



**SB1303**  
**RELATING TO OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ELECTIONS**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 8, 2018

1:35 p.m.

Room 016

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on SB1303, which changes the method by which candidates for three OHA Board of Trustees at-large seats without a residency requirement are elected.

OHA appreciates the intent behind this measure to generate head-to-head races that result in “a more democratic election process” for OHA at-large seats.

At a 2017 meeting of OHA’s Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee, the Trustees expressed a variety of views about SB1303. While some trustees expressed that SB1303 was headed in the right direction with its head-to-head races, at least one trustee raised concerns about the measure. OHA looks forward to continuing to discuss SB1303 as it moves through the 2018 legislative session.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 10:20:53 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Hawaiian Affairs Caucus Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

**The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Executive Committee supports adoption of this bill with amendments.** We recommend that SB1303 be amended to further define the qualifications needed for each Trustee-At-Large position, **for example:** Trustee 1 would require candidates to possess education and/or experience in Finance or the Business fields; Trustee 2 would require candidates to possess education and/or experience in political advocacy and/or Legislative matters; Trustee 3 would require education and/or experience in Native Hawaiian cultural practices, expertise in the area of Native Hawaiian Traditional and Customary Rights or Native Hawaiian education; and Trustee 4 would require education and/or experience in health, housing, or other areas affecting the well-being of Native Hawaiians. These examples are all notional; the point, however, being, the need to have Trustees-at-large who are capable of managing the Trust and delivery of programs and services important to the Native Hawaiian community.

Currently, there are nine total trustee seats, five are residency based for the islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i/Lana'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i/Ni'ihau, and four are non-residency based (at-large). The four at-large seats are split with one at-large seat race taking place in the election cycle simultaneous with the presidential election and the remaining three taking place in the opposite election cycle. These remaining three at-large seats are included in one ballot item. The three candidates that receive the most votes win the election. For example, in 2000, the general election ballot listed fifty-one candidates for three trustee at large seats. The successful candidates won with only 6.8, 5.4, and 4.1 per cent of the total votes cast, respectively, while the rest of the votes were dispersed among the other candidates. Similarly, in 2006, there were fourteen candidates listed for three open trustee seats with the winners receiving 10.7, 9.8, and 8.5 per cent of the total votes cast, respectively. This pattern continued even after a primary election was implemented in 2014, with the winners receiving 12.5, 11.2, and 10.2 per cent of the total votes cast respectively. **The proposed measure would help voters to distinguish among the candidates based on their qualifications, rather than simply on receiving the most votes cast, especially when considering the growing responsibilities of OHA as a land manager, commercial property manager, financial assets manager, community advocate, natural and cultural resource advocate, research and data collection repository, and facilitator of**

**numerous initiatives that impact the daily lives of Native Hawaiians, such as educating, housing, health, self-governance, etc.**

Please adopt SB1303 with amendments as requested.

Mahalo,

LEIMOMI KHAN, Chair

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 11:10:59 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keeaumoku Kapu	Aha Moku O Maui Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai, my name is Ke'eaumoku Kapu and i stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State audit report, has shown a great need for reform at office of Hawaiian affairs, starting at the board level.

Trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because the candidate serve no term limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fare elections.

A number of studies have shown that incumbant candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challenges.

Under the current special elections process for the trustees at-large of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, incumbant candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this act is to reform the office of hawaiian affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head to head race, insuring the most democratic elections process for the office of hawaiian affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for office of hawaiian affairs as native hawaiians continue to achive self determination on numerous fronts.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:54:18 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:25:41 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Trisha Kehaulani Watson, JD, PhD	Honua Consulting	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 11:13:51 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
HIRAM RESPICIO	HOOPAI OHANA	Support	No

Comments:

SB1303

HB1303

Aloha mai, my name is HIRAM RESPICIO and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 1:45:11 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Whispering Wind	Patients Without Time	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB1303 with amendments.

The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections.

A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

I support term limits for OHA trustees.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.



**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:52:10 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Murphy	Patients Without Time	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:26:40 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William J De Lude	Native Hawaiian Citizen	Support	No

Comments:

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs SB 1303 - Relating to OHA Elections

Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018 1:35 p.m... Conf Room 016

RE: Testimony of William J De Lude, Native Hawaiian Citizen

Chair: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Vice-Chair: Sen. Brickwood Galuteria

Members: Sen. Kalani English Sen. Donna Mercado Kim Sen. Josh Green

Aloha'oukou a pau loa Chair and Members,

As a native Hawaiian I would like to say Mahalo to the Committee for allowing me the opportunity to testify in **Support** of SB1303 **only as written with any auto-correction needed and as presented**. Also, Mahalo for allowing me to comment on my **Opposition**, to any additional Language or Amendment(s) that may be under consideration, by this Committee, in regard to SB1303

I am In **Opposition** to those Testifying that the Committee should go even further with SB1303. They would have You believe that additional Language or Amendment(s)are warranted. This I find to be unsettling in many ways. Here is just a portion of one of several Testimonies proposing such Language or Amendment(s) to be added to SB1303 (Yes, you may have read them already!):

portion of the Testimony of Dr. Jamee Miller on Tuesday, Feb.14, 2017, in favor of SB1303 (public record) and copied as written placed in quotes.

"I propose that the bill be amended to reflect the following:

Provide qualifications for each of the At-Large seats:

At-Large (1): Background in Finance or Business fields (at least 5 years experience)

At-large (2): Background in Finance or Business fields (at least 5 years experience)

At-Large (3): Native Hawaiian Cultural practitioner, or expertise in the areas of Native Hawaiian Traditional and Customary rights or Native Hawaiian education (at least 5 years experience)

At-Large (4): Holds a bachelors degree in Hawaiian Language or Hawaiian Studies.

Please provide amendments that accomplish the following as well: - Provide a special election process for the first year of implementation. - Make the current, lone at-large seat a finance seat, so that the two finance seats are broken into separate election cycles.

Finally, provide for term-limits for all trustee seats of three terms.”

Although, well intended. My thoughts as I read this, the First question that came to mind was, what is the intent of the proposer? Other questions entered, Like, why would the proposer **lockout only** the four At-Large seats with qualifications or a Bachelors degree, and **not** All seats? Why **set** term-limits on **all** trustee seats and **not** just the four At-Large seats **or** vice versa?

Do we as OHA beneficiaries even want this to happen? We are the ones that would be most adversely effected by this if its added to SB.

Members, think back to the time when You or your Colleagues were running for Public Office. Did you have to qualify under any of these proposals? Do you have term-limits in the House or Senate? Voters vote a Candidate into Elective Office as long as they are doing their Job! We vote them out when they fail to do their Job! Simple as that! So, what about the Young Native Hawaiian Candidate(s) who will be looking to run in the next OHA elections? Please answer me this, will they be able to run for any of these four At-Large seats? No, if you add Amendment(s) or Language like this to SB. Right now a young Native Hawaiian could run for anyone of the At-Large seats and Win! Where as, bring with them new insight and Pono to OHA!

The intent on establishment of OHA was to create a body to achieve self-determination for Native Hawaiians. We as Native Hawaiian would like to continue to do so without adding additional language or amendment(s) that will tie up the hands of Our people! This will not serve Our people well! Allow us the beneficiaries of OHA to assist you in what should or should not be added to such Legislation as we talk to our communities on all Islands. Make it Pono again!

Finally, It is time for the Members of this Committee to step back and think about the beneficiaries of OHA. **Support SB only as written with any auto-correction(s) needed and as presented. I am in Opposed to any additional Language or Amendment(s) added!**

Mahalo nui, Malama Pono for your time,

William J De Lude, Native Hawaiian Citizen

### SB1303 - Relating to OHA Elections

The purpose of this Act is to amend the election process for three of the office of Hawaiian affairs board of trustees at-large seats so that each of the three at-large seat candidates without a residency requirement who stand for election will run in a head-to-head race to ensure a more democratic election process for the office of Hawaiian affairs.

Section 13D-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(f) ~~[Any]~~ For any election with three available seats without a residency requirement, the election shall be conducted as follows:

(1) Of the three available seats without a residency requirement, each seat shall be designated on the primary election ballot as trustee-at-large position 1, trustee-at-large position 2, and trustee-at-large position 3, respectively, and the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for each of the three at-large seats shall proceed to the general election designated as trustee-at-large position 1, trustee-at-large position 2, and trustee-at-large position 3; provided that each of the three trustee-at-large positions shall appear on the general election ballot as trustee-at-large position 1, trustee-at-large position 2, and trustee-at-large position 3; provided further that the chief elections officer shall declare the candidate for trustee-at-large position 1, for trustee-at-large position 2, and for trustee-at-large position 3 with the highest number of votes in the general election to be duly and legally elected as a trustee of the office of Hawaiian affairs; and

(2) If any trustee-at-large position has only one candidate nominated in the primary election under paragraph (1), then the chief elections officer shall declare each of those candidates to be duly and legally elected, and the names of those candidates shall not appear on the general election ballot."

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 8:03:50 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Deborah Mader	Hawai'i resident	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:28:34 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tamara Paltin		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai, my name is Tamara Paltin and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:25:17 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai, my name is George Vierra and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 10:51:56 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roxane Stewart		Support	No

Comments:



**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 11:40:08 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kat Culina		Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:02:03 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terez Amato Lindsey		Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 4:35:10 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Rudolph		Support	No

Comments:

Support

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 4:51:49 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros		Support	No

Comments:

My name is Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros & I support this bill. Please limit terms! It'll give new candidates a fighting chance.

Mahalo!

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:33:19 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Barry		Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 7:45:11 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Faith Chase		Support	No

Comments:

i strongly support this measure that will afford a true democratic process that will serve the needs of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the people it serves.

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 10:48:15 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tulsi Greenlee		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Tulsi and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item. The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts. Thank you  
Tulsi

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 9:59:15 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wai'ala Ahn		Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha mai, my name is Wai'ala Ahn, I am a native Hawaiian and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

Mahalo for your time and consideration in this matter. Please Support SB1303.



**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 7:25:39 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MaryAnn Omerod		Support	No

Comments:

I Strongly Support SB1303

The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. Candidates for the trustee at-large race serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections.

Studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process.

**From:** [schantell.taylor](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB1303 OHA  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:09:44 AM

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## SB1303 submit testimony

Aloha mai,

My name is Schantell Taylor and I am from Nanakuli, O'ahu and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

Schantell Taylor

**From:** [leimaile86@gmail.com](mailto:leimaile86@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support for SB1303  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 10:52:15 AM

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Aloha mai, my name is Kanani Puou, and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item. The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

Aloha a me ka Mahalo,  
Kanani Puou

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Wai'ala Ahn](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Support SB1303  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 10:01:51 PM

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Aloha mai, my name is Wai'ala Ahn, I am a native Hawai'ian and I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

Mahalo for your time and consideration on this manner. Please Support SB1303.

Aloha.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Papa Mele Lahui](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 10:40:55 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro,

I support the intent of SB 1303 to create Pono Elections 4 OHA At-Large seats.

I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections.

I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections.

I support Pono Elections for OHA Races

I support term limits for OHA trustees

I want the OHA Board of Trustees to demand Pono Elections for their seats.

Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

Kehaulani Kamana

**From:** [Noe](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 3:38:50 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro,

I am a Kanaka Maoli and registered voter. I also teach Native Hawaiian Politics and have my students observe OHA BOT meetings every semester. I support the intent of SB 1303 regarding OHA At-Large seats.

I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections.  
I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections.  
I support term limits for OHA trustees

Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

Prof. Noelani Goodyear-Kaopua  
2924 Alphonse Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Lisa Kleissner](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 4:44:59 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro,

I support the intent of SB 1303 to create Pono Elections 4 OHA At-Large seats.

I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections.

I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections.

I support Pono Elections for OHA Races

I support term limits for OHA trustees

I want the OHA Board of Trustees to demand Pono Elections for their seats.

Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

Lisa Kleissner  
lisa@kleissner.com  
Skype lkleissner  
mobile 408-316-1922  
office 831-624-1670

**From:** [Mehana](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 4:48:59 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro,

I support the intent of SB 1303 to create Pono Elections 4 OHA At-Large seats.

I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections.

I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections.

I support Pono Elections for OHA Races

I support term limits for OHA trustees

I want the OHA Board of Trustees to demand Pono Elections for their seats. I feel that the current policy favors name recognition over actual service and experience to the Hawaiian community and contributes to challenges in function of the OHA board.

Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

With much aloha,  
Dr. Mehana Blaich Vaughan  
Assistant Profesor  
U.H. Manoa



**From:** [Margaret peebles](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 6:47:12 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro,

I support the intent of SB 1303 to create Pono Elections 4 OHA At-Large seats.

I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections.

I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections.

I support Pono Elections for OHA Races

I support term limits for OHA trustees

I want the OHA Board of Trustees to demand Pono Elections for their seats.

Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

Margaret Peebles

**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 11:52:30 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo		Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo and I come from the island of O‘ahu from Papakālea. I am a student, daughter, sister, and resident of this place I call home. I am writing to please support this bill and the amendments made to it.

I think its necessary that the people that hold power in OHA should be culturally, ethically, politically, and business proficient among the least of the qualifications. I believe that with these revisions it will help to ensure the monies that they are put in place to oversee and the responsibility they have to deligate those said monies out to the native Hawaiian people.

I stand in strong support of this measure with amendments for term limits. The recent State Auditor report, has shown a great need for reform at OHA, starting at the board level. The trustee at-large race is not broken into individual races and because these candidates serve with no term-limits, this process severely undermines a true democratic process that is meant to allow for free and fair elections. A number of studies have shown that incumbent candidates for any political office hold a distinct advantage over challengers. Under the current special election process for the trustees at-large of the office of Hawaiian affairs, incumbent candidates may hold an even greater advantage due to the listing of multiple seats under one ballot item.

The purpose of this Act is to reform the office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee at-large elections so that each at-large seat will run in a head-to-head race, ensuring a more democratic election process for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This is simply a means to create a cleaner, more engaged, and more democratic elections process for OHA as Native Hawaiians continue to achieve self-determination on numerous fronts.

Please support this bill.

sincerely,

Nanea Lo



**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 7:17:50 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques		Support	No

Comments:

**From:** [Mahina Paishon-Duarte](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT SB1303  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:38:12 PM

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Aloha e Chair Shimabukuro, I support the intent of SB 1303 to create Pono Elections 4 OHA At-Large seats. I support Head-to-Head races for OHA elections. I support a more Democratic Process for OHA elections. I support Pono Elections for OHA Races I support term limits for OHA trustees I want the OHA Board of Trustees to demand Pono Elections for their seats. Mahalo for your consideration of this measure.

**From:** [Francine Aarona](#)  
**To:** [HWNTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB1303  
**Date:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 12:26:46 AM

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I am in support of this bill to reform Oha elections...Mahalo

Francine Aarona  
Pa'ia, Hawaii

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**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 9:40:04 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clarence Ching		Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I am in opposition to this bill.

The present procedure seems to be satisfactory. The objective is to keep the process simple and fair.

If the present system ain't broke, then why try to fix it?



**SB-1303**

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 4:27:49 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/8/2018 1:35:00 PM

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

Comments: