

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

KEKOA KALUHIWA  
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on  
WATER AND LAND  
and  
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 16, 2017  
2:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In Consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 636, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION

House Bill 636, House Draft 1 proposes to establish within the Commission on Water Resource Management a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program for county-owned public water systems to implement their respective water conservation incentive programs. This measure also appropriates an unspecified sum out of an unspecified special fund for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and the same sum for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for this two-year pilot program. **While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this bill due to the proposed special funding source, the Department nonetheless appreciates the overall concept of this bill as it includes initiatives supportive of our goals and objectives.**

House Bill 636, House Draft 1 changes the source of funding from general funds to special funds. Due to the limited and restricted nature of special fund accounts and the fact that the majority of funding is used to cover operational expenses, there is no guarantee that available appropriate funding will be available to support this pilot water conservation program.

Fresh water is Hawaii's most precious natural resource. It is imperative that water utilities and their customers become as efficient as possible when it comes to using water. Water conservation is one of the most cost-effective long-term water supply options for a utility. Successful water conservation programs can help to preserve our limited water supplies to provide for society's growing needs while ensuring abundant water for future generations. County-owned water utilities can reduce their customer per-capita water use by carefully

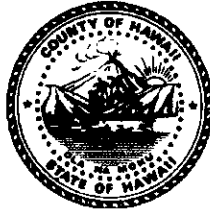
implementing demand-side water conservation programs and measures – which will require funding resources.

House Bill 636, House Draft 1 proposes to provide funding to county-owned water utilities on a one-to-one cost share basis. Providing a state-funded cost share directly to the county water supply departments will incentivize these utilities to implement water conservation programs and to stretch available county funding.

**The Department notes that a Senate companion bill, Senate Bill 635, Senate Draft 2, proposes to establish the water conservation program within each of the four county water supply departments. The Senate version also proposes that general funds be appropriated for the pilot water conservation program and that funding be distributed and expended equally by each of the four county water supply departments. The Department prefers this version of the initiative.** Appropriating funding directly to the county water supply departments recognizes county home rule authority and would make the proposed water conservation program more efficient while streamlining implementation of the respective program activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Wil Okabe  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i  
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA. 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 14, 2017

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,  
and Military Affairs  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairs Rhoads, Nishihara, and Members,

**RE: HB 636 HD 1  
Relating to Water Conservation**

As the purpose clause of HB 636, HD1, makes clear, Hawaii needs to become as efficient as possible in its uses of limited fresh water supplies. A water conservation program that provides financial assistance to county-owned public water systems and their customers to help implement water conservation would, almost certainly, be a valuable tool.

Whether the Legislature can find money for such a program is obviously a dilemma that only you can solve, but if funding can be provided, we hope that HB 636 will become law.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Kim".

Harry Kim  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII

345 KEKŪANAŌ'A STREET, SUITE 20 • HILO, HAWAII 96720

TELEPHONE (808) 961-8050 • FAX (808) 961-8657

March 15, 2017

Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair,  
Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members  
Committee on Water and Land  
Hawai'i State Senate  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair,  
Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Hawai'i State Senate  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads and Chair Nishihara:

**Subject: House Bill 636, HD1 – Relating to Water Conservation**  
**Hearing: March 16, 2017, 2:15 p.m.**

The Department of Water Supply, County of Hawai'i (HDWS), supports House Bill (HB) 636, HD1, which establishes, within the Commission on Water Resource Management, a two-year water conservation pilot program to provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems in order to implement their respective water conservation incentive programs. This program would provide a financial incentive to our water customers and encourage them to participate in sustaining Hawai'i's fresh water resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration on HDWS's testimony for this proposed bill. Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (808) 961-8050.

Sincerely yours,

Keith K. Okamoto, P.E.  
Manager-Chief Engineer

KKU:dmj

*...Water, Our Most Precious Resource ...Ka Wai A Kāne...*

The Department of Water Supply is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer



*Water has no substitute.....Conserve it*

Testimony of  
Kirk Saiki, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer  
Before the Committee on Water and Land  
And  
Before the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Thursday, March 16, 2017  
2:15 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

March 14, 2017

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
And Members  
of the Committee on Water and Land  
The Honorable Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
And Members  
of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
State Senate  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: HB636, HD1; SB 635, SD2, RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION**

The Department of Water, County of Kaua'i **SUPPORTS** HB636, House Draft 1, Senate Bill 635, Senate Draft 2 which establishes a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program, within the Commission on Water Resource Management, to provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems to implement their respective water conservation incentive programs.

This financial assistance program will provide incentives to encourage a greater number of residents to take part in an important sustainability goal to improve Hawai'i's long-term water security.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any further questions feel free to call me at (808) 245-5408.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Saiki".

Kirk Saiki P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

Enclosure

## BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843  
www.boardofwatersupply.com



March 16, 2017

KIRK CALDWELL, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair  
ADAM C. WONG, Vice Chair  
DAVID C. HULIHEE  
KAPUA SPROAT  
KAY C. MATSUI

ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI, Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.  
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer *EEL*

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Water and Land  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 204  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Nishihara, and Members:

Subject: House Bill 636, House Draft 1 Relating to Water Conservation

We strongly support House Bill 636, House Draft (HD) 1, which establishes a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program, within the Commission on Water Resource Management, to provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems to implement their respective water conservation incentive programs.

This financial assistance program will provide incentives to encourage a greater number of residents to take part in an important sustainability goal to improve Hawaii's long-term water security.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony on House Bill 636, HD1.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER & LAND AND PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,  
& MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 16, 2017 — 2:15 p.m. — Room 229

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 636 HD 1, Relating to Water Conservation**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports HB 636 HD 1**, which provides funding for water conservation for county owned public water systems, because it aligns with our goal of creating more locally produced food.

Hawai'i's agricultural industry relies on a constant supply of water, but in times of drought, farmers and ranchers often struggle to keep their businesses alive. In recent years, the state has suffered through severe drought conditions including a two to three decade downward trend in rainfall, which heavily impacts our local agricultural communities. As droughts are increasing, it becomes more important for the Legislature to fund water conservation measures to protect our island's most valuable natural resource.

As Hawai'i's local food issues become more complex and challenging, organizations need additional resources and support to address and overcome them. We appreciate these committees' efforts to look at policies that support local food production.

We believe that by collaborating, we can help produce more local food and support an economically robust homegrown agriculture industry, which strengthens our community with fresh, healthy food. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*



Kyle Datta  
General Partner



Testimony of  
Christopher Delaunay, Government Relations Manager  
Pacific Resource Partnership

STATE OF HAWAII  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2017  
TIME: 2:15 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229

Aloha Chairs Rhoads & Nishihara and Vice Chairs Gabbard & Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

PRP **strongly supports** HB 636, HD1, Relating to Water Conservation, which establishes a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program to provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems.

Water conservation programs are essential to sustain and protect Hawaii's water supplies for future generations. This water conservation program will provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems and their customers to help implement water conservation technologies in our homes, businesses, institutions, and industrial buildings, which will limit water use and waste.

As such, we respectfully request your support for HB 636, HD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**(Continued From Page 1)**

About PRP

*Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.*



The Nature Conservancy  
Hawai'i Program  
923 Nu'uauu Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Tel(808) 537-4508  
Fax(808) 545-2019  
nature.org/hawaii

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting H.B. 636 HD1 Relating to Water Conservation  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Thursday, March 16, 2017, 2:15PM, Room 229

---

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

---

**The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 636 HD1** that would provide funding for county-owned public water systems to offer rebates or direct replacement programs for installation of water conserving technologies in homes and businesses.

Easily available fresh water is not a limitless resource here in the middle of the Pacific. In recent years, several locations in the state experienced prolonged drought. The University of Hawai'i's Rainfall Atlas catalogues fewer trade wind days and declining rainfall over the past century. Temperature records were broken across the state in recent summers and increased heat brings greater evaporation of surface water and soil moisture. Native 'ōhi'a and koa forests that are proving to be better at capturing and retaining rain water and moisture are being impaired by non-native plants like strawberry guava, ginger and albizia.

In response to these conditions, we must plan and implement mitigative and adaptive measures to ensure the resilience of our natural and human systems. One important strategy is to ensure that we have healthy Hawaiian forests that act like a sponge, collecting rain and moisture and delivering fresh water into streams and aquifers. **Additionally, we must improve efficiencies and reuse of our fresh water resources. An incentive program to support the installation of water conserving technologies in our homes, businesses and other institutions is an excellent step in this direction.**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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



**ONE WORLD ONE WATER, LLC**  
**677 ALA MOANA BLVD, SUITE 1100**  
**HONOLULU, HI 96713**  
[www.oneworldonewater.org](http://www.oneworldonewater.org)

Testimony on H.B. 636 HD1  
Relating to Water Conservation

Senate Committee on Water and Land  
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
2:15 P.M.  
Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land and Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs,

Subject: House Bill (HB) 636 HD1 Relating to Water Conservation

At One World One Water we are dedicated to reinvesting in water infrastructure and restoring natural environments, and **we strongly support HB 636 HD1** and the establishment of a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program. Water is essential not only for drinking but also for energy and food production, making it an important component of our economy. Unlike other states we cannot rely on our neighbors to provide water when we need it, therefore we must do everything we can to wisely manage our wai, our water, and our wealth.

Constrained freshwater resources in Hawaii and will only become more limited as climate change persists, meaning we must act now to promote water conservation, recharge, and reuse throughout our islands. Water conservation starts with efficiency, and this bill will help promote water efficiency through financial assistance to county-owned public water systems. Conserving potable water now is a proactive way of reducing future negative impacts of climate change or additional pressures on our water system.

As an organization committed to improving the quality and efficiency of our global water systems and resources, **we ask your support of HB 636 HD1** to invest in Hawaii's water future.

Please contact us at [globalwater@gmail.com](mailto:globalwater@gmail.com) should you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter.

Sincerely,  
*One World One Water*



*Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals and serve as a model for integrated green growth*

---

## Board of Directors

**Deanna Spooner**

Pacific Island Climate  
Change Cooperative

**June Matsumoto**

Pacific Islands Institute

**Ka'eo Duarte**

Kamehameha Schools

**Matt Lynch**

University of Hawai'i

**Mark Fox**

The Nature Conservancy

**Mike Hamnett**

Hawai'i Energy Policy  
Forum

**Piia Aarma**

Pineapple Tweed Public  
Relations & Marketing

**Pono Shim**

O'ahu Economic  
Development Board

**Scott Enright**

Department of Agriculture

**Scott Seu**

Hawaiian Electric  
Company

**Ulalia Woodside**

The Nature Conservancy

**William J. Aila Jr.**

Department of Hawaiian  
Homelands

**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth  
In Support of HB636 HD1 Relating to Water Conservation  
Senate Committees on Water and Land and  
Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
16 March 2017, 2:15 pm, Room 229**

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee:

**Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports HB636 HD1 to establish a two-year water conservation financial assistance pilot program to provide financial assistance to county-owned public water systems.**

The quantity and quality of fresh water directly impacts the health, welfare and quality of life of Hawai'i's residents and the affects the economy. Based on global climate disruption, increasingly severe weather and natural disasters, and projected long-term decline of rainfall, there is an urgency to invest in Hawai'i's freshwater supplies. Water conservation is among the least expensive and most efficient ways to increase the available supply of fresh water.

Hawai'i Green Growth partners agreed that fresh water security, including **HB636 HD1**, is an important priority to support implementation on Hawaii's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals. The Aloha+ Challenge is a joint leadership commitment launched by the State Legislature (SCR69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners. This statewide framework outlines six ambitious 2030 sustainability goals in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resource management, solid waste, smart sustainable communities, and green education and workforce. The Aloha+ Challenge has been recognized nationally and internationally as model that can be scaled to support the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

With leadership and support from the State Legislature, Hawai'i hosted the first U.S. held IUCN World Conservation Congress with over 10,000 global partners from 190 countries. **HB636 HD1** is an opportunity to continue important local action for Hawai'i's sustainable future.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **HB636 HD1** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.

**Testimony of Michael G. Buck**  
**on**  
**H.B. 636 HD1**  
**Relating to Water Conservation**

**Senate Committees on Water and Land / Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

**Thursday, March 16, 2017**  
**2:15 P.M.**  
**Conference Room 229**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 636, HD1, which proposes to establish a water conservation device rebate program. I am a member of the Commission on Water Resource Management and also participate as a member of Hawaii's Fresh Water Council. Our Council jointly and unanimously recommended key strategies and policies with an ultimate goal of creating 100 million gallons per day (mgd) in additional, reliable fresh water capacity by 2030. One of the key strategies to achieve this statewide water goal is to increase water conservation by 40 mgd over the next 15 years.

Several states facing water supply issues have successfully promoted the adoption of water saving devices, including rainwater harvesting systems to replace potable water use for yards and landscaping, soil moisture sensors for landscape irrigation, and water circulation pumps. The following considerations convinced the Council that encouraging water saving device adoption in Hawai'i homes should be a top priority:

- Among all 50 states, Hawai'i ranks in the top five in terms of our daily per capita water use at 156 gallons per day. Forty-four states use less than 120 gallons per day;
- The Honolulu Board of Water Supply estimates that up to half of all potable water delivered to residences is actually used for landscape irrigation;
- A single hot water recirculation pump is estimated to save 11,000 to 15,000 gallons of water per year in a typical home.

The rebate program established by H.B. 636 HD 1 has the potential to preserve hundreds of millions of gallons of fresh water per year, and is a critical component of a multi-pronged

strategy to improve Hawaii's long-term water security. For these reasons, I strongly support H.B. 636 HD 1, and respectfully request that the Committees pass this measure.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:14 AM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** hlg90266@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB636 on Mar 16, 2017 14:15PM\*

**HB636**

Submitted on: 3/15/2017

Testimony for WTL/PSM on Mar 16, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Heather George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:04 PM  
**To:** WTL Testimony  
**Cc:** launahele@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB636 on Mar 16, 2017 14:15PM\*

**HB636**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for WTL/PSM on Mar 16, 2017 14:15PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)