

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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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
WATER & LAND

Friday, March 23, 2018
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

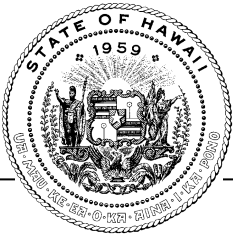
In consideration of
**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 152/HOUSE RESOLUTION 133
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND
TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY**

House Concurrent Resolution 152/House Resolution 133 urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), along with other governmental entities, to work with The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili. **The Department supports these measures.**

The Department supports the conservation and management of the many significant cultural, historic, recreational, and forested watershed features within Maunawili. Additionally, the Department will work with the landowner and interested parties in the community to purchase these lands, as appropriate, through collaborative, voluntary action to restore ecological connectivity within the ahupuaa and protect recreational access to Maunawili, Olomana, and Waimanalo, a host of archeological and historic sites, and important agricultural lands.

Community participation in the management of these lands would be a critical component to the success of Department restoration efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.



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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
Friday, March 23, 2018
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HCR 152 / HR 133
**RELATING TO SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND
RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN
MAUNAWILI VALLEY, OAHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND
COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND
HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the House Committee on Water and Land.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports HCR 152 / HR 133, which seeks to acquire, preserve and restore agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley. We support this concurrent resolution provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. HCR 152 / HR 133 would encourage the protection and conservation of the many agricultural and historic resources in Maunawili Valley. This resolution further urges that the relevant federal, State and county agencies work together to purchase Maunawili Valley from HRT Realty, LLC which has expressed an interest in selling its lands. Comprised of over 1,000 acres, this presents a welcome opportunity to work with the owner and various public agencies and private organizations to acquire the land, which includes the Royal Hawaiian Golf Course.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 8:17:37 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 10:22:31 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We STRONGLY SUPPORT this resolution. Mahalo.



Environmental Caucus
of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

March 21, 2018

Chair Ryan I. Yamane
Vice Chair Chris Todd
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen
Representative Nicole E. Lowen

Representative Sam Satoru Kong
Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey
Representative Chris Lee
Representative Cynthia Thielen

Re: HCR 152 / HR 133

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Position: STRONG SUPPORT.

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this important measure that aims to preserve the prime agricultural land in Maunawili and Kawainui, which is currently facing plans for extensive development. The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports measures that protect Hawai'i's precious natural resources, as does the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform.

This land has important agricultural, historical, cultural, and community value. It is traditional Hawaiian knowledge that the soil in Maunawili is the most fertile in the ahupua'a, if not the entire island:

"Palawai [in Maunawili] was the place where taro was planted most and that was the taro that supplied the chiefs when they called for ho'okupu."

- Hika'alani, Born in Kailua circa 1821

Maunawili is currently home to a thriving lo'i which hosts educational workdays for local schools, teaching students valuable lessons in farming, physical exercise, ecosystem science, community values, Hawaiian culture, and history.

Any development and interruptions to the streams in Maunawili will impact the rest of the waterways from the Kawainui marsh to the ocean. Reducing the streamflow would be devastating to the marsh ecosystem, which provides primary habitat for four of Hawaii's endemic and endangered waterbirds, including Laysan Duck and Nene Goose.

The Environmental Caucus, on behalf of our general members who voted to protect and preserve Agricultural resources as a priority, respectfully urge this committee to pass this measure. It is now more important than ever to increase sustainable local food production, protect critical habitat for native species, and promote responsible natural resource stewardship to preserve what's left of our environment.

Mahalo for your efforts to secure an environmentally sustainable future for Hawai'i. Our community, livelihood, and economy depend on it.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalia Hussey-Burdick
Secretary
(808) 688-3481
ecodemhi@gmail.com

Testimony Supporting HCR152 and HR133
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo'i
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 23, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS
AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Committee Members,

The Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation of our Hawaiian people, culture, and natural resources. We have held fast to the same threefold mission in the six decades of our existence; we strive to: 1- advance the appreciation, study, and practice of Hawaiian culture, 2- enrich the lives of Hawaiians and our Kailua community, and 3- mālama the lands, waters, and wahi pana of our ahupua'a.

We are one of the founding members of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui – the lead organization in the effort to restore Maunawili to its vital and traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a – and we enjoy very close relationships with a number of Kailua's Hawaiian organizations including: 'Ahahui Mālama ka Lōkahi ('āina educator-curators at Nā Pōhaku o Hauwahine), Hika'alani ('āina educator-curators at Ulupō Heiau), Ho'okua'āina ('āina educator-curators at Kapalai), Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima (hula educator-curators at Ka'ōhao), and Kailua Kau a Ho'oilo (iwi kūpuna curators at Wai'auia).

It was in conjunction with these partner organizations that we introduced resolution 2017-30 at the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs' convention held in November of 2017. The resolution URGING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MAUNAWILI VALLEY LANDS was passed on the floor of this Seattle convention, speaks with the authority of our 58-club, 300-delegate organization, and is included in the appendix to this letter.

In brief, our club and association recognize the enormous value of the 900 acres of Maunawili lands currently owned by HRT-Weinberg and the land's consequent vulnerability to subdivision and gentleman-estate development. The land is storied. It lives in the mele and mo'olelo of our ancestors. It is the land of Liliu'okalani's "Aloha 'Oe," of Keko'owai's "Makalei Ka Laau Pii Ona A Ka Ia," of "He Ua La He Ua," "Palila," "Lonokaeho," and "Pele and Hi'iaka." The land is extraordinarily fertile. Its Hanalei soils supplied the entire district of Ko'olaupoko with an abundance of food, and its now weed-swallowed lo'i are still the envy of taro farmers the island over. The land supports a network of springs and streams that once fed the equally

productive Kawainui fishpond, and these waters are still inextricably related to the health of our wetlands, canal, and bay. The land, finally and ultimately, is our parent. What we learn in the scattered pockets of ‘āina that we are currently able to mālama (at Ulupō, at Nā Pōhaku, at Kapalai) is that ‘āina nurtures us in ways that cannot be quantified on spread sheets or statements of profit and loss. It is inseparable from who we are and how we define ourselves. Maunawili is all this writ large.

We believe that its value, though staggering in terms of real-estate potential, is considerably more important to our community as a place of sustainability and healing. Of food sovereignty. Of cultural education and grounding. Of environmental stewardship. Of hope for a future that is less and less dependent on imported economies.

It is because of our long-term commitment to aloha ‘āina, to our unwavering love for our land, that we therefore offer our emphatic support for HCR152 and HR133.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,



Kīhei de Silva

2nd Vice President, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club

desilvak009@gmail.com

<http://kailuahawaiiancivicclub.org/index.html>

**ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-30
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 2017
URGING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF
MAUNAWILI VALLEY LANDS**

WHEREAS, Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a of Kailua is celebrated in story and chant for its association with akua, ali‘i, and cultural heroes; and

WHEREAS, Maunawili valley contains wetlands, streams and/or freshwater springs that provide most of the water that flows to the Kawainui Marsh ecosystem and more than 50 springs and smaller streams are present, including Maunawili Stream, the most significant stream in the ahupua‘a; and

WHEREAS, ancient and historic sites throughout Maunawili valley include heiau, sacred stones, petroglyphs, Hawaiian burials, alanui, house sites, grinding stones, irrigated and dryland agricultural terraces, large ‘auwai related to extensive lo‘i, and nineteenth and early twentieth

century structures related to agriculture and food production; and

WHEREAS, the 1994 Kawainui Master Plan recommended the State acquire the privately-owned Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are hydrologically part of Kawainui Marsh and separated only by the highway and that acquisition would “protect the wetlands from future undesired developments” and inappropriate alteration of the landscape and waterways; and

WHEREAS, the State has not secured these Maunawili lands, which remain privately owned; and

WHEREAS, HRT Ltd., owner of more than 1,000 acres in Maunawili including the Royal Hawaiian Golf Course, has filed applications with the City Department of Planning and Permitting to subdivide hundreds of acres of open space and important agricultural lands in Maunawili valley; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to protect and conserve the Maunawili wetlands, semi-wetlands, proposed Important Agricultural Lands, fresh water resources, ancient and historic sites, and historic trails within the vital context of agricultural sustainability; and

WHEREAS, there is also a need to provide managed and restricted access to State trails in proximity to Maunawili Historic Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas and The Queen’s Retreat; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui is a group of descendants and residents of Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition of Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations, including the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club, who have joined together to protect prime agricultural and culturally significant lands in Maunawili; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui seeks to restore the health of Maunawili so that the valley can resume its vital and traditional role in the ahupua‘a of Kailua as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has been increasing public awareness of Maunawili’s significance, as a source of freshwater for the ahupua‘a of Kailua with important agricultural lands, and a place rich with natural, cultural and historic resources; and

WHEREAS, Governor David H. Ige has declared a state goal to double local food production by 2020, which is in line with Maunawili’s legacy as historically fertile ground for the production of food crops; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has met with numerous State and County officials and elected representatives to express the need to protect and preserve the Maunawili lands and to seek both institutional and financial support toward that end; and

WHEREAS, Hui members have met with HRT Ltd. representatives and are now working in partnership with national and local trust entities that purchase and manage lands to identify ways to acquire HRT properties in Maunawili; and

WHEREAS, HRT Ltd. is the property holder for the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, whose purpose is to address the needs of children, the poor, and the disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Weinberg Foundation aligns with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui's collective social conscience and stated responsibility to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of this region and the traditions associated with them, which are vital to the well-being of Hawai'i and its people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 58th Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, in the malama of 'Ikuwā and the rising of Māhealani, this 4th day of November 2017, [INSERT THE TITLE (VERBATIM)]; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs supports the efforts of the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to protect and conserve the Maunawili lands and urges HRT Ltd. to work with the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui toward the purchase of the HRT Maunawili lands to bring to fruition a larger, truly community-based vision of restoring Maunawili to its vital and traditional role in the ahupua'a as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs urges the State and County to work with the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire these important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Jill Tokuda, Senator Laura Thielen, Representative Chris Lee, Representative Ken Ito, Representative Cynthia Thielen, Chairperson Suzanne Case of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, Honolulu City Councilmember Ikaika Anderson, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, all County Mayors.

[The official text of this resolution is being sent as testimony for **HCR152 and HR133** by Benton Keali'i Pang, Association Director and legislative liaison for the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs]

Testimony of Hika‘alani on HCR 152 and HR 133

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY

Hearing

House Committee on Water and Land

Friday, March 23, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Todd, and Committee Members:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of Hika‘alani in **strong support** of HCR 152 and HR 133, supporting the purchase, preservation, and restoration of more than 900-acres of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a of Kailua.

Hika‘alani is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, founded in 2010, dedicated to the restoration of indigenous land-use, culture, and identity in Kailua, O‘ahu. We are educators, scholars, and practitioners of Hawaiian culture with deep-rooted ties to our Kailua home. We are currently based at Ulupō Heiau State Park where, as the DLNR-sanctioned curators of those 11 acres, we have removed invasive vegetation, replanted natives, rebuilt walls, restored more than 20 lo‘i kalo for non-commercial community consumption, and conducted educational programs for O‘ahu students and educators in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools. In 2017, we hosted 3,000 service learners from more than 25 schools and community organizations. Because of our program’s success, we are expecting close to 5,000 service learners in 2018. As a measure of the growing recognition of our work, we were honored that members of our team gave both the keynote address and served as site-visit hosts for the Department of Education’s HĀ summit, held earlier this month at Windward Community College.

Because of our work at Ulupō and Kawainui, protecting the network of streams that feed Kawainui is of vital importance to Hika‘alani. We recognize that the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands and that they are really part of the same ecological system, artificially divided by the highway. The Maunawili wetlands, together with Kawainui, constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua‘a. From our work in the area we currently care for and restore at Ulupō Nui, we see in the Maunawili lands the potential for agriculture, and the culture associated with that agriculture. This is especially true because the Maunawili lands include almost all of Kailua’s Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai‘i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase local food production. Hika‘alani would be happy to have the opportunity to be part of a group of mahi‘ai (farmers) to open up the rich agricultural and kalo lands of Maunawili.

Hika‘alani hopes some day to have a presence in Maunawili, as we do at Ulupō, to expand our work. We believe that the health of people is mirrored in the health of the land and vice-versa. We know this connection is compounded when we analyze Hawaiian people and Hawaiian lands. If we work to clean and restore our lands, we are also restoring the health, identity, and survival of the people.

When our community and particularly our youth come to the sacred ancestral sites of Ulupō, Kukanono, and Kawainui, we explain the stories of these places – the akua, aumākua, and the people associated with these places. The immediate paradigm shift that occurs in our community as they learn these stories and step into the foot holds of our kūpuna are unbelievable. We know many of the stories of Maunawili and of the heiau, sacred stones, trails, and even more recent historical sites, such as the Queen’s Retreat, in Maunawili. But knowing those stories in the abstract, as opposed to being able to see and experience them on the ‘āina, to actually step into the foot holds of our kūpuna, is a very different matter.

We still have springs flowing out of the base of Ulupō and into lo‘i kalo, the waters of the Kawainui fishpond are still there beneath the invasive species, and we still have the people who know how to care for these resources. All it takes are safe sites of connection in and around our Kailua ahupua‘a for our community groups and school groups to access, learn, understand, and love. We envision a similar process taking place for the Maunawili lands – lands where kalo can grow abundantly, where we can step into the foot holds of our kūpuna, and where our young people can flourish.

The opportunity for many government agencies and public organizations working together to purchase the lands currently owned by HRT Realty, Inc., in Maunawili is unprecedented. Many of our members live in Maunawili or have deep ancestral ties to Maunawili, and we at Hika‘alani are excited by this opportunity and strongly support this collaborative effort.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present Hika‘alani’s testimony on HCR 152 and HR 133.

Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie
Secretary/Treasurer of Hika‘alani

Bert Kaleomanuiwa Wong
Paku‘i Hou, Hika‘alani Program Director for Ulupō Nui

Hika‘alani website: hikaalani.website/index.html

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 10:10:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler Jones	Hawaii Agriculture Research Center	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting HCR152 and HR133
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo‘i
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 23, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
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ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS
AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

March 21, 2018

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Committee Members,

I am Māpuana de Silva, a 67-year resident of Ka‘ōhao, Kailua, O‘ahu, and the founder of Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima (HMI) a school of traditional hula that, like me, is Kailua-grounded and Kailua-strong.

I founded my school in January 1976, five months after I graduated as kumu hula from Aunty Maiki Aiu Lake. In the 42 years since Aunty Maiki’s little blessing of the concrete slab in my mother’s back yard, my hālau has become something of an anchor institution in the often troubled seas of contemporary Hawaiian culture. I credit this success to the many loyal students of that concrete slab (and its later iterations) who have established themselves in all walks of life without surrendering their ties to the core values of our kūpuna. I credit it, as well, to HMI’s early and ongoing focus on the land to which we are most closely attached – to Kailua, Ko‘olaupoko, O‘ahu – and to Kailua’s enormously rich legacy of celebrated places and people, of chant, dance, story, and song. Briefly put, our love for our ancestors and ‘āina has allowed us to hold fast in the turning tide.

I am writing, with the full support of my students and their families, in equally full support of the HCR 152 and HR 133 resolutions to endorse the efforts of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to purchase, preserve, and restore the 900-plus acres of HRT-owned lands in Maunawili Valley. These lands are invaluable to us for reasons that I will do my best to explain below.

First: as keepers of the mele and mo‘olelo (the chants, songs, and stories) of Kailua – and of the hula that accompany them – we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the very lands that lie at the heart of our ancestral literature. We point, for example, to “Makalei ka

Laau Pii Ona a ka Ia,” a long, complex, and chant-filled story of a boy from Maunawili who is instrumental in restoring fish and taro abundance to his ahupua‘a. The parallels between this centuries-old story and the current conditions in upper Maunawili are striking; what better way to instruct our youth in pono (harmony, balance, righteous behavior and action) than to teach this mo‘olelo and its accompanying poetry on the restored lands to which it constantly refers.

Second: as an affiliate of Hika‘alani (the non-profit curators of the 11 acres that constitute the Ulupō Heiau State Park) and as members of Hika‘alani’s volunteer army of small-scale taro farmers on the banks of lower Kawainui, we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the network of Maunawili springs and streams that feeds Kawainui. The health of one is contingent on the health of the other. Both, in fact, are one and the same, and the vision we have of a thriving Kawainui fishpond and a taro-rich perimeter will not come to pass without a concerted effort to mālama the source of the “Big Fresh Water.”

Third: as food-sovereignty advocates and practitioners, we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the incredibly fertile taro lands of Maunawili. We are long-time allies and partners of Mark Stride and Dean Wilhelm (Maunawili taro farmers/educators/healers par excellence), and we dream with them over how those now weed-invaded Hanalei soils might again feed our community and serve as the ultimate classroom-without-walls for what Dean calls “rebuilding lives from the ground up.”

And Fourth: as partners of Kailua Kau a Ho‘oilu, the native Hawaiian organization dedicated to caring and speaking for Kailua’s iwi kūpuna, we urge the purchase and protection of Maunawili lands on which potential burials may exist and where a burial treatment plan for a 1980s discovery of ancestral remains in the area of the Queen’s Retreat has yet to be approved. Mary Kawena Pukui has reminded us that our iwi kūpuna are our greatest treasure; we cannot countenance their neglect and possible abuse if we are to define ourselves as caretakers of the land from which we were born.

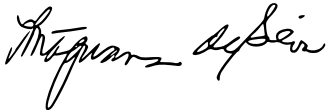
In conclusion, allow me to offer an old but new vision of a restored Maunawili as it connects to an equally restored Kawainui and a thriving ahupua‘a. It was published in the Hawaiian language newspaper *Kuokoa* on January 13, 1922, and is said to have been composed many centuries earlier by the people of Kailua in joyful tribute to the name and good works of their overseer chief, Ahiki. Indeed, the magnitude of Ahiki’s generosity and kind leadership was such that “me he mea la, aole lakou he poe okoa, aka, he ohana koko pono no keia konohiki a ka lokomaikai nui wale” – it was as if they were not a separate people but of the same family and blood as this extraordinarily good-hearted konohiki. So great, in fact, was their esteem for Ahiki that they gave his name to one of the Olomana peaks, and “ua paa ia inoa ahiki loa mai ia kaua e

ka mea heluhelu i keia la” – and this name has held fast all the long way to us, O reader, in this our own day.

Ki‘eki‘e i luna ke kū ‘o Ahiki
Holo ana ke aka i Kawainui
Nānā a‘e ‘oe i ke alo pali
He maika‘i nō mai luna a lalo
A lalo ē
I laila māua me ka Malanai
E wehe aku i ka lau o ke ‘uki
‘Āwili me ka neki o Mokulana
Me ka i‘a ho‘opā ‘ili kānaka
I laila ē
A he waiwai nō ka hale, e ku‘u aloha
Nou nō ka hewa i ke kipa ‘ole ‘ana mai
‘A‘ole anei ē?

High above is the peak, Ahiki
Its shadow sails below on Kawainui
Won’t you look at the face of the pali
So beautiful from top to bottom
To the bottom, indeed.
The two of us could be there in the Malanai
Parting the leaves of ‘uki
Entwined with the sedges of Mokulana
With fish that finds our skins irresistible
There, indeed.
This house has great value, my beloved
And it would be a shame if you didn’t visit
Isn’t this so?

Mahalo nui for your attention and consideration,



Māpuana de Silva
Founder, Director, and Lead Teacher
Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima
kumumapuana@gmail.com

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 6:29:19 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 7:01:52 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael D Kelso	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 6:12:11 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maya Saffery	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

21 March 2018

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HR133

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O’AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha kākou,

I thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in strong support of **HR133**.

My name is Maya L. Kawailanaokeawaiki Saffery. I was born and raised in the valley of Maunawili. As a Native Hawaiian of the ahupua’a of Kailua, a lifelong resident of Maunawili, a cultural practitioner of traditional hula who received my training and continues to practice my culture within Kailua, and a Hawaiian language curriculum developer from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa whose research focuses on the importance of place to the education of Hawai’i’s children, I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

I began studying traditional hula in 1989 at the age of nine when my mother signed me up for Hālau Māhala ‘Ilima based in Ka’aha, Kailua, Ko’olaupoko, O’ahu. I learn hula, chants, and songs that honor our gods, our royalty, our sacred places, and our histories. The words I continue to give voice to and the motions I continue to give life to are the same words and motions that my hula ancestors practiced for generations and that I continue to perpetuate into the future. We are taught in our hālau that researching the many-layered meanings of our mele and hula and then presenting them on the land for the purpose of honoring the place and remembering the people and events connected to that place are all part of what is required when you accept the kuleana (responsibility) to practice traditional hula. I take this kuleana very seriously. The purchase, preservation, and restoration of these parcels of land in Maunawili will

allow hula practitioners of Kailua like myself to fulfill this kuleana because it provides for the restoration and revitalization of cultural and natural resources related to our wahi pana (sacred sites). This important work will in turn provide better opportunities for us to live our culture in relation to these wahi pana from the back of Maunawili where Lili'uokalani was once hosted by our community over a century ago, to the many heiau and ancient agricultural complexes that still exist throughout the valley, to the mouth of the valley where a network of streams feed into Kawainui fishpond that once fed the communities of Kailua, Waimānalo, and Kāne'ohe.

As a Hawaiian language curriculum developer from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, I strive to engage students in culturally grounded curricula and pedagogies that honor and nurture the kanaka-'Āina (person-land) relationship. Not only do I believe that this approach is essential for the education of Hawaiian students, but 'Āina-based/conscious education can also benefit all students. By grounding our curriculum and pedagogy in the study of place, we are able to offer our students learning experiences that connect to where they come from, who they are, and how they see the world. Students develop deeper relationships with the places they call home, thus motivating them to become more actively engaged in the protection and stewardship of their own environments and the empowerment of their own communities. I am excited about upcoming opportunities for educators like myself, especially those from Kailua, to develop curriculum about Kailua for Kailua's children who will benefit greatly from engaging directly with the sites that will be preserved, restored, managed, and cared for through the purchase of these extremely valuable agricultural, cultural, and historical lands of Maunawili.

Finally, I am a Native Hawaiian of Kailua who has been raised by these lands of Maunawili for my entire life and continues to make my home in the protective embrace of the Ko'olau mountains. The oral histories of my ancestors from four and five centuries past further corroborated by written accounts in primary source materials describe Kailua, and specifically the rich agricultural lands of Maunawili, as a nexus of cultural excellence in our islands as well as a bountiful, calabash-like land division able to support a large population. The bounty of natural and cultural resources cared for and cultivated by the people of Kailua not only fed their community but also attracted Hawaiian royalty throughout the centuries, from the high-ranking chief Kāne'ihewa, who made Kailua one of his permanent residences and seats of political power for the entire island of O'ahu in the fifteenth century to Queen Lili'uokalani, who was regularly hosted by the natives of Kailua at magnificent feasts and celebrations in the nineteenth century. A strong, enduring relationship between our people, their places, and their cultural practices created a strong, thriving community in Kailua who had the knowledge and skills to produce and maintain the resources needed to grow and support their families over the generations. It is my strong belief that the purchase, preservation, and restoration of these 900+ acres in Maunawili will allow for the re-establishment of a piko (center) of stewardship and learning in Kailua where our community can once again gather to study, teach, and promote land-based Hawaiian cultural knowledge and practices for the purposes of feeding and growing healthy, balanced, and abundant lands and people for generations to come.

For all these reasons, I strongly urge you to support **HR133**.

Mahalo nui,

Maya Saffery

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HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 7:37:52 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Powell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha,

I, Josh Powell, friend and ohana to the Mauna Wili community, strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001. Please keep the long lasting Hawaiian culture alive by allowing for the purchase and preservation of these lands. Over the last decade or so, the Mauna Wili valley has become a big part of my life. My wife was raised with Olo Mana watching over her and has lived in this valley her entire life. Her grandparents, aunts and cousins have spent their lives preserving the heritage that transcends thru the generations here. Please don't give way to the modern world. Don't be driven to change something that teaches us all so much without saying a word. Let it remain. Let it stay "Aloha". It is not just a special place to Hawaii, it is a special place to the world . A shrine. A monument. And we have a responsibility to protect all of its resources, everything it teaches, and the integrity and Aloha that it has given to all of us for so many generations. The truth is in your heart... Mahalo

I am Josh Powell. My fiancé is Marie Medosi/Pope. Her mother is Barbara Pope. Her Aunt is Deborah Pope. Father, Fabrizio Medosi. Cousins Will and John Foster. And numerous other friends and family of the community

Re: SCR95, SR55, HCR152, HR133 - Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i.
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND
URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND
PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN
MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Maunawili has always been close to my heart. My family moved to the valley in 1959, when I was in second grade, so for most of my childhood I grew up there, living in a house on the original Maunawili Road (now Maunawili Loop). When my siblings and I were young, we spent endless hours and days playing down by the stream or freely exploring around the valley. My mom continued to live there for the rest of her life, and my sister and her family now live in our old family home, so I have made frequent trips to the valley for as long as I can remember.

I feel very strongly about the importance of preserving the still-undeveloped lands in Maunawili. Obviously for me the valley has intense personal importance, but I feel its preservation is essential for the entire community as well, for the following main reasons:

- To preserve what is left of the rural character of Windward Oahu.
- To protect the flow of fresh water from Maunawili Valley down to Kawainui marsh, which will maintain the ecological health of the entire area and protect the wildlife that lives there.
- To use the rich soils of Maunawili for agricultural purposes as much as possible, especially because food security in Hawaii is so tenuous due to the lack of adequate local food production.
- To protect numerous historical cultural sites in the valley, including Lili'uokalani's "Queen's Retreat" and also heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.
- To provide opportunities to solve the problematic issues surrounding access to and use of Maunawili Falls Trail and Olomana Trail.

I am extremely encouraged that there are ongoing discussions among various government and community parties to put together a plan for a voluntary conservation sale of these Maunawili lands from the current landowner, which will ensure that they are preserved for the future of our community. It would be a disaster if those precious lands were allowed to be sold for sham agricultural "gentlemen's estates" for wealthy homeowners who have no real intention to use the lands for genuine agricultural use. I ask you to please support the efforts to purchase, preserve, and restore these agricultural and conservation lands.

Mahalo for your attention.

Marcia Kemble
2055 Makiki St.
Honolulu, HI 96822
(h) 941-6453

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 10:18:08 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emma Broderick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Ko'olaupoko is my 'Āina and Kailua is my home. My mother raised my siblings and I just miles from where she herself spent her childhood. I was raised walking to school at 'Aikahi, body surfing in Kalama's shore break, and gazing up at Konahuanui. I volunteer at 'Ulupāina with the conservation organization I work with now and share this pu'uhonua with the young adults I serve alongside. Kailua has been a constant in my life and a place I can always return to.

This 'Āina is vital to the health of our people, our culture, and our future. This soil is ripe for growth and can once again be cultivated to support some of Kailua and Hawai'i's growing food demands. The stories of this place and its history can continue to be shared with youth and community members so they can know and understand their culture. They can see the truth of the stories in the heiau, petroglyphs and agricultural terraces that remain. And we can invest in the future health and wellbeing of the community by ensuring that streams continue to flow, our native and endangered species have homes to return to, and pono agriculture is supported.

Maunawili can serve as an example for Hawai'i. What Hawai'i needs now is leaders who invest in our shared future and make decisions that benefit the total wellbeing of our communities. I envision a day when this land will be abundant with waiwai and with life. Where we can be proud of how we chose to uphold our kuleana to aloha 'Āina and were therefore nourished by 'Āina aloha.

Mahalo nui,

Emma Broderick

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 11:11:43 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Re: HR133 - Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i.

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Representatives,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the 900+ privately owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

As a resident of East O'ahu, I am most grateful for the preservation of the Ka Iwi State Scenic Shoreline in 2017 through the partnership of the community, the State, and the City and County of Honolulu.

I therefore support the community of Maunawili in their quest to preserve their valuable cultural sites and agricultural lands for the existing community and future generations. Development of these lands could not only obliterate culturally significant sites but would destroy important agricultural and watershed areas. Also of prime importance is the preservation of natural habitats for native and endangered species of plants and wildlife.

I urge the State to join with the community in conserving this area for all of the people of Hawai'i, not just the residents of Maunawili. As with the Ka Iwi shoreline, the valley of Maunawili is important for all who value open space and the traditional landscape.

Mahalo for your consideration of these resolutions and this testimony.

Elizabeth Lee

Honolulu, Hawai'i

eliz@hawaii.rr.com

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 6:48:03 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

We must preserve our green space!!! And not over develope it! Thanks

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 7:28:34 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Luning	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I submit this testimony on behalf of my family, residents of Kailua since 1945. We strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Maunawili has been a treasured land for my family -- for my father, who was an avid hiker, and for my children and grandchildren who have walked the trails and enjoyed the waterfalls. For the welfare of the entire community and of the island, it is extremely important that the integrity of these lands is restored and maintained.

As the central watershed of the entire ahupua'a of Kailua, the health of Maunawili valley is vital to the health of all the waterways in Kailua for agricultural success and by extension, the health of Kailua's near ocean and reefs. Purchase and protection of this land would go a long way to insure the future health of the ecosystems in Kailua.

Furthermore, State oversight of this land would ensure the protection of its many storied sites, including the Queen's Retreat (sadly overgrown and in danger of being lost), and preserve them as cultural wahi pana for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Charlene (Borges) Luning

(808) 554-5868

1015 Aoloa PI #241, Kailua HI 96734

charluning@gmail.com

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 8:52:00 AM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
susan pignataro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting HCR152 and HR133
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 23, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Committee Members,

Our family, fourth generation residents of Kailua, strongly supports the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Our grandfather/great-grandfather moved his family to Kailua in 1929 to work at the Maunawili Training School for Girls at Kawailoa, the site of today's O'ahu Youth Correction Facility. One of his jobs was to oversee the maintenance of the water systems that delivered Maunawili's abundant water to Waimanalo plantations and the Maunawili Training School. He introduced us – by jeep and on foot -- to this exceptionally bountiful place – Maunawili – with its streams, freshwater springs, rice fields tilled by water buffalo, a poi factory, small farms and nurseries all sustained by free-flowing water and exceptionally fertile soil.

Our family moved to Maunawili in 1951 and still lives bordering TMK 42007001, part of the historic Maunawili wetlands that are largely comprised of Hanalei Series Soil – the most fertile soil in the islands. The elders in our family vividly remember the Maunawili that was still productive agricultural land. Nearly all of this was lost in the early 1960s with the first residential subdivisions, the diversion of streams and eventually the eviction of farmers by new landowners.

We are concerned by the applications to the City to subdivide five parcels and nearly 1,000 acres into agricultural subdivisions; and greatly encouraged by the private landowner's willingness to work with The Trust for Public Land on a Letter of Intent to effect a conservation purchase of their Maunawili lands. Maunawili's many resources – which are outlined so eloquently in this resolution -- are too important to squander on fake farms and gentleman's estates, which sadly is the fate of agricultural subdivisions in Hawai'i. We have all seen it.

This is a rare moment – a very important opportunity to reclaim and care for land that rightfully belongs in the public domain. The Trust for Public Land, DLNR, the Department of Agriculture and community groups throughout Kailua are working together to acquire, protect and restore

Maunawili's waterways, wetlands, forests, endangered species, important agricultural lands, lo'i kalo and many cultural and historic sites, roads and trails. The natural and cultural resources and the traditions associated with them are vital to the well-being of the ahupua'a of Kailua, of Hawai'i and its people.

We look forward to continuing to work with The Trust for Public Land to seek funding for this purchase. We urge this Committee to pass HCR 152 and HR133. Mahalo for your consideration.

Deborah Pope
426 'Ili'aina Street
Kailua 96734

Barbara Pope
1022 Maunawili Loop
Kailua 96734

Fabrizio Medosi
1022 Maunawili Loop
Kailua 96734

Todd Coffey
1821 Iwi Way
Honolulu 96816

John Foster
1499 Akeke Place
Kailua 96734

William Foster
968 Maunawili Road
Kailua 96734

Greer Price
968 Maunawili Road
Kailua 96734

LATE

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 8:56:20 PM
Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HR-133

Submitted on: 3/23/2018 6:28:34 AM
Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Hicks	Kailua Neighborhood Board	Comments	No

Comments:

Maunawili motion passed by Kailua Neighborhood Board at the Board’s 6/1/17 meeting with a unanimous vote of 17 members:

The Kailua Neighborhood Board opposes the subdivision of agricultural zoned lower Maunawili wetland identified as TMK: 4-2-007:001 lots 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 1-D (52.00 acres) and TMK: 4-2-006:008 lots 2-A, 2-B, 2-C, 2-D (50.101 acres) proposed by landowner HRT Ltd.

Rational supporting this motion:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife National Wetlands Inventory identifies the area as wetland
- The area floods
- The area is rich in archaeological sites including hidden lo`i walls.
- Land has been identified as Important Agricultural Land (IAL) by the City
- Land is identified as IAL under the Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawaii (ALISH) system
- The state land use designation is *agriculture*. The city *zoning is Ag-2*. The intent of the Ag-2 district is to conserve and protect agricultural activities on smaller parcels of land.
- The area consists of Hanalei soil, which is the most important wetland taro soil in the state.
- *Most of the land is in the SMA (Special Management Area). One of the objectives of the SMA is to Protect, preserve, and, where desirable, restore those natural and manmade historic and prehistoric resources in the coastal zone management area that are significant in Hawaiian and American history and culture.*

Board discussion:

1. Purpose: Hinsvark noted the goal of the necessity of protecting both the wetlands, as well as historical and cultural sites. He stated that the subdivision is an inappropriate place for development, including a parking lot, as it is on very sacred land.

2. Clarification: Dowsett requested a map of the site for clarification. Chair Prentiss provided a map of the area.

3. Details: Chair Prentiss noted there were discussions at the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting with various community associations. One of the reasons for concern was why HRT Ltd. is taking one parcel of land and subdividing it into eight different plots and the lack of transparency. He noted that the subdivision process is not like a zoning permit or conditional use permit (CUP) process where there are public hearings, therefore the community is in the dark about what is happening. A status report from the City was requested to receive answers about the situation. Without more information, the community cannot support the subdivision.

4. Issues: Parsons stated that one of her biggest concerns with the subdivision of the area is that one of the reasons why the land floods is because it feeds into Kawai Nui Marsh. Any changes to the area will effectively strangle Kawai Nui and it is already struggling enough. Anything that can be done to prevent changes to the flow of water is important. She stated she supports this motion.

5. Agriculture: Weller stated that he always sees land that is supposed to be agricultural land not being used for agricultural purposes whenever subdivisions are involved. He noted that Hawaii used to provide produce and vegetables to California but now the state is struggling to provide produce for its own communities. He stated his opposition to any subdivision of agricultural land.

6. Community Concern: A resident of Maunawili stated that there is a very important need to focus on sustainability of agricultural lands. He noted that communities have largely formed around food production, including Kailua. He voiced his concerns regarding the continued development of land and the impact it will have on future generations.

LATE

LATE

**Testimony Supporting HCR152 and HR133
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 23, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325**

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Committee Members,

'Ahahui Mālama I ka Lōkahi is writing in strong support of the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili. Our Mission Statement is: To Practice, Promote and Perpetuate a Modern Native Hawaiian Conservation Ethic. We are mālama 'āina practitioners who were formally organized in the mid 1990s. The evidence of our work includes but is not limited to Kawainui, Kailua Ahupua'a: we have restored 4 acres (11 acres remain) of native lowland forest at Na Pōhaku o Hauwahine; opened ancient as well as new lo'i (taro patches) at Ulupo Heiau and created native bird habits at several islets at the Kaha-Park end of Kawainui. The list is lengthy however it is important to understand that we know of what we speak when it comes to both cultural and environmental restoration and practice; the evidence is in the ground. We do not preach but rather, we are active cultural and mālama 'āina practitioners. We are also members of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui.

- The words of our Mission Statement "...a Modern Native Hawaiian Conservation Ethic" can be expressed several ways. One ethic is that we are all connected from Māka to Makai and the sea soil beyond. In contemporary times our concerns extend beyond the outer reefs. Therefore, the impact of the waters that flow through the subject Maunawili lands of Kailua Ahupua'a (developed or conserved) (TMK Nos.: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001) directly impact Kawainui Marsh. Kawainui waters continue to flow to our shoreline and to the deep blue waters beyond. The deep blue waters eventually touch other shores. We are all connected. We have a kuleana (responsibility) to protect Maunawili waters as close to its source—the Ko'olau Mountain—as possible. Conserving these lands will be a significant step forward in protecting ka wai a Kane, the life giving waters of Kane.**
- Trails were our highways and bi-ways in ancient times. Our ancestors used the trail systems to move from one kauhale (village) to the other. Trails led to sacred areas; to areas where natural resources were available to maintain the material culture; to plants used in healing; to food sources; to freshwater springs; to the mighty Koa used for the wa'a. Today, access to trails, especially in culturally significant areas, is critically important to cultural practitioners and native Hawaiian youth. Many of our young people have become disconnected from their culture and practice. Today we use Eddie Kamae's "Listen To The Forest" documentary as one of our teaching tools. We seek continued access to these trails that lead into the forest. We look forward to working with youth, the greater community and our Hui Maunawili-Kawainui partners to mālama these trails as**

an act of kuleana as well as building a narrative of identity for our Hawaiian youth. Ahahui Mālama I ka Lōkahi has a deep and long history of restoring lands, building and maintaining trails, providing youth and community groups with educational and cultural opportunities, planting native plants and trees. Purchasing the Maunawili lands is imperative. It will allow all of us to work together as the rightful, caring stewards of these lands.

- Lawmakers will be shocked to see how historical and cultural sites have degraded over time. In 2000, 'Ahahui Mālama I ka Lōkahi met with the landowners, with the Trust for Public Lands, OHA and the Kailua Historical Society for purpose of preserving "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", as well as heiau, petroglyphs, wahi pana and ancient agricultural terraces. We volunteered to maintain the area however, the landowners feared the liability of allowing volunteers to mālama the area. Therefore, the Queens retreat was allowed to degrade, to be vandalized and to be consumed by the forest. Not only shameful but this is painful as well. HRT has not been a good steward of our historical lands. The Maunawili lands must be purchased for the purpose of protecting and restoring its cultural treasures and environment.
- The subject Maunawili lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase Hawai'i's local food production.
- As a consequence of restoring 4 acres of a native lowland forest at Na Pohaku we now have a mature forest consisting of high and low canopy trees, brush and groundcovers. We have observed that an established native forest is more resistant to aggressive, alien species. We can also say that pono (balance) is being restored to the 'aina. It is vital to protect and improve the natural habitat for native and endangered species. We can bring this experience to our Maunawili partners that will further protect native species including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohē, Alani, and Haha.

In closing, 'Ahahui Mālama I ka Lōkahi is in full support of HCR152 and HR133. We see this as a path to restoring responsible ahupua'a resource management practice and for the community to be involved as pono stewards of these lands for today and our descendants yet to come.

Mālama 'Aina,

C. Lehuakona Isaacs (please contact me at mobile, (808) 386-2034, or email: palikea@hawaii.rr.com should you need to confirm my signature)

Name: C. Lehuakona Isaacs

Title: President

Organization: 'Ahahui Mālama I ka Lōkahi

Website: www.ahahui.net