of Hawaii

Non-Profit

Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Resource Conservation and Development – Garden Isle RC&D, Oahu RC&D, Tri-Isle RC&D, and Big Island RC&D



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**MARCH 30, 2017
2:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**SENATE BILL NO. 808 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 808 SD1 HD1. This bill appropriates funds to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) to assist with its staffing and operating costs. The Department of Agriculture supports this bill, but ultimately defers to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Proper conservation practices are essential to a farmer's success, and conservation plans are an important tool for farmers to use in order to maximize soil retention by implementing erosion and sediment control best management practices. HACD can provide farmers with the technical expertise needed to create their own conservation plans. With an approved conservation plan, farmers will be able to attain necessary permissions prior to clearing and grading their land to prepare it for planting and to put new lands into production.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.



Genoa Starrs
POB 411386,
Kalaheo, HI 96741
genoastarrs@gmail.com

Friday, March 17, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 325
10:30 AM

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Kong, and Members of the Committee:

I am Genoa Starrs, a community member living in the area served by the East and West Kauai Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). These are 2 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I **strongly support SB808**, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the

organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Examples on Kauai include:

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/Streambank Preliminary Investigation
- 319h funded Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented projects include:

- Sponsored the emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki, 2 million from the emergency watershed protection funds in 1992
- Received \$167,000 in emergency funding to disburse for flood damage and prevention on Kauai's North Shore in 1991

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, I **WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET**.

I appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

East Kauai Soil & Water Conservation District
4334 Rice Street, Suite 207
Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766
Phone: 245-9014, +107

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am a Director of the East Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (EK SWCD), which is 1 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I strongly support SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Kauai examples include:

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/Streambank Preliminary Investigation
- 319h funded Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented Kauai projects include:

- Sponsored the emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki 2 million from the emergency watershed protection funds in 1992
- Received \$167,000 in emergency funding to disburse for flood damage and prevention on Kauai's North Shore in 1991

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **the EK SWCD WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET.**

I appreciate this opportunity to provide our input on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Allan Rietow
EK SWCD, Director

SOUTH OAHU SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Karen Ah Mai, Chairperson of the South Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), which is 1 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

The South Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District strongly supports SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Examples include:

- Coral Reef Initiative – Ridge to Reef Program, such as the Ag Road Project
- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Project
- Watershed Based Plans, such as the Waiulaula Watershed Management Project
- 319(h) Water Quality Projects, such as the TAKO POKE Project which included multiple Best Management Practices within drainage ways mauka of Wailea/Kihei
- Moomomi Watershed Project to control and reduce soil erosion, and prevent and reduce sediment reaching the ocean waters
- Water Source Development for the Community, e.g. Kahakapao Reservoirs

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented projects include:

- Lahaina Temporary Flood Control Project
- Funding to haul water to drought impacted farmers and ranchers.

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, SOUTH OAHU SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT **WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET.**

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our input on this important matter.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 808, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau **strongly supports SB 808 SD1, HD1**, providing funding for staffing and operations of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD).

HFB appreciates the support provided by the legislature to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. This program is an excellent example of successful public-private partnerships that brings benefit not just to farmers and ranchers, but to everyone in the State of Hawaii. We support the position of HACD. Their services are essential for farmers and ranchers.

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts were born out of the efforts of farmers who saw the value in implementing conservation practices. No laws told them they had to do it. It was common sense. You protect the resource that grows the crops and raises the livestock that you depend on. These districts provide an excellent example of public private partnerships and how Federal, State and County governments can leverage resources to accomplish more than each can do for themselves.

Over the years, the Districts have also originated major water projects across the State bringing in Federal dollars to be matched by State resources. Today, we have two projects remaining and HACD continues to work with our Congressional Delegation to complete the Upcountry Dual line and the Lahaina Flood Control Projects. Drought mitigation is a major concern for farmers and ranchers. We are constantly looking for ways in which we can partner with USDA NRCS to implement programs in Hawaii.

While the conservation districts are most often associated with preparation and approval of conservation plans, the scope of their activities are much broader. As part of the National Association of Conservation Districts, we have access to material that can help the state agencies meet regulatory requirements. For example, those Counties involved in MS4 or Municipal Stormwater requirements by EPA, have education requirements. Each year, there is a focus area across the country. 2017's topic is "Where does your Water shed?" educating children about where water comes from and the need to be cognizant about practices such as oil discharges from your cars that may end up in the storm drain or dumping hazardous wastes where it can end up in streams. These are programs that can be implemented by Districts as part of their outreach. By funding the Districts, you contribute to their capacity to carry out these tasks.

Another example is Soil Judging. Each year, students across the state enter a contest to test their abilities to correctly identify, evaluate, classify, and describe soil profiles and their applicability for various uses including housing. Did you know that Hawaii students have consistently placed in National competitions that take place in Oklahoma each year? Through these experiences, students have developed an interest in pursuing careers in agriculture.

HFB strongly supports the position as stated by HACD. We agree that placing this funding as a line item in the DLNR budget is prudent. **We respectfully request your strong support of funding the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts and placing them as a line item in the DLNR budget.** Thank you.



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 308
THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 AT 2:00 P.M.**

To The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair;
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Finance

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT FOR SB 808 RELATING TO
THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce representing approximately 600 businesses and 16,000 employees. I am writing share our support of SB 808.

As a representative of the business community, we would like to share our support for SB 808 and the appropriation for the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. The business community supports acts like the Soil and Water Conservation Districts as they are helpful to farming businesses and our overall community. We need to continue to support our local agriculture industry to ensure a sustainable Hawaii.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter and therefore ask that this bill be passed.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony and we hope you will move this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



4 Ag Hawai'i

Hawai'i Aquaculture &
Aquaponics Association

Hawai'i Association of
Independent Schools

Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council

Hawai'i Farm Bureau
Federation

Hawai'i Farmers' Union
United

Hawai'i Food Industry
Association

Hawai'i Food
Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Malama Kaua'i

Maui School Garden
Network

Ulupono Initiative

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thursday, March 30, 2017 – 2:00 PM - Room 308
Agenda #1

**RE: SB 808 SD1 HD1 - Relating to the Hawaii Association of
Conservation Districts – In Support**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Cullen and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition is in strong support of SB 808 SD1 HD1, which makes an appropriation to the department of land and natural resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii association of conservation districts.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprising of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors and other organizations working to provide Hawai'i's food supply.

The Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) and the 16 Hawaii Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partners. The DLNR appropriation in this bill represents the State's share of this partnership.

The funding assists farmers and ranchers with technical support, development and implementation of conservation plans, and outreach and education. All of the SWCD Directors are volunteers. The program has been of tremendous value to our communities.

We appreciate the legislature's support of the HACD. The investment by the State is vital to enable the HACD to continue its programs and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We ask for your favorable consideration of this measure.

Lori Lum
808-544-8343
llum@wik.com

Ed Kawamura, Jr.
4334 Rice Street, Suite 207
Lihue, HI 96766
Phone: 808-245-9014, X 107

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Ed Kawamura, Jr., Chairperson of the East Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), which is 1 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I strongly support SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Kauai examples include:

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/Streambank Preliminary Investigation
- 319h funded Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented Kauai projects include:

- Sponsored the emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki 2 million from the emergency watershed protection funds in 1992
- Received \$167,000 in emergency funding to disburse for flood damage and prevention on Kauai's North Shore in 1991

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET.**

I appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ed Kawamura, Jr.
EK SWCD, Chairman

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: john@olsontrust.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John C. Cross	Edmund C. Olson Trust II	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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 12:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ashman.janet@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mary.robblee@hi.nacdnet.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Robblee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

Adam Killermann
4334 Rice Street, Suite 207
Lihue, HI 96766

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Adam Killermann, Director, of the West Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), which is 1 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I strongly support SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the

organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Kauai examples include:

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/Streambank Preliminary Investigation
- 319h funded Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of Kauai implemented projects include:

- Sponsored the emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki 2 million from the emergency watershed protection funds in 1992
- Received \$167,000 in emergency funding to disburse for flood damage and prevention on Kauai's North Shore in 1991

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET.**

I appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Adam Killermann
WK SWCD, Director

EK & WK SWCDs
4334 Rice Street, Suite 207
Lihue, HI 96766
Phone: 808-245-9014, X107

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Marjorie Stanphill, District Assistant for the East & West Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCDs), which are 2 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I strongly support SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples) In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the

organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Kauai examples include:

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Valley Irrigation Intake Protection/Streambank Preliminary Investigation
- 319h funded Demonstration and Training in Critical Area Stabilization Techniques on Agricultural Roads and Unprotected Waterways

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of Kauai implemented projects include:

- Sponsored the emergency response funding through NRCS for Hurricane Iniki 2 million from the emergency watershed protection funds in 1992
- Received \$167,000 in emergency funding to disburse for flood damage and prevention on Kauai's North Shore in 1991

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **Marjorie Stanphill WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET.**

I appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Stanphill
EK & WK SWCDs
District Assistant

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mchughj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John McHugh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Ka'u Soil and Water Conservation District
154 Waianuenue Avenue, Room 303
Hilo, HI 96720

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brenda Iokepa-Moses, Ka'u Soil and Water Conservation, Chairperson, which is 1 of the 16 Hawaii SWCDs that make up the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

Ka'u Soil and Water Conservation strongly supports SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD and the SWCDs greatly appreciate the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR representing the State's share of this unique partnership. By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and by developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff and water quality in general. We also help to provide outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State.

- Na'alehu Debris Basis
- Coral Reef Initiative – Ridge to Reef Program, such as the Ag Road Project

- Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Project
- Watershed Based Plans, such as the Waiulaula Watershed Management Project
- 319(h) Water Quality Projects, such as the TAKO POKE Project which included multiple Best Management Practices within drainage ways mauka of Wailea/Kihei
- Water Source Development for the Community, e.g. Kahakapao Reservoirs

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented projects include:

- Master plans dealing with diversion restoration for thousands of acres that were former plantation lands now being used for other purposes.
- Lahaina Temporary Flood Control Project
- Funding to haul water to drought impacted farmers and ranchers.

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**. As an alternative to this separate appropriation bill, I would like to request that funding for HACD be placed into the DLNR base budget.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

Sincerely submitted,

Brenda Iokepa-Moses
Chairperson – Ka’u Soil and Water Conservation District
(808) 933-8350 Field Office

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kaiwiki.1970@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Cabral	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mnakahata@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mae Nakahata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Michelle Watkins
Phone: (808) 214-5388
HACDhawaii@gmail.com

Thursday, March 30, 2017

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON
SB 808: RELATING TO HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Room 308
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Michelle Watkins, Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts. HACD is comprised of 16 Hawaii Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). With the first District organized in 1948, the SWCDs are mandated by HRS §180 and comprised of volunteer directors. Many of the SWCD directors are also farmers and ranchers. They have a great understanding of the various issues related to agriculture, land use, conservation and the importance of servicing our communities.

I strongly support SB808, providing funding for staffing and operations of HACD. HACD greatly appreciates the support provided by the legislature and the long standing contribution by the State of Hawaii to the SWCDs.

HACD and the 16 Hawaii SWCDs are a prime example of a successful partnership between the State, County, Federal and private partnerships, with funding requested by DLNR that represent the State's share of this unique partnership.

Public/Private Partnership for FY2016

- **Federal** (cash and in kind): \$500K **State:** \$332K **County:** \$500K
- SWCD board members and volunteers donate in excess of 17,280 hours annually.
 - Multiply this out by a nominal \$25/hr consulting rate and this adds \$432k to the value of the partnerships;
- State funding then becomes a modest investment, leveraging every State dollar (\$332K) 4.3 times to \$1432K of agricultural based services.

Resource conservation and Protection Projects (examples)

A conservation plan (similar to a blueprint for a house) is a blueprint for managing ranches, farms and conservation lands. This plan not only helps the owner of the plan, but also helps to protect neighboring properties from runoff and streams from being polluted by inadvertent practices.

By assisting farmers and ranchers with technical support and in developing and processing conservation plans, the SWCDs help to address such issues as erosion, grading and grubbing, runoff, and water quality in general. We also help to provide

outreach and help educate our youth and the educators who teach them. Assisting the members in our community is a priority for HACD and the SWCDs, which benefits everyone throughout the state.

In addition to assisting farmers, ranchers and landowners prepare and implement conservation plans; the organization seeks funding and implements projects across the State. Examples include:

- On Maui, Water Source Development for the Community, e.g. Kahakapao Reservoirs
- On Kauai, Assisted DLNR in the Permitting and Construction Phase of the Hanalei Project
- On Hawaii, watershed-based plans like the Waiulaula Watershed Management project
- On Oahu, EPA-funded 319(h) Water Quality Projects, such as the Ala Wai Watershed Project to control and reduce soil erosion, and prevent and reduce sediment reaching the ocean waters
- On Molokai, the Moomomi Watershed Project with the same objectives

Increased need of services due to extremes in weather conditions; SWCDs actively implement programs to protect and restore communities from natural disasters. Forecasts indicate extreme drought and flooding in future years. Examples of implemented projects include:

- Lahaina Temporary Flood Control Project
- Funding to haul water to drought impacted farmers and ranchers.

The investment by the State of Hawaii is a critical component to enable our SWCDs to continue their programs, as listed above, and will be leveraged with Federal and County funds to help make the greatest impact. With all of our SWCD Directors being volunteers, we hope that the Legislature can see the value and importance that our program has made on our Island communities. We sincerely appreciate your time and respectfully request your **support in passing SB 808**.

As an alternative to this separate appropriation, **HACD REQUESTS THAT THE FUNDING BE PLACED IN THE DLNR BASE BUDGET**. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 808-230-4228.

I appreciate this opportunity to provide input on this important matter.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 5:28 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: grayboy24@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Takayama	Waiakea Soil and Water Conservation District	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.

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LATE

March 29, 2017

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

Strong support of SB 808, SD1, HD1 - Relating to the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (Makes an appropriation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts.)

FIN Hearing: Thursday, March 30, 2017, at 2:00 p.m., in Conf. Rm. 308

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, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF is in **strong support of SB 808, SD1, HD1.**

SB 808, SD1, HD1. This bill proposes to appropriate moneys from the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACDs) to assist with its operational expenses and staffing costs.

LURF's Position. LURF is in **strong support** of this measure to appropriate funds the HACDs, because the soil and water conservation districts have worked to improve Hawaii's environment and economy through major projects over the past sixty years, such as improving farm practices, reducing erosion, augmenting ocean water quality, improving drinking water quality, and fighting invasive species.

In addition, the HACDs assist with reviewing each county's grading permits and conservation plans that are critical to proper county grading permit reviews, preserving the environment, stimulating the economy, and maintaining individual livelihoods. Soil and water conservation districts also provide educational and community support for conservation awareness, including introducing elementary school students to conservation principles and participating in high school resource conservation and development projects.

The demand and accompanying workload of the HACDs have increased dramatically with population growth and land use changes. The HACDs receive hundreds of requests for reviews of conservation plans and county grading permit each year. As a result, HACDs are currently struggling to keep pace with the demand, and adequate funding for the work of the HACDs is in serious jeopardy at a time of critical demand for its services.

For the above reasons, LURF **strongly supports SB 808, SD1, HD1** and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

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



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:20 PM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
 Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB808 on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM*

SB808

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	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.

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HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808 543 0011 • Fax: 808 528 0922

LATE

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 30, 2017

S.B. 808, SD1, HD 1 – RELATING TO THE
HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO has concerns with the intent of S.B. 808, SD1, HD1, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operational expenses and staffing costs of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts.

The purpose to educate the public and construct and maintain conservation projects and programs in Hawaii, review each county's grading permits and conservation plans, and to educate all farmers, including immigrant farmers on government services and the processes in filing for permits is beneficial to the State of Hawaii. However, the concern is that any moneys that are appropriated, are intended to hire private staff. Should the legislature appropriate moneys, it should be to hire additional Department of Land and Natural Resources employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for S.B. 808, SD1, HD1..

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director