

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Wednesday, April 4, 2018
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In Consideration of
SENATE BILL 192, SENATE DRAFT 1, PROPOSED HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

House Bill 192, Senate Draft 1, Proposed House Draft 1 proposes to repeal the Natural Area Reserve Fund and transfer its unencumbered balance to the General Fund. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this measure.**

The Natural Area Reserve Fund was established for a public purpose – establishment and management of Natural Area Reserves, acquisition of lands for new Natural Area Reserves, and provision of matching funds for the Natural Areas Partnership Program. The fund balance is an appropriate source to fund critical high priority but unfunded natural area protection projects.

The Department notes that House Bill 1900 from this Session included requests for Capitol Improvement Project funding for Watershed Protection and Initiatives, Statewide (\$6,506,000), and operational funds for Native Ecosystem Recovery (\$500,000) to be paid from the Natural Area Reserve Fund. The Department also supports the Legislature's initiatives to support other programs, such as the fire prevention and suppression program (House Bill 1974, House Draft 1 Senate Draft 1), that fulfill the purpose of the Natural Area Reserve Fund by protecting sensitive natural areas.

Further, the Department recommends against elimination of the Natural Area Reserve Fund. While the primary revenue source has historically been the conveyance tax, the Department is pursuing ways to diversify funding to support Natural Area Reserve management, and the Natural Area Reserve Fund is a useful accounting tool for managing specific income streams specific to that purpose.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

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

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
April 4, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i

SB 192 SD1 Proposed HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

The University of the Hawai'i (UH) opposes the proposed HD1 of SB192 SD1. The proposed HD1 would deposit Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) adjustment moneys received by the State in calendar year 2018 that were withheld during any disputed years shall be deposited into the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund (EBRF). The proposed HD1 would also repeal the Natural Area Reserve Fund and transfer its unencumbered balance to the general fund and transfer excess moneys in the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund into the State's general fund.

While the University supports the utilization of excess unused funds, it is important to note that taking all of this balance into the EBRF would impact the distribution and availability of future tobacco settlement funds. Section 3 of Ch. 328L-2 specifies that twenty-six percent (26%) of the MSA revenues shall be deposited to the credit of the University to be used to pay debt service for the medical school facility in Kaka'ako. The State of Hawai'i and the UH issued revenue bonds in 2010 that identified scheduled MSA proceeds as available for satisfaction of annual debt service. It is not advisable to compromise previously identified or scheduled revenue streams. The estimated impact of this proposed HD1 is a revenue loss of \$800,000 annually for this purpose.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Opposing S.B. 192 Proposed HD1 Relating to the State Budget
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 1:30PM, Room 308

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 43,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy opposes the proposed HD1 for S.B. 192 that would repeal the Natural Area Reserve Fund and transfer its balance to the general fund.

We absolutely respect and support the Legislature's authority and prerogative to direct the expenditure of public funds for the benefit of all of the people and resources of the State of Hawai'i. We also hope the Legislature will continue to work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to direct the use of NAR Fund balances within the department's natural resource management and protection programs. We also respectfully request that the Legislature leave the NAR Fund authority in place and work with the DLNR in a collective effort to develop innovative and sustainable financing opportunities that can supplement and leverage other state funds that are directed toward managing and protecting Hawai'i's natural environment.

The DLNR's natural resource management and protection programs contribute to the resilience, sustainability and continued health of our islands' environment which, in turn, supports a robust economy, quality of life, cultural treasures, and other natural benefits such as the provision of fresh water. Thank you for appreciating the critical importance of protecting our limited and exhaustible natural infrastructure so that it will continue to support us for generations to come.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 1:30PM Conference Room 308

In OPPOSITION of SB 192 proposed HD1 Relating to State Budget

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the FIN Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, a member of the Common Good Coalition, **strongly opposes SB192 proposed HD1** to repeal the Natural Area Reserve System Fund and transfer the balance to the general fund.

The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Watersheds are foundation of our survival in the Hawaiian Islands. Healthy native forests capture rainwater, preventing harmful runoff and replenishing our future drinking water supplies. It is absolutely crucial that we fund the protection of our watersheds. DLNR, mandated to manage and protect all of Hawai'i's finite natural resources and pristine beauty receives a meager 1.2% of the State budget. Continuing this level of chronic underfunding is a form of negligence that needs to be immediately addressed.

Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding and special funds, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which can impact reefs and fishing.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, continue the long-term investment in our watersheds and vote down SB 192.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 12:42:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I oppose what you are doing to the environment with SB192 SD1. You plan to remove funds designated to protect our native forests and species for your own purpose. Hawai'i's natural resources are the best in the world, partly due to the NARS fund. Do not pass this flawed legislation.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 12:57:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke and members of the Finance Committee:

I **strongly oppose** the removal of the funds from the Special Fund for the Natural Area Reserves Fund.

While I agree that the Department of Land and Natural Resources should do a better job in expending the funds to maintain our Natural Area Reserves, removing the funds from their access to be able to do this work is counterintuitive when faced with the long term prognosis of sea level rise and the effects to our groundwater system that will surely occur.

The Natural Area Reserves provide a measurable system to allow the health of our watersheds to provide continued recharge of our groundwaters for use and must not be removed, not only for current uses but future uses of groundwater as well.

I urge you to oppose amending SB 192 SD! to eliminate DLNR's access to funds to allow them to do their work to provide for our current and future resources.

Mahalo,

Cynthia K.L. Rezentes

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 1:03:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evern Williams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose your action to NOT protect our Natural Area Reserves. You MUST set aside monies for the NARS fund to tprotect the future of our drinking watrer resources, manage essential forest and watershed resources, land management and protection programs. It requires steady, reliable funding for the NARS Fund to be most efficient. Do NOT sabotage this important service.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 1:16:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Ward	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha e Lawmakers,

I implore you NOT to gut SB192 and replace it with language that repeals the fund established to protect Natural Area Reserves (NARS) and transfer the \$15 million balance to the general fund. We fought long and hard to establish this fund to protect the MOST vulnerable habitats in the state! Not only do NARS protect our watersheds, they also protect the diverse ecosystems that are challenged by invasive weeds and ungulates--without this funding, our flora, fauna, and water are all at risk. You must take a stand and say NO!

Mahalo, Deborah Ward

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 1:26:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terez Amato Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

No gut and replace.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 1:48:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Lacques	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 6:18:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Forrest Batz	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Respected members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing in regard to SB192 SD1, which would transfer tobacco master settlement funds into the emergency and budget reserve fund, to ask you to allocate a minimum of 12.5% of the settlement funds be appropriated into the Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust fund (similar to the [percentages listed in HRS 328L-2](#)).

The purpose of the tobacco master settlement agreement was to provide funds for the prevention of tobacco-related injury and illness.

The Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust fund has made great gains in reducing tobacco use in Hawaii. The fund assures that more can and is being done to help those smokers having the greatest difficulty quitting, as well as preventing youth from becoming smokers.

However, a new type of tobacco product, electronic smoking devices (ESDs), is quickly gaining popularity especially among our youth. ESD use, or vaping, delivers nicotine which is highly addictive and harms the developing brain. Studies now find that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

In addition, human research now clearly demonstrates that inhaling the aerosol (vapor) from ESDs causes damage to the respiratory and cardiovascular systems *even when e-liquids contain no nicotine*.

The Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust fund is key to programs state-wide to educate about the health effects of ESDs.

Please support individual and public health in Hawaii by allocating tobacco master settlement agreement funds for their intended purpose of tobacco prevention and control.

Many thanks for your consideration.

From: tjenkins@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Torey Jenkins
<tjenkins@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
Torey Jenkins
937 Kului Pl Honolulu, HI 96821-1741

From: adriane.raff-corwin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Adriane Raff Corwin
<adriane.raff-corwin@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Adriane Raff Corwin
Wailuku, HI 96793

From: kstover@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ken Stover
<kstover@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Ken Stover
PO Box 160 Kihei, HI 96753-0160

From: sbolduc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sara Bolduc
<sbolduc@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:55 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

This issue is about much more than our forests, this is about supporting our ability to ensure sustainable sources of water in future decades. I strongly urge you to re-consider.

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Sara Bolduc
431 Kuliouou Rd Honolulu, HI 96821-2232

From: BIANCA@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of BIANCA ISAKI
<BIANCA@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
BIANCA ISAKI
46 -379 Kumoo Loop Kaneohe, HI 96744-3532

From: paul@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paul Arinaga
<paul@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Please DON'T jeopardize our future! TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Paul Arinaga
2596 Booth Rd Apt A Honolulu, HI 96813-7117

From: mbucknova@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Meredith Buck
<mbucknova@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Meredith Buck
77 -407 Pelenike Dr Kailua Kona, HI 96740-8921

From: jokuhamama@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jason T Okuhama
<jokuhamama@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Jason T Okuhama
415 South St Apt 1004 Honolulu, HI 96813-5054

From: sarah_toole@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Toole
<sarah_toole@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Sarah Toole
Honolulu, HI 96818

From: kimfalinski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kim Falinski
<kimfalinski@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Kim Falinski
665 Walea Pl Honolulu, HI 96817-1618

From: lukerobinson108@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luke Robinson
<lukerobinson108@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,

Luke D. Robinson

Sincerely,
Luke Robinson
3138 Waialae Ave Apt 521 Honolulu, HI 96816-1548

From: m2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marilyn Mick <m2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Marilyn Mick
Honolulu, HI 96815

From: braulick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nathan Braulick
<braulick@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Nathan Braulick
4348 Waiialae Ave # 196 Honolulu, HI 96816-5767

From: sanmigilmer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gilmer Borbo
<sanmigilmer@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 12:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Gilmer Borbo
Mililani, HI 96789

From: rgonce@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Randy Gonce
<rgonce@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. With state watershed issues such as the contamination in the Kahalu'u Ahupua'a from cesspools we need to be vigilant to make sure we take care of our communities. Many peer reviewed research has shown that the health of the ecosystem is in direct relationship with the health of the communities that live in them. This new bill highly threatens this health and wellness of our communities.

The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Randy Gonce
46 -420 Haiku Plantations Dr Kaneohe, HI 96744-4207

From: uluusrf@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of brett gobar
<uluusrf@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

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Sincerely,
brett gobar
792065 PO Paia, HI 96779

From: kylie110@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kylie Wager Cruz <kylie110@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I live in Rep. Kobayashi's district and am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Kylie Wager Cruz
3344 George St Barrigada, GU 96913

From: jade.frank@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jade Frank
<jade.frank@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Jade Frank
Honolulu, HI 96815

From: mminn811@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Malama Minn <mminn811@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Malama Minn
45 -1135 Cobb Adams Rd Kaneohe, HI 96744-3212

From: gpuppione@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gregory Puppione
<gpuppione@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Gregory Puppione
563 Kamoku St # A-5 Honolulu, HI 96826-5245

From: redahi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of B.A.McClintock
<redahi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
B.A. McClintock
ALA MOANA Blvd Honolulu, HI 96814

From: cordylinecolor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Deborah Ward
<cordylinecolor@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

Aloha e Lawmakers,

I implore you NOT to gut SB192 and replace it with language that repeals the fund established to protect Natural Area Reserves (NARS) and transfer the \$15 million balance to the general fund. We fought long and hard to establish this fund to protect the MOST vulnerable habitats in the state! Not only do NARS protect our watersheds, they also protect the diverse ecosystems that are challenged by invasive weeds and ungulates--without this funding, our flora, fauna, and water are all at risk. You must take a stand and say NO! Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Mahalo, Deborah Ward

Sincerely,
Deborah Ward
PO Box 918 Kurtistown, HI 96760-0918

From: namaka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joan Lander
<namaka@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 1:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

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I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Joan Lander
PO Box 29 Naalehu, HI 96772-0029

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DIRECTOR

KEN N. KITAMURA
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 192, S.D. 1, PROPOSED H.D. 1



**April 4, 2018
1:30 p.m.
Room 308**

RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Senate Bill No. 192, S.D. 1, Proposed H.D. 1, would require funds received pursuant to Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) arbitration in 2018 be deposited into the Emergency Budget and Reserve Fund (EBRF). This measure also proposes to repeal the Natural Area Reserve Fund (NARF) and authorizes the Director of Finance to transfer excess balances from the NARF and the Tobacco Settlement Special Fund (TSSF) to the general fund.

The Department of Budget and Finance supports the intent to transfer unobligated funds from the MSA arbitration to the EBRF. However, we have concerns about the transfer of the entire balance of the TSSF due to certain provisions of the MSA arbitration agreement and offer the following comments.

The State is scheduled to receive a lump sum payment of approximately \$54 to \$58 million on April 19, 2018 pursuant to the MSA arbitration, and will also receive its annual payment, which revenues are distributed pursuant to Section 328L-2 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), as follows:

- (1) 15% to the EBRF;
- (2) 12.5% to the Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund (Tobacco Trust Fund);
- (3) 26% to the University of Hawai'i (UH) Revenue Undertakings Fund to be applied to debt service for revenue bonds used for the construction of a

university health and wellness center, including the new medical school facility; and

(4) Any remaining amounts to the general fund.

We have attached a Table that shows how the annual payments from the MSA will be affected by the MSA arbitration agreement beginning in current FY 18 (we expect to receive such payments in mid- to late April) and in the following FYs 19 to 22, due to credit offsets that will reduce the annual payments from the MSA and thus affect the distributions pursuant to Section 328L-2, HRS.

Based on information from the Department of the Attorney General and the Department of Health, the arbitration agreement provides that our annual payments under the MSA will be offset by a 50% credit of the undisputed amount in FY 18, with future offsets of 12.5% of the undisputed amounts in FY 19 through FY 22. Annual payments for FY 18 through FY 22 are estimated to be approximately \$42 million and the estimated offsets (revenue loss) would be about \$18 million in FY 18 and an average of \$5.4 million each year from FY 19 through FY 22.

As a result of these offsets, the estimated revenue losses for the Tobacco Trust Fund administered by the Department of Health would amount to about \$2.9 million in FY 18 and an average of \$1.5 million each year from FY 19 through FY 22. Similarly, for the UH Revenue Undertakings Fund, these offsets result in losses of \$3.6 million in FY 18 and an average of \$0.7 million each year from FY 19 through FY 22 based on UH receiving \$9.4 million for debt service each year. We are especially concerned about the revenue loss to the UH Revenue Undertakings Fund, which is committed for annual debt service payments.

Thus, we would appreciate the opportunity to work with the Legislature on amendments to this measure to maintain the current funding levels for the Department of Health and UH pursuant to section 328L-2, HRS. We suggest that the funding in FYs 18 to 22 for the affected programs can be maintained by using a portion of the current balance in the TSSF. As such, we are concerned about the proposed transfer of the entire \$18.9 million balance from the TSSF proposed in Section 5 of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

**Estimated Impact of Tobacco Arbitration Agreement on Tobacco Settlement Distribution
Based on Section 328L-2, HRS**

	FY 17**	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22
% Arbitration credit of undisputed amount*	NA	50.0%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%
Annual tobacco payment amount*	\$ 48.75	\$ 42.20	\$ 41.90	\$ 41.50	\$ 41.00	\$ 41.00
Arbitration credit of undisputed amount*	NA	\$ (18.00)	\$ (5.50)	\$ (5.70)	\$ (5.40)	\$ (5.10)
Tobacco pymt less: credit	NA	\$ 24.20	\$ 36.40	\$ 35.80	\$ 35.60	\$ 35.90
Less: amount to AG's Office	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.35)
Subtotal: tobacco less AG	\$ 48.40	\$ 23.85	\$ 36.05	\$ 35.45	\$ 35.25	\$ 35.55
less: 5% central service assessment	\$ (2.42)	\$ (1.19)	\$ (1.80)	\$ (1.77)	\$ (1.76)	\$ (1.78)
less: 1.21% admin assessment	\$ (0.23)	\$ (0.29)	\$ (0.44)	\$ (0.43)	\$ (0.43)	\$ (0.43)
Net amount available for distribution	\$ 45.75	\$ 22.37	\$ 33.81	\$ 33.25	\$ 33.06	\$ 33.34
15% to Emergency & Budget Reserve Fund	\$ 6.90	\$ 3.36	\$ 5.07	\$ 4.99	\$ 4.96	\$ 5.00
12.5% to Hawaii Tobacco Prev & Cntl Trust Fund	\$ 5.67	\$ 2.80	\$ 4.23	\$ 4.16	\$ 4.13	\$ 4.17
26% University Revenue Undertakings Fund***	\$ 9.46	\$ 5.82	\$ 8.79	\$ 8.64	\$ 8.60	\$ 8.67
UH excess debt service to General Fund	\$ 2.34					
General Fund Treasury	\$ 21.38	\$ 10.40	\$ 15.72	\$ 15.46	\$ 15.37	\$ 15.50

*Information provided by the Office of the Attorney General. Arbitration credit is based on the undisputed amount.

**Actuals provided by the Department of Health

***FY 17 allocation to UH based on actual debt service payment for Cancer Center. Debt service for FY 18 - FY 22 is approximately \$9.4M per year.

Totals may differ due to rounding.



Date: April 2, 2018

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

LATE

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: **Opposition for SB 192, SD1, Proposed HD1, Relating to the State Budget**

Hrg: April 4, 2018 at 1:30 pm at Capitol Room 308

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in opposition for SB 192, SD1, Proposed HD 1, which deposits Master Settlement Agreement arbitration settlement amounts in the Emergency and Budget Relief Fund.

The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (Coalition) is a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) that is dedicated to reducing tobacco use through education, policy, and advocacy. With more than two decades of history in Hawai'i, the Coalition has led several campaigns on enacting smoke-free environments, including being the first state in the nation to prohibit the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to purchasers under 21 years of age.

Funds from the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) is a result of 46 states suing the four largest tobacco companies in the United States to recover billions of dollars in costs associated with treating smoking-related illness. The Tobacco Settlement Special Fund (TSSF) was established in 2000. Currently 12.5% of the annual payment through the MSA is appropriated to the TSSF. As currently written in SB 192 Proposed HD1, language in Part 1 would appropriate all MSA funds that the state will be receiving in 2018 into the emergency and budget reserve fund.

Recommendations:

The Coalition respectfully requests the legislature to consider allocating SB192 Proposed HD1 Part 1 funds in the same manner as other MSA dollars, with 12.5% of these funds appropriated to the Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund (HRS 328L-2).

With funding that Hawaii has invested to date in tobacco prevention, Hawaii's adult smoking rate has dropped to 13 percent, the third lowest adult smoking rate in the nation.¹ In addition, the Department of Health recently released "Hawaii's Tobacco Landscape: The Faces Behind the Figures" which shows

¹ Hawaii Health Data Warehouse, Hawaii State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2016.

that the investment made over the 20 years in tobacco prevention and control, the state has saved \$1 Billion dollars.² **For every \$1.00 invested in tobacco prevention, Hawaii saved approximately \$6.64 in direct healthcare costs.**

Although significant progress has been made in tobacco prevention and control, tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death in our state and in the country. 1,400 people die from tobacco use or exposure in Hawaii each year.³ Tobacco use causes \$132 billion in health care costs in the US each year⁴, including \$526 million the State of Hawaii.⁵ The Department of Health also identified four priority populations in the 2016-2020 statewide tobacco strategic plan who have not seen significant tobacco use decreases. In addition, youth e-cigarette use continues to rise. According to the 2017 Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 42.3% of high school students having tried e-cigarettes and 27% of middle school students. 25.5% of high school students have used e-cigarettes in the last 30 days and 15.7% of middle school students.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that Hawaii spend \$13.7 million each year to fund an effective, comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program.⁶ Hawaii currently funds tobacco prevention and control at \$5.3 million, 39% of the recommended amount. Currently, nothing from the cigarette tax or other tobacco product tax is allocated to tobacco prevention and control. Funds from the TSSF are essential to tobacco prevention and control community programs and help those who are affected directly by tobacco addiction and tobacco marketing. \$25.5 million annually is spent in Hawaii on advertising and marketing of tobacco products.⁷

Prevention is essential. We must protect future generations from falling victim to the tobacco industry and address the skyrocketing e-cigarette usage rates among youth. We humbly ask you to consider allocating these funds in the same manner as other MSA dollars, and allocate 12.5% of these funds to the Hawaii Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this matter.



Jessica Yamauchi, M.A.
Executive Director

² Holmes JR, Ching LK, Cheng D, Johnson L, Yap L, Starr RR, and Irvin L. 2018. Tobacco Landscape. Honolulu: Hawaii State Department of Health, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division.

³ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *The Toll of Tobacco in Hawaii*. http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/hawaii

⁴ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *Toll of Tobacco in the USA* <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0072.pdf>

⁵ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *The Toll of Tobacco in Hawaii*. http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/hawaii

⁶ "Broken Promises to Our Children" report, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/microsites/statereport2015/hawaii.html>

⁷ http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/hawaii

American Heart Association testimony requesting an amendment to Part 1 of the proposed SB 192, SD1, HD1

Hawaii has made great strides in reducing tobacco use, but despite these advances, tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in our state and challenges to tobacco control still exist. Hawaii's current adult smoking prevalence (13%) remains higher than the national Healthy People 2020 target of 12%. Moreover, our low smoking rates (relative to other states) can conceal the fact that smoking continues to disproportionately affect populations and community groups by race and ethnicity, income and education, mental health and substance abuse, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) orientation.

In Hawaii alone, tobacco use claims 1,400 lives each year and creates \$526 million in annual health care costs (\$141.7 million of that is covered by the state Medicaid program). Hawaii residents' state & federal tax burden from tobacco-caused government expenditures is \$836 per household.

The tobacco industry spends an estimated \$25.5 million each year marketing its products in Hawaii. Hawaii's \$5.3 million investment in tobacco prevention, control and cessation programs pale in comparison, and fall well short of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) best practice recommendation of a \$13.7 million annual investment.

On March 14, 2018, Acting Attorney General Russell Suzuki announced that the State of Hawaii has agreed to a multi-million dollar arbitration settlement with the tobacco industry. The settlement resolves an ongoing dispute between the tobacco companies and Hawaii, relating to compliance with the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) from 2004 to 2017. As part of the settlement, the state expects to receive in excess of \$54 million dollars in April 2018 from funds that have been withheld from Hawaii during the disputed years.

The AHA strongly believes that allocating 12.5% of the revenue from this latest settlement agreement to community tobacco prevention, education and cessation programs is not only pono, but would help to increase the desired impact of those settlement dollars by further reducing the use of tobacco products by our youth and the state's most health vulnerable populations.

Investing a portion of the latest settlement revenue would also be fiscally prudent. The Hawaii Department of Health reported last month that over the last 20 years,



State Tobacco Settlement Fund investments in cumulative tobacco control efforts have resulted in approximately \$1 billion in healthcare cost savings to the state. Unfortunately, tobacco industry annual payments to the State's Master Settlement Agreement, signed in 1998, are due to begin declining under the settlement's formula. Therefore, it is imperative for state legislators to allocate 12.5% of this latest arbitrated settlement, as other tobacco settlement payments are, to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Special Fund to insure its continued success in saving the state healthcare dollars.

It is important now as ever to continue that funding considering the record increase in use of electronic smoking devices by Hawaii's youth. According to recent Department of Health data, almost half of Hawaii's youths have tried e-cigarettes, and 25 percent are now regular users. Those levels mirror youth cigarette use at its peak in Hawaii. This is concerning because e-cigarettes not only often contain nicotine and serve as a gateway to traditional cigarette use. Hawaii must continue to work to ensure that future generations avoid the pitfalls of tobacco use, including this latest threat by electronic smoking devices, and the healthcare issues and costs associated with it.

I conclude by stressing that the American Heart Association's advocacy for the appropriate use of Tobacco Settlement revenue is not based on its desire to have access to those funds. The AHA by policy does not accept state or local government funding. However, the AHA does see itself as an important watchdog for public health, and for insuring that our state government fulfills its State Constitutional role (Article IX, Section 1) in protecting and promoting the public health.

We urge legislators to follow current state law that calls for allocation of 12.5% of Tobacco Settlement revenue to the State's Tobacco Prevention and Control Special Fund to insure continued funding for community efforts to reduce the toll of tobacco on our state's residents.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman".

Donald B. Weisman
Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director

*"Building healthier lives,
free of cardiovascular
diseases and stroke."*

life is why™ es por la vida™ 全为生命™

Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.



LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 3:11:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Foster	Kupuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii AND Hawaii Advocates For Consumer Rights	Oppose	No

Comments:

We strongly oppose the intent of this "gut and replace" bill. Mahalo. Scott Foster

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 5:05:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Surfrider Foundation	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear Chair & Committee Members,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB 192 HD1. As the Hawaii Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I don't support the gutting of the original bill and inserting language that would take out funds from the Natural Area Reserves Fund. In 2015 the legislature passed Act 84, which stopped all distribution of conveyance taxes into the Natural Area Reserves Fund, thus cutting off a critical funding source.

Now, SB 192 proposed HD1 takes out whatever money remains in the NARS Fund, leaving DLNR without funding to protect, preserve or manage Hawaii's finite and fragile natural resources. The Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) was created to preserve and protect representative samples of Hawaiian biological ecosystems and geological formations, and currently consists of 19 reserves on five islands, totaling 109,165 acres.

Management of natural area reserves native ecosystems involves understanding what threatens these areas, actively working to protect them and restoring or enhancing existing populations of native birds or plants. The Natural Area Reserve Fund was established to provide DLNR with funding to preserve, manage, and protect the natural area reserves system. (HRS 105-9)

According to Hawaii's own statutes, our Natural area reserves are held in trust and shall not be alienated... (HRS 195-10). The dedicated NARS fund is necessary to ensure that Hawaii's watersheds, native birds and plants and fragile ecosystems are protected and preserved for present and future generations. Please reject this dangerous bill.

Aloha, Stuart Coleman, Hawaii Manager, Surfrider Foundation



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, April 4, 2018, 1:30 p.m., Room 308
SB 192, S.D. 1 H.D. 1 Proposed, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii opposes SB 192, SD1, HD1 Proposed.

The original bill, SB 192, was the Senate companion to HB 100, the State budget bill. The contents of the original SB 192 have been **entirely replaced with the HD1 version** of the original SB 192 measure. HD1 now deposits Master Settlement Agreement arbitration settlement amounts received in 2018 into the Emergency and Budget Relief Fund. It further repeals the Natural Area Reserve fund and transfers excess balances from the Natural Area Reserve Fund and Tobacco Settlement Special Fund to the general fund.

The Hawaii Constitution sets procedures for enactment of new laws. The purpose of these procedures is to facilitate public participation and to discourage "fraud" and "logrolling". Article III, Section 14 provides "Each law shall embrace but one subject which shall be expressed in its title." The Finance Committee is repealing the Natural Area Reserve Fund in a budget bill, and this was not included in the original bill. Apparently it wasn't included in the HB100 budget bill either!

In plain English, our Legislature is NOT supposed to pass a bill which addresses 2 or more unrelated subjects. Article III, Section 15 provides that "No bill shall become law unless it shall pass three readings in each house on separate days." In plain English, our Legislature is NOT supposed to pass a bill whose subject has not had three separate readings in the State House and three separate readings in the State Senate. These three readings did not occur with SB 192.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 2:34:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Stevens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

The NARS funding system, even though more money is needed, at least provides basic funds for managing these precious places. Please leave almost well-enough alone.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 3:20:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 3:56:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Boisvert	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE repealing the fund to set up to protect Natural Area Reserves, and transferring the balance to the General Fund. The fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources.

Please do not do that because it will cost far more money in the future to import water as well as to treat water to make it suitable for drinking.

Setting up the fund was the quintessential two steps forward; please do not make us go three steps backward.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 3:59:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Jorgensen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I cannot express strongly enough how much I OPPOSE repealing the fund to protect our Natural Area Reserves - - and to add insult to injury, to put the funding into the General Fund.

For the sake of water safety and the future of our drinking water resources, please do not do this.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 4:28:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kai nishiki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Support our forests!

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 4:56:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 192 SD1 Proposed HD1.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 5:41:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Furst	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7â€• 14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 5:57:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Ralston	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:35:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:



Healthy Climate
Communities

LATE

Testimony in strong opposition to of SB192 SD1 HD1

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Wednesday, April 4, 2018 1:30 p.m.

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and committee members,

The proposed HD1 is a raid on the Natural Area Reserve fund, which already suffered a loss of an important source of funding in 2015 when conveyance taxes were diverted.

The dedicated NARS fund is necessary to ensure that Hawaii's watersheds, native birds and plants and fragile ecosystems are protected and preserved for present and future generations.

Endemic Hawai'iian species have the highest rate of extinction in the world. Among the native species that have not yet gone extinct, many are endangered. They need reliable funding to protect and maintain the limited habitat that they rely on.

Healthy Climate Communities runs educational programs at the Hamakua Wildlife sanctuary. I have seen first-hand how four endangered species of water birds and the endangered Hawaiian owl benefit from and thrive in this protected area.

The Trump administration is doing its best to destroy our environmental protections and resources. Please do not follow suit here in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Dr. Lisa Marten
Executive Director
Healthy Climate Communities
healthyclimate@hawaii.rr.com

LATE



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

300 Kuulei Rd. Unit A #281 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htff3000@gmail.com

April 4, 2018

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Aloha,

Chair Luke
Vice Chair Cullen
Members

Hawaii's Thousand Friends opposes SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1, which raids the remaining funds from the Natural Area Reserves Fund and to be placed in the general fund.

The Natural Area Reserves System was established because the legislature found that our state possesses unique natural resources, geological and volcanological features, marine and terrestrial plants and animals, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

The legislature further declared that Hawaii's unique natural resources should be protected and preserved, for the enjoyment of future generations and to provide base lines against which changes to the environment can be measured.

The legislature affirmed that a statewide natural area reserves system should be established to preserve in perpetuity specific land and water areas, which support communities of the natural flora and fauna, as well as geological sites.

To fund DLNRs management and preservation Natural Area Reserve System responsibilities the legislature established the Natural Area Reserve Fund.

Unfortunately Act 84 passed in 2015 stopped all distribution of conveyance taxes to the fund. Leaving the only funding source for the Natural Area Reserves System from moneys received from public or private sources.

Natural Area Reserves are held in trust and shall not be alienated. SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1 breaks that trust by repealing the NARS fund entirely.

We urge you to hold SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1 in committee because leaving DLNR without any funding source to fulfill it's public trust responsibilities is not an option.

Environmental Caucus
of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

April 3, 2018

LATE

To: House Finance Committee
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Re: SB 192, SD 1, HD 1 proposed – Abolition of Special Fund for Natural Area Reserves

Hearing: Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 1:30 p.m. Room 308

Position: **STRONG OPPOSITION** to proposed draft

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i is in strong opposition to the portion of the proposed of SB 192, SD 1, that would essentially abolish the Special Fund for the Natural Area Reserves (NARS).

The Natural Area Reserves have been set aside by Hawai'i law for decades, and they serve a basic function in providing clean water sources for all of our Islands.

The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources. These moneys are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding and special funds, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can rely on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining support from the Legislature and the Governor.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native-forest ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135

billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O‘ahu’s groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which can adversely affect reefs and fishing.

If we fail to invest millions of dollars in our forests today, this will result, in a few years’ time, in the need to spend BILLIONS of dollars to capture and clean water manually. Please do not “save” a few dollars now and wind up having to spend huge sums later on as a result.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important measure.

Alan B. Burdick, Chair
Environmental Caucus
Burdick808@gmail.com/ 486-1018



HAWAII

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawai'i 96823

April 4, 2018

TO: Honorable Chair Luke and Members of Finance Committee

RE: SB 192 SD1 Relating to the State Budget

Opposition for hearing on April 4

LATE

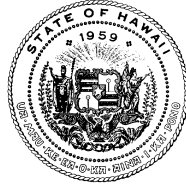
Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We oppose a particular provision of SB 192 SD1 that would repeal the fund established to protect Natural Area Reserves (NARS) and transfer the \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to the protection of our most precious, unique wild areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

LATE

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 192 SD1 HD1 PROPOSED
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: April 4, 2018

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Transfers the settled disputed payment from the non-participating
2 manufacturers to the tobacco master settlement agreement (MSA) to the State in fiscal year (FY)
3 2018 to the emergency budget and reserve fund (EBRF) established pursuant to §328L-3, Hawaii
4 Revised Statutes (HRS). This is a one-time lump sum payment preliminarily estimated to be
5 \$57,000,000. Transfers \$18,929,462 or so much thereof from the tobacco settlement special
6 fund (TSSF) in the Department of Health (DOH) to the general fund.

7 **Department Testimony:** The DOH offers comments on Senate Bill (S.B.) 192 SD1 HD1
8 PROPOSED and the transfer of the TSSF. The State is anticipating two payments in FY 2018
9 through the MSA with the tobacco companies. Part I refers to the payment that is preliminarily
10 estimated at \$57,000,000, and which is a lump sum payment that resulted from the settlement of
11 disputed funds from 2004 to 2017 that had been held in escrow. The State with several other
12 states settled the dispute with the non-participating manufacturers (NPM) and is receiving the
13 one-time payment through the MSA. Any moneys received by the State through the MSA is
14 defined as tobacco settlement moneys pursuant to §328L-1, HRS. S.B.192 SD1 HD1
15 PROPOSED would divert the one time payment from NPM disputed settlement from the TSSF
16 distribution pursuant to §328L-2, HRS and transfer the moneys to the EBRF also known as the
17 “Rainy Day Fund,” in §328L-3, HRS. The State is also separately anticipating the annual net
18 payment from the MSA that is estimated to be \$24,000,000.

19 The TSSF, pursuant to §328L-2, HRS, is distributed as follows, with the first \$350,000
20 deposited to the tobacco enforcement special fund, 15% appropriated to the EBRF, 12.5% to the

1 Hawaii tobacco prevention and control trust fund, 26% to the university revenue-undertakings
2 fund in §304A-2167.5, HRS, and the remaining 46.5% to the general fund. The central service
3 assessment of 5% is applied to the TSSF. The DOH is responsible for the distribution of the
4 TSSF, and the administration of the tobacco prevention and control trust fund which is to be used
5 for tobacco prevention and control services and activities pursuant to §328L-5, HRS. If the two
6 MSA payments preliminarily estimated at \$57,000,000 and \$24,000,0000 received on April 19,
7 2018 is distributed pursuant to §328L-2, HRS, then the portion to the tobacco prevention
8 and control trust fund, would be \$9,461,303. However, if only the net annual payment is
9 distributed, this portion would be about \$2,774,455. The Department therefore requests that the
10 trust fund receive \$5,000,000 to maintain the comprehensive tobacco prevention and control
11 programs for the state, especially in consideration of the decreasing net annual payments
12 anticipated in the out years.

13 The comprehensive tobacco prevention programs are possible because of the sustained
14 legislative support for resources and policies, collaborations between community organizations
15 and state agencies, and broad support from residents to improve health outcomes for Hawaii.
16 While overall adults smoking rates is 13.1% (2017 Behavior Risk Factors Surveillance) there
17 remain priority populations with smoking rates ranging from 18.0% to 35.5%. High school
18 student smoking rates have decreased to 8.1%, however, the use of electronic smoking devices
19 is now at 25.5% (2017 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey), and long-term studies indicate these
20 users are more likely to use regular cigarettes.^{1,2,3} The twenty-year declines in adult, pregnant
21 women, and youth smoking rates resulted in total healthcare savings to the State of
22 \$1,000,000,000.⁴ The need for integrated and progressive tobacco prevention and control

¹ Watkins SL, Glantz, SA. Association of Noncigarette Tobacco Products Use with Future Cigarette Smoking Among Youth in the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, 2013-2015. *JAMA Pediatric*. Published online January 2, 2018.

² Barrington-Trimis, JL, Urman, R, Berhane, K, Unger, JB, Cruz, TB, Pentz, MA, Samet, JM, Leventhal, AM, McConnell, R. E-Cigarettes and Future Cigarette Use. *Pediatrics*. 2016-0379.

³ Wills, TA, Knight, R, Williams, RJ, Pagano, I, Sargent JD. Risk Factors for Exclusive E-Cigarette Use and Dual E-Cigarette Use and Tobacco Use in Adolescents. *Pediatrics*. 2014-0760.

⁴Holmes, JR, Ching, LK, Cheng, D, Johnson, L, Yap, L, Starr, RR, and Irvin, L. 2018.Tobacco Landscape Honolulu: Hawaii State Department of Health, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division.

1 programs remain, and the \$5,000,000 requested will allow the DOH to maintain these effective
2 interventions; that in the long run, saves lives and money.

3 Part II, Section 2, subsection 2, referring to Act 118, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015,
4 references the funding for programs in the DOH transferred from the TSSF to general funds
5 effective July 1, 2015. The excess funds of \$18,929,462 therefore are the result of TSSF
6 distribution portions in FY 2015 that the DOH programs could no longer expend beginning
7 FY 2016, and any other accumulated unencumbered cash still in the departmental account. The
8 change in means of finance no longer permits the expenditure of the unencumbered cash by the
9 DOH programs. The exact amount of the unencumbered TSSF as of April 3, 2018 is
10 \$18,929,461.31.

11 **Offered Amendments:** The DOH requests that the tobacco prevention and control trust fund
12 portion of the TSSF distribution be adjusted to \$5,000,000 for FY 2018.

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14

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17

18

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:27:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toni Withington	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Our NARs are our State treasures. Do not rob them. Support them. Rural and wilderness areas are being run over by exotic plants and habitats for our native species are disappearing fast. Do not take a chance with them.

Toni Withington

Hawi, HI

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:34:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Senators,

I am so sad to see the literal gutting of this bill with amendments, basically a "bait and switch". As written, this bill has nothing to do with feew waste and now jntended to misappropriate legislatively mandated funds from protection of natural resources to the general fund.

The Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) was created to preserve and protect representative samples of Hawaiian biological ecosystems and geological formations, and currently consists of 19 reserves on five islands, totaling 109,165 acres.

Management of natural area reserves native ecosystems involves understanding what threatens these areas, actively working to protect them and restoring or enhancing existing populations of native birds or plants.

Taking 100% of the funds set aside to support NARS is morally wrong and borders on a breech of the public trust.

I strongly urge you to oppose this bill in it's present form. Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony in opposition to this measure.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 8:38:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7â€• 14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony,

Nanea Lo

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 10:41:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please restore the NARS funding that the draft bill would delete.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 10:52:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karl Magnacca	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This proposal to eliminate the Natural Area Reserve special fund is a disgrace to the heritage of Hawaii. It's bad enough that the legislature previously switched the funding of the native ecosystem/NARS program to general funds, without the same level of funding. Now the plan is to rob the fund of money already appropriated to it? It is an outrage to cut off this source of money for our watersheds and native ecosystems at a time when they are in such grave peril.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 11:35:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

The proposed HD1 of this measure threatens not only the last remaining strongholds of native and endemic species and the ecosystems that support them, but brings into question the true influences and motivations of those who would introduce such a measure. Why target the NARS fund? How is eliminating this drop in the bucket in the overall state budget going to possibly compensate our residents for the loss of management of the very species and ecosystems that serve as the foundation for our ecotourism-driven economy, ecological and cultural integrity, and future self-sufficiency as an island based society? Please OPPOSE this ostensibly random and curiously unfounded last-minute attempt to eliminate funding for the protection of our islands' most important native and endemic ecosystems and natural areas.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 6:56:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Kaye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 7:52:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Coffman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am testifying in opposition to raiding the Natural Area Reserve fund. I had the opportunity to make 20 hikes into indigenous forests in the process of making a documentary film for PBS called "May Earth Live." I saw that the native forests are an incredible resource but little understood. Native forests are as much as ten thousand years old. They are a step back in time. They are fragile. Because of their highly varied species, from algae to koa tree, they act as a sponge in our highest rainfall areas. So for both biological and hydrological reasons, they must be tended. With threats abounding from lower elevations, particularly with climate change, the need for management becomes progressively acute. NARS funding should not only be maintained but expanded. Taking away the revenue source in 2015 was the wrong idea. This is another step in the wrong direction.

ALL of our natural resources together are getting less than one per cent of the State budget, reflecting an absence of long-term thinking. Please let this bill die. Stop to think about the inadequacies of our current stewardship and support a proactive program of management.

Tom Coffman

LATE

CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

P.O. Box 5
Ninole, HI 96773
Telephone: (808)963-6966
e-mail: chrisyuenz@hotmail.com

April 4, 2018

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB192SD1 PROPOSED HD1

Chair Luke and members of the House Finance Committee:

In a very far-sighted move, the State Legislature in 1970 created the Natural Area Reserves System, to protect in perpetuity Hawai'i's most unique places.

Later, in other far-sighted decisions, the Legislature in 1987 established a Natural Area Reserves special fund, and provided dedicated funding via the conveyance tax, to ensure the state's long-term commitment to these areas.

It is unfortunate that the Legislature removed the dedicated funding via Act 84, SLH 2015. The proposed HD1 to SB192SD1 would now transfer the balance still remaining in the Natural Area Reserves special fund to the general fund.

Please reject HD1. Any transfers out of the Natural Area Reserves special fund should support the goals for which this fund was originally created: the protection and maintenance of Hawai'i's precious natural heritage.

Yours truly,

Chris Yuen

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 8:12:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James B Friday	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I am writing to oppose **SB192 SD1 HD1 proposed** and the repeal of the Natural Area Reserve Fund. Our Natural Area Reserves protect the best of nature in Hawaii. At a time of national backsliding on environmental issues, it is critical that Hawaii continue to stand up for our mountains, forests, and waters. The Natural Area Reserve Fund has been critical in protecting these for many years. Please keep the fund and keep protecting our aina.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 8:52:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlton York	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Strong Opposition to this bill , It does not consider long term consequences and is penny wise /Pound foolish , Please reject on behalf of Hawaii's Future !

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 10:16:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Chun	American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Comments	No

Comments:

House Committee on Finance

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Comments on proposed HD1:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter. We are concerned with funding levels for tobacco control and prevention programs. We urge the committee to ensure adequate funding for these vital programs in consideration of this measure.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 9:34:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colleen Soares	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. I am a Sierra Club volunteer hike leader, and for many years, I have organized volunteers to work in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve. I have also worked in the Mt. Ka'ala NAR. We have seen the hard work that needs to be done to keep these places intact. There is much ongoing work to be done, and I am getting older, and I will not be able to continue my volunteer work.

Please do not strip funding from the Natural Area Reserves. The NARs are special and essential to our vision of Hawaii as a natural, unique and gorgeous place. They show that Hawaii is dedicated to preserve the wonder and beauty of our environment. The NARs are critical for our souls, critical for our water resources, for our children, and for everyone who visits.

The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7.14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 9:35:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Ann Pahukoa	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Out-planting thousands and thousands of native trees in our Natural Area Reserve Systems has had a major impact on the watersheds within our sacred Hawai'i. I oppose Senate Bill 192, as it will affect the funding for State conservation entities like NARS. This is a serious conservation system that gives back to our 'aina, restores our watersheds, and promotes sustainability for all of Hawai'i.



Healthy Climate
Communities

LATE

Testimony in strong opposition to of SB192 SD1 HD1

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Wednesday, April 4, 2018 1:30 p.m.

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and committee members,

The proposed HD1 is a raid on the Natural Area Reserve fund, which already suffered a loss of an important source of funding in 2015 when conveyance taxes were diverted.

The dedicated NARS fund is necessary to ensure that Hawaii's watersheds, native birds and plants and fragile ecosystems are protected and preserved for present and future generations.

Endemic Hawai'iian species have the highest rate of extinction in the world. Among the native species that have not yet gone extinct, many are endangered. They need reliable funding to protect and maintain the limited habitat that they rely on.

Healthy Climate Communities runs educational programs at the Hamakua Wildlife sanctuary. I have seen first-hand how four endangered species of water birds and the endangered Hawaiian owl benefit from and thrive in this protected area.

The Trump administration is doing its best to destroy our environmental protections and resources. Please do not follow suit here in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Dr. Lisa Marten
Executive Director
Healthy Climate Communities
healthyclimate@hawaii.rr.com

LATE

Testimony in Opposition of SB192

Aloha,

I am a conservationist & biologist on Maui, I have worked for Natural Area Reserve Systems & I have seen the positive impacts to our resources, watersheds, and ecosystems from the work done by all NARS crews on Kauai, Maui, Moloka'i, & Moku o Keawe. Out-planting thousands and thousands of native trees in our Natural Area Reserve Systems has had a major impact on the watersheds within our sacred Hawai'i. I oppose Senate Bill 192, as it will affect the funding for State conservation entities like NARS. This is a serious conservation system that gives back to our 'aina, restores our watersheds, and promotes sustainability for all of Hawai'i. I have walked all NARS on Maui Island, Kaua'i, Moloka'i, and Moku o Keawe, I have seen the rare plants of Hawai'i, show a come-back. I have seen the birds thriving off the native tree's we planted nine years ago. I have seen more rainclouds form in our dry areas because of our restoration planting. I ask that you support our kupuna, our keiki, and most importantly our 'aina.

Mahalo for your time,

Tracen Oania

Conservationist, Student of Maui.

LATE



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

300 Kuulei Rd. Unit A #281 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htff3000@gmail.com

April 4, 2018

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Aloha,

Chair Luke
Vice Chair Cullen
Members

Hawaii's Thousand Friends opposes SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1, which raids the remaining funds from the Natural Area Reserves Fund and to be placed in the general fund.

The Natural Area Reserves System was established because the legislature found that our state possesses unique natural resources, geological and volcanological features, marine and terrestrial plants and animals, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

The legislature further declared that Hawaii's unique natural resources should be protected and preserved, for the enjoyment of future generations and to provide base lines against which changes to the environment can be measured.

The legislature affirmed that a statewide natural area reserves system should be established to preserve in perpetuity specific land and water areas, which support communities of the natural flora and fauna, as well as geological sites.

To fund DLNRs management and preservation Natural Area Reserve System responsibilities the legislature established the Natural Area Reserve Fund.

Unfortunately Act 84 passed in 2015 stopped all distribution of conveyance taxes to the fund. Leaving the only funding source for the Natural Area Reserves System from moneys received from public or private sources.

Natural Area Reserves are held in trust and shall not be alienated. SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1 breaks that trust by repealing the NARS fund entirely.

We urge you to hold SB 192 SD1 proposed HD1 in committee because leaving DLNR without any funding source to fulfill it's public trust responsibilities is not an option.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 11:50:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pearl Pahukoa	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I have seen the positive effects from state funding for programs like NARS, thousands of native trees planted in our watersheds have brought more rain to our dry areas, our ecosystems are thriving, and native species are coming back.

Environmental Caucus
of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

April 3, 2018

LATE

To: House Finance Committee
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Re: SB 192, SD 1, HD 1 proposed – Abolition of Special Fund for Natural Area Reserves

Hearing: Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 1:30 p.m. Room 308

Position: **STRONG OPPOSITION** to proposed draft

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i is in strong opposition to the portion of the proposed of SB 192, SD 1, that would essentially abolish the Special Fund for the Natural Area Reserves (NARS).

The Natural Area Reserves have been set aside by Hawai'i law for decades, and they serve a basic function in providing clean water sources for all of our Islands.

The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources. These moneys are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding and special funds, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can rely on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining support from the Legislature and the Governor.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native-forest ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135

billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O‘ahu’s groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which can adversely affect reefs and fishing.

If we fail to invest millions of dollars in our forests today, this will result, in a few years’ time, in the need to spend BILLIONS of dollars to capture and clean water manually. Please do not “save” a few dollars now and wind up having to spend huge sums later on as a result.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important measure.

Alan B. Burdick, Chair
Environmental Caucus
Burdick808@gmail.com/ 486-1018



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS			MAILING ADDRESS
John Bickel, President	Guy Archer	Jan Lubin	Cameron Sato	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Juliet Begley	Jenny Nomura		Honolulu
Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer	Gloria Borland	Stephen O'Harrow		Hawai'i 96823
Karin Gill, Secretary	Chuck Huxel	Doug Pyle		

April 4, 2018

TO: Honorable Chair Luke and Members of Finance Committee

RE: SB 192 SD1 Relating to the State Budget

Opposition for hearing on April 4

LATE

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We oppose a particular provision of SB 192 SD1 that would repeal the fund established to protect Natural Area Reserves (NARS) and transfer the \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to the protection of our most precious, unique wild areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 8:12:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James B Friday	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I am writing to oppose **SB192 SD1 HD1 proposed** and the repeal of the Natural Area Reserve Fund. Our Natural Area Reserves protect the best of nature in Hawaii. At a time of national backsliding on environmental issues, it is critical that Hawaii continue to stand up for our mountains, forests, and waters. The Natural Area Reserve Fund has been critical in protecting these for many years. Please keep the fund and keep protecting our aina.

LATE

CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

P.O. Box 5
Ninole, HI 96773
Telephone: (808)963-6966
e-mail: chrisyuenz@hotmail.com

April 4, 2018

TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB192SD1 PROPOSED HD1

Chair Luke and members of the House Finance Committee:

In a very far-sighted move, the State Legislature in 1970 created the Natural Area Reserves System, to protect in perpetuity Hawai'i's most unique places.

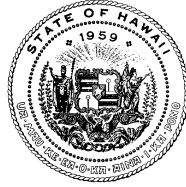
Later, in other far-sighted decisions, the Legislature in 1987 established a Natural Area Reserves special fund, and provided dedicated funding via the conveyance tax, to ensure the state's long-term commitment to these areas.

It is unfortunate that the Legislature removed the dedicated funding via Act 84, SLH 2015. The proposed HD1 to SB192SD1 would now transfer the balance still remaining in the Natural Area Reserves special fund to the general fund.

Please reject HD1. Any transfers out of the Natural Area Reserves special fund should support the goals for which this fund was originally created: the protection and maintenance of Hawai'i's precious natural heritage.

Yours truly,

Chris Yuen



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

LATE

**Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 192 SD1 HD1 PROPOSED
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: April 4, 2018

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Transfers the settled disputed payment from the non-participating
2 manufacturers to the tobacco master settlement agreement (MSA) to the State in fiscal year (FY)
3 2018 to the emergency budget and reserve fund (EBRF) established pursuant to §328L-3, Hawaii
4 Revised Statutes (HRS). This is a one-time lump sum payment preliminarily estimated to be
5 \$57,000,000. Transfers \$18,929,462 or so much thereof from the tobacco settlement special
6 fund (TSSF) in the Department of Health (DOH) to the general fund.

7 **Department Testimony:** The DOH offers comments on Senate Bill (S.B.) 192 SD1 HD1
8 PROPOSED and the transfer of the TSSF. The State is anticipating two payments in FY 2018
9 through the MSA with the tobacco companies. Part I refers to the payment that is preliminarily
10 estimated at \$57,000,000, and which is a lump sum payment that resulted from the settlement of
11 disputed funds from 2004 to 2017 that had been held in escrow. The State with several other
12 states settled the dispute with the non-participating manufacturers (NPM) and is receiving the
13 one-time payment through the MSA. Any moneys received by the State through the MSA is
14 defined as tobacco settlement moneys pursuant to §328L-1, HRS. S.B.192 SD1 HD1
15 PROPOSED would divert the one time payment from NPM disputed settlement from the TSSF
16 distribution pursuant to §328L-2, HRS and transfer the moneys to the EBRF also known as the
17 “Rainy Day Fund,” in §328L-3, HRS. The State is also separately anticipating the annual net
18 payment from the MSA that is estimated to be \$24,000,000.

19 The TSSF, pursuant to §328L-2, HRS, is distributed as follows, with the first \$350,000
20 deposited to the tobacco enforcement special fund, 15% appropriated to the EBRF, 12.5% to the

1 Hawaii tobacco prevention and control trust fund, 26% to the university revenue-undertakings
2 fund in §304A-2167.5, HRS, and the remaining 46.5% to the general fund. The central service
3 assessment of 5% is applied to the TSSF. The DOH is responsible for the distribution of the
4 TSSF, and the administration of the tobacco prevention and control trust fund which is to be used
5 for tobacco prevention and control services and activities pursuant to §328L-5, HRS. If the two
6 MSA payments preliminarily estimated at \$57,000,000 and \$24,000,0000 received on April 19,
7 2018 is distributed pursuant to §328L-2, HRS, then the portion to the tobacco prevention
8 and control trust fund, would be \$9,461,303. However, if only the net annual payment is
9 distributed, this portion would be about \$2,774,455. The Department therefore requests that the
10 trust fund receive \$5,000,000 to maintain the comprehensive tobacco prevention and control
11 programs for the state, especially in consideration of the decreasing net annual payments
12 anticipated in the out years.

13 The comprehensive tobacco prevention programs are possible because of the sustained
14 legislative support for resources and policies, collaborations between community organizations
15 and state agencies, and broad support from residents to improve health outcomes for Hawaii.
16 While overall adults smoking rates is 13.1% (2017 Behavior Risk Factors Surveillance) there
17 remain priority populations with smoking rates ranging from 18.0% to 35.5%. High school
18 student smoking rates have decreased to 8.1%, however, the use of electronic smoking devices
19 is now at 25.5% (2017 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey), and long-term studies indicate these
20 users are more likely to use regular cigarettes.^{1,2,3} The twenty-year declines in adult, pregnant
21 women, and youth smoking rates resulted in total healthcare savings to the State of
22 \$1,000,000,000.⁴ The need for integrated and progressive tobacco prevention and control

¹ Watkins SL, Glantz SA. Association of Noncigarette Tobacco Products Use with Future Cigarette Smoking Among Youth in the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, 2013-2015. *JAMA Pediatric*. Published online January 2, 2018.

² Barrington-Trimis, JL, Urman, R, Berhane, K, Unger, JB, Cruz, TB, Pentz, MA, Samet, JM, Leventhal, AM, McConnell, R. E-Cigarettes and Future Cigarette Use. *Pediatrics*. 2016-0379.

³ Wills, TA, Knight, R, Williams, RJ, Pagano, I, Sargent JD. Risk Factors for Exclusive E-Cigarette Use and Dual E-Cigarette Use and Tobacco Use in Adolescents. *Pediatrics*. 2014-0760.

⁴Holmes, JR, Ching, LK, Cheng, D, Johnson, L, Yap, L, Starr, RR, and Irvin, L. 2018.Tobacco Landscape Honolulu: Hawaii State Department of Health, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division.

1 programs remain, and the \$5,000,000 requested will allow the DOH to maintain these effective
2 interventions; that in the long run, saves lives and money.

3 Part II, Section 2, subsection 2, referring to Act 118, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015,
4 references the funding for programs in the DOH transferred from the TSSF to general funds
5 effective July 1, 2015. The excess funds of \$18,929,462 therefore are the result of TSSF
6 distribution portions in FY 2015 that the DOH programs could no longer expend beginning
7 FY 2016, and any other accumulated unencumbered cash still in the departmental account. The
8 change in means of finance no longer permits the expenditure of the unencumbered cash by the
9 DOH programs. The exact amount of the unencumbered TSSF as of April 3, 2018 is
10 \$18,929,461.31.

11 **Offered Amendments:** The DOH requests that the tobacco prevention and control trust fund
12 portion of the TSSF distribution be adjusted to \$5,000,000 for FY 2018.

13

14

15

16

17

18

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:35:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Sandlin	Hawaii Cattlemens Council	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:27:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toni Withington	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Our NARs are our State treasures. Do not rob them. Support them. Rural and wilderness areas are being run over by exotic plants and habitats for our native species are disappearing fast. Do not take a chance with them.

Toni Withington

Hawi, HI

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 7:34:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Senators,

I am so sad to see the literal gutting of this bill with amendments, basically a "bait and switch". As written, this bill has nothing to do with feew waste and now jntended to misappropriate legislatively mandated funds from protection of natural resources to the general fund.

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Taking 100% of the funds set aside to support NARS is morally wrong and borders on a breech of the public trust.

I strongly urge you to oppose this bill in it's present form. Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony in opposition to this measure.

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 8:38:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7.14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony,

Nanea Lo

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 10:41:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please restore the NARS funding that the draft bill would delete.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 10:52:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karl Magnacca	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This proposal to eliminate the Natural Area Reserve special fund is a disgrace to the heritage of Hawaii. It's bad enough that the legislature previously switched the funding of the native ecosystem/NARS program to general funds, without the same level of funding. Now the plan is to rob the fund of money already appropriated to it? It is an outrage to cut off this source of money for our watersheds and native ecosystems at a time when they are in such grave peril.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2018 11:35:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

The proposed HD1 of this measure threatens not only the last remaining strongholds of native and endemic species and the ecosystems that support them, but brings into question the true influences and motivations of those who would introduce such a measure. Why target the NARS fund? How is eliminating this drop in the bucket in the overall state budget going to possibly compensate our residents for the loss of management of the very species and ecosystems that serve as the foundation for our ecotourism-driven economy, ecological and cultural integrity, and future self-sufficiency as an island based society? Please OPPOSE this ostensibly random and curiously unfounded last-minute attempt to eliminate funding for the protection of our islands' most important native and endemic ecosystems and natural areas.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 6:56:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Kaye	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 7:52:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Coffman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am testifying in opposition to raiding the Natural Area Reserve fund. I had the opportunity to make 20 hikes into indigenous forests in the process of making a documentary film for PBS called "May Earth Live." I saw that the native forests are an incredible resource but little understood. Native forests are as much as ten thousand years old. They are a step back in time. They are fragile. Because of their highly varied species, from algae to koa tree, they act as a sponge in our highest rainfall areas. So for both biological and hydrological reasons, they must be tended. With threats abounding from lower elevations, particularly with climate change, the need for management becomes progressively acute. NARS funding should not only be maintained but expanded. Taking away the revenue source in 2015 was the wrong idea. This is another step in the wrong direction.

ALL of our natural resources together are getting less than one per cent of the State budget, reflecting an absence of long-term thinking. Please let this bill die. Stop to think about the inadequacies of our current stewardship and support a proactive program of management.

Tom Coffman

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 8:52:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlton York	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Strong Opposition to this bill , It does not consider long term consequences and is penny wise /Pound foolish , Please reject on behalf of Hawaii's Future !

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 12:19:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thorne Abbott	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose the repeal of SECTION 3. Section 195-9 and its replacement with SECTION 4 which moves the natural area reserve (NARS) special fund of at least \$15,307,518 to the State general fund.

NARS are critically necessary to protect ecosystems that help us thrive on these islands. For example, NARS on Maui's south shores help improve fisheries by creating a replenishment area. As marine life populations increase from living in a protected, unpolluted, managed area, the excess individuals 'spill over' into fishing areas providing an abundance of sustenance to locals and an attraction to tourists.

NARS = Assets and natural capital. Funding the management of NARS is key to enjoying and reaping the benefits of the natural interest created by the natural assets the NARS protects and manages.

If we don't protect unique environments and spend money on their proper management and acquisition, then we are degrading Hawaii's valuable and prized assets and we will lose the revenue and bounty they create. Removing, limiting, transferring or creating any imposition on the use of NARS funding by DLNR **is not** a wise investment strategy. Further, moving funds to the general fund is inconsistent with the intent that the voting public had when the NARS program was created. Please focus on making the program more efficient and effective by refunding the program and empowering DLNR to do its job and achieve the NARS program's mission.

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 12:28:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Montgomery & Anita Manning	Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Now that 2 Rapid Ohia Death pathogens are spread over ½ of Big Island Ohia forests and can jump to Maui & Oahu on a boot or potted plant, it is certainly not the time to repeal the Natural Area Reserve fund, which defends watersheds. More reasonable would be adjustment of the amounts, but abolishment will be a capricious and harmful act. Having supported the many improvements of the State Forestry & Wildlife on-the-ground actions in recent decades, this total dissolution of Hawaii's natural heritage defense fund would be a radical regression.

Such a 100% cut would be like the scorched Earth strategy of the Trump team of Dept. of Interior Secretary Zinke and EPA cannibalizer Scott Pruitt, and is not pono for the Hawaii that hosted a World Conservation Congress and sent Hokulea on a world Earthkeeping voyage.

A more responsible action than repeal would be, as with the tobacco settlement special fund, to transfer moneys that are "in excess of the needs" of the Natural Area Reserves special fund to the general fund.

The Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) was created to preserve and protect representative samples of Hawaiian biological ecosystems and geological formations, and currently consists of 19 reserves on five islands, totaling 109,165 acres.

Here are a few recent projects: building and maintaining 4 Oahu Public School Nurseries for the purpose of introducing native plant species to school campuses and reforestation in Oahu's forested Watershed

Forest Service State and Private Forestry Grants – Waianae Kai fire presuppression, reforestation and ungulate control.

Aerial Imagery Weed Mapping and Control

Please hold this bill and Oppose any repeal of Natural Area Reserve fund. Mahalo,

Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph. D., Board Member

Ahahui Malama I Ka Lokahi /Hawaiians for the Conservation of Native Ecosystems
& Conservation Council for Hawaii
P.O. Box 2923 Honolulu, HI 96802
(808) cell 342 6244 manninga001@hawaii.rr.com

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 12:29:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theodora Akau Gaspar	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Marilyn J. Gagen
59-398 Ka Nani Drive
Kamuela, HI 96743

LATE

Testimony requesting an amendment to Part 1 of the proposed SB 192, SD1, HD1

Hawaii has made great strides in reducing tobacco use, but despite these advances, tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in our state and challenges to tobacco control still exist. Hawaii's current adult smoking prevalence (13%) remains higher than the national Healthy People 2020 target of 12%. Moreover, our low smoking rates (relative to other states) can conceal the fact that smoking continues to disproportionately affect populations and community groups by race and ethnicity, income and education, mental health and substance abuse, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender ("LGBT") orientation.

In Hawaii alone, tobacco use claims 1,400 lives each year and creates \$526 million in annual health care costs (\$141.7 million of that is covered by the state Medicaid program). Hawaii residents' state and federal tax burden from tobacco-caused government expenditures is \$836 per household. My husband died in 2009 at age 59 from the effects of smoking, so I know all too well the tragedy that the tobacco industry has caused.

The tobacco industry spends an estimated \$25.5 million each year marketing its products in Hawaii. Hawaii's \$5.3 million investment in tobacco prevention, control and cessation programs pale in comparison, and fall well short of the Centers for Disease Control's ("CDC") best practice recommendation of a \$13.7 million annual investment.

On March 14, 2018, Acting Attorney General Russell Suzuki announced that the State of Hawaii has agreed to a multi-million dollar arbitration settlement with the tobacco industry. The settlement resolves an ongoing dispute between the tobacco companies and Hawaii, relating to compliance with the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) from 2004 to 2017. As part of the settlement, the state expects to receive in excess of \$54 million dollars in April 2018 from funds that have been withheld from Hawaii during the disputed years.

As a volunteer with the American Heart Association in Hawaii for more than 25 years, I strongly believe that allocating 12.5% of the revenue from this latest settlement agreement to community tobacco prevention, education and cessation programs is not only the right thing to do but would help to increase the desired impact of those settlement dollars by further reducing the use of tobacco products by our youth and the state's most health vulnerable populations.

Investing a portion of the latest settlement revenue would also be fiscally prudent. The Hawaii Department of Health reported last month that over the last 20 years, State Tobacco Settlement Fund investments in cumulative tobacco control efforts have resulted in approximately \$1 billion in healthcare cost savings to the state. Unfortunately, tobacco industry annual payments to the State's Master Settlement Agreement, signed in 1998, are due to begin declining under the settlement's formula. Therefore, it is imperative for state legislators to allocate 12.5% of this latest arbitrated settlement, as other tobacco settlement

payments are, to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Special Fund to insure its continued success in saving the state healthcare dollars.

It is more important now to continue that funding considering the record increase in use of electronic smoking devices by Hawaii's youth. According to recent Department of Health data, almost half of Hawaii's youths have tried e-cigarettes, and 25 percent are now regular users. Those levels mirror youth cigarette use at its peak in Hawaii. This is concerning because e-cigarettes not only often contain nicotine, they serve as a gateway to traditional cigarette use. Hawaii must continue to work to ensure that future generations avoid the pitfalls of tobacco use, including this latest threat by electronic smoking devices, and the healthcare issues and costs associated with it.

I urge legislators to follow current state law that calls for allocation of 12.5% of Tobacco Settlement revenue to the State's Tobacco Prevention and Control Special Fund to insure continued funding for community efforts to reduce the toll of tobacco on Hawaii's residents.

Sincerely,


Marilyn J. Gagen

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:16:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J Riverstone	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Finance Committee

I am opposed to the portion of this bill that would remove the dedicated funding for the Natural Area Reserve System. Over a hundred years ago it was realized that not taking care of our upland forests was harming our water supply and measures were taken to protect those forests. That is more important today than ever as our million+ residents rely on our forested watersheds including the Koolau Range for our drinking water supply, as well as protecting native flora and fauna.

Please keep the dedicted funding for our Natural Area Preserve System and our watersheds.

Sincerely,

Jerry Riverstone

From: kauaimichelle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michelle Clark
<kauaimichelle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
Michelle Clark
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: crystalrogers1994@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Crystal Rogers
<crystalrogers1994@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Crystal Rogers
Honolulu, HI 96813

FIN-Jo

From: instantkarma90@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Stephens
<instantkarma90@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
John Stephens
80 No Mail Please Honolulu, HI 96814

FIN-Jo

From: hildiegard@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of H Turano
<hildiegard@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

LATE

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I just heard that you are trying to reallocate or rather transfer funding from the Natural Area Reserve System and place it in the general fund. I am totally in opposition to the bill SB192. With climate change, we need to dedicate more funding specifically to NARS especially since rising sea levels will affect our water table and as such our drinking water. Putting this money in a general fund will just mean that the funding these concerns require it to compete with more "popular" knee jerk issues as opposed to long term preservation, conservation and protection. This is not a small issue. If you go around our long coast line, you will see strong evidence of sea level rising. This affects our watersheds and aquifers. Being proactive rather reactive later will be a much better usage of money. I remember how funding was cut to work against invasive species identification and mitigation. In the end, the state spent millions to clean up the invasive species, waited so that there was a bigger mess to clean. This kind of financial budgeting is more costly and less efficient. Have some foresight and do not approve SB192. If anything keep NARS and fully fund NARS.

The conservation work provided by the partnerships by NARS translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Additionally, it is important to have healthy forests. Fires and habitat loss are a problem when the ecosystem suffers. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
H Turano
51 -418B MAUMAULUUKAA St Box 300326 Kaaawa, HI 96730

FIN-Jo

From: noahjgomes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Noah Gomes
<noahjgomes@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 11:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: I hereby Oppose SB192



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

Aloha mai. I oppose SB192 which will gut funding for NARS. Threats to Hawaii's environment grow every day and federal funding is declining. We CANNOT allow our natural resources to degrade further if our economy is to survive long term. Mahalo for your consideration! - Noah Gomes

Sincerely,
Noah Gomes
Hilo, HI 96720

From: andreapeatmoss2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Anixt
<andreapeatmoss2@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 11:03 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Andrea Anixt
PO Box 646 Kaaawa, HI 96730-0646

From: Ginnybean79@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Virginia Block <Ginnybean79@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Virginia Block
95 Kahili Pl Lahaina, HI 96761-1119

From: recoverthis99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ceclia Reilly <recoverthis99@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:24 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Ceclia Reilly
100 Kane Rd Haiku, HI 96708-5828

From: cpuna@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of cheryl carocci
<cpuna@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 9:03 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
cheryl carocci
PO Box 572 Pahoehoe, HI 96778-0572

From: kalikoamona@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kaliko Amona
<kalikoamona@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Kaliko Amona
59 -272 Pupukea Rd Haleiwa, HI 96712-8409

From: kaimikila@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kaimikila Moraes
<kaimikila@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
Kaimikila Moraes
11-3894 Volcano, HI 96785

From: casselj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Katie Cassel
<casselj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Native Hawaiian Forests, Cultural Plants, and Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting native Hawaiian Forest from invasive weeds, and protecting the future of our drinking water resources. These monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Katie Cassel
6042 Menehune Rd Box 36 Makaweli, HI 96769

From: crystalinx@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Crystal West
<crystalinx@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Crystal West
Waimea, HI 96796

From: nicoll07@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nicole Collins <nicoll07@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:25 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Nicole Collins
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: mahelonay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Yvonne Mahelona
<mahelonay@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Yvonne Mahelona
5035 Big Red St Apt B Kapolei, HI 96707-3648

From: dennolan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jeremiah Nolan
<dennolan@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Jeremiah Nolan
59 -313 Ke Nui Rd Haleiwa, HI 96712-9662

From: muelboy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Matthew Mueller
<muelboy@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Matthew Mueller
81 -6267 Piko Rd Captain Cook, HI 96704-8103

From: shantelle.rackowski.m@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shantelle Rackowski-Villafuerte <shantelle.rackowski.m@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:41 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Shantelle Rackowski-Villafuerte
Poulsbo, WA 98370

FIN-Jo

From: kyle.m.kagimoto@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kyle Kagimoto
<kyle.m.kagimoto@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 7:28 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Strongly Oppose SB192



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing to strongly oppose SB192. To me it is incredibly foolish and short-sighted to even be considering reducing funding to the DLNR - NARS program. Our forests and natural areas literally provide us with life. They provide us with the water we drink, the air we breathe, and for many the food we eat. All of this is provided for us with minimal investment upon return. However we do have to invest something and take care of these resources. We cannot expect that we can leave them alone and that they will continue to be healthy. I highly, highly encourage you to talk to conservationists, scientists, and even kids in biology class. They can all tell you why we need to protect our natural areas.

Please do not make the mistake of gutting funding to these programs. Anyone who chooses to do so will surely lose my future votes.

Sincerely,
Kyle Kagimoto
1328 Alani St Honolulu, HI 96817-1916

From: treyyoshizumi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Trey Yoshizumi
<treyyoshizumi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 6:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Trey Yoshizumi
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: deegreen15@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Wendy Green <deegreen15@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 5:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Wendy Green
55 S Kukui St Apt 904 Honolulu, HI 96813-2321

From: carlenegreenlee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carlene Greenlee
<carlenegreenlee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 5:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Carlene Greenlee
Pahoa, HI 96778

From: vatincher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Virginia Tincher
<vatincher@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 3:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Virginia Tincher
Honolulu, HI 96825

From: manninga001@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anita Manning <manninga001@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Anita Manning
Waipahu, HI 96797

From: ntakekawa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nara Takakawa
<ntakakawa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Nara Takakawa
Honolulu, HI 96819

From: erynn.fernandez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Erynn Fernandez
<erynn.fernandez@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Erynn Fernandez
94 -1054 Paha Pl Waipahu, HI 96797-4458

LATE

FIN-Jo

From: tadhg04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Routery <tadhg04@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water and Forest Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Forests are life.
Michael

Sincerely,
Michael Routery
Kamuela, HI 96743

FIN-Jo

From: honokaapeople@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Phaethon Keeney
<honokaapeople@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Water is life!



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I strongly oppose SB192 proposed HD1, and think you should too. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. The State has an obligation to Malama 'Aina and protect our resources. Anything less is unacceptable. Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,
Phaethon Keeney
PO Box 248 Honokaa, HI 96727-0248

From: abbycalaceto@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Abigail Calaceto
<abbycalaceto@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

This money is the backbone of public-private conservation programs like the highly successful Watershed Partnerships. More than 2 million acres of upland forests are in active management by these partnerships to restore and perpetuate native ecosystems. These protected ecosystems capture rainwater for storage in our aquifers so that it can be used by future generations for drinking and sustenance.

The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
Abigail Calaceto
741 Hoawa St Apt 7 Honolulu, HI 96826-4243

From: mokihiro@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of May Okihiro
<mokihiro@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,
May Okihiro
46 -193 Yacht Club St Kaneohe, HI 96744-3641

From: rlew60@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ron Lew <rlew60@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 10:57 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Ron Lew
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

From: tulsigreenlee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tulsi Greenlee
<tulsigreenlee@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 10:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

Aloha,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Tulsi Greenlee
Haiku, HI 96708

From: catherine.ritti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine Ritti
<catherine.ritti@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 9:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Catherine Ritti
66 -903 Paahihi St Waialua, HI 96791-9753

From: karacajy21@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jennifer Karaca <karacajy21@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 9:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Jennifer Karaca
Makawao, HI 96768

From: caznitaj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anita Johnson
<caznitaj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 9:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am appalled that this is even being considered and I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Anita Johnson
52 -236 Kamehameha Hwy Hauula, HI 96717-9716

From: abby.g.frazier@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Abby Frazier
<abby.g.frazier@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 9:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Abby Frazier
Honolulu, HI 96816

From: warnert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Taylor Warner
<warnert@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 8:57 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,
Taylor Warner
Mountain View, HI 96771

From: gurushabd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shabd Khalsa
<gurushabd@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 8:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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Sincerely,
Shabd Khalsa
PO Box 81510 Haiku, HI 96708-1510

From: naneaclo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Nanea Lo
<naneaclo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 8:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Nanea Lo
1017 16th Ave Apt A Honolulu, HI 96816-4197

From: sierradew.info@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sierra Dew
<sierradew.info@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 8:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Sierra Dew
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: kekoaseed@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kersten Johnson
<kekoaseed@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 8:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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Sincerely,
Kersten Johnson
PO Box 980 Volcano, HI 96785-0980

LATE

FIN-Jo

From: karen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karen Chun
<karen@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I oppose SB192. Don't eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund

Sincerely,
Karen Chun
87 Lae St Paia, HI 96779-8105

From: P.LaHaela.Walter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Philipp LaHaela Walter
<P.LaHaela.Walter@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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Sincerely,
Philipp LaHaela Walter
579 Lauiki St Apt D Honolulu, HI 96826-5146

FIN-Jo

From: namisop35@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Namphuong Quach <namisop35@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Namphuong Quach
1403 Makiki St Apt B101 Honolulu, HI 96814-1342

From: davidsher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sherry Pollack
<davidsher@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:26 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,
Sherry Pollack
47 -185A HUI AKEPA Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: dave.mulinix@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David Mulinix
<dave.mulinix@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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The conservation work provided by these partnerships translates into quantifiable ecosystem services that benefit everyone in Hawai'i. For example, the Ko'olau Mountain watershed provides O'ahu residents with \$7-14 billion worth of nature's benefits, including 135 billion gallons of freshwater annually (47% of O'ahu's groundwater recharge), as well as helping to keep nearshore areas clean from runoff and sedimentation, which degrade reefs and destroy fishing grounds.

Our failure to invest millions of dollars in our forests today will mean that in a few years we will need to spend BILLIONS to capture and clean water manually. Please do not be penny-wise and pound-foolish, invest in our forests, and protect our water for the future.

Sincerely,
David Mulinix
47 -185A HUI AKEPA Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: kshimata@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathy Shimata
<kshimata@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 7:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient.

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Sincerely,
Kathy Shimata
3453 Pawaina St Honolulu, HI 96822-1356

From: paxo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ed Pasqualin
<paxo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 6:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Please support and protect our environment and Malama the Aina!

Sincerely,
Ed Pasqualin
Kihei, HI 96753

From: midicox@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Millicent Cox
<midicox@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 6:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Millicent Cox
3060 Oahu Ave Honolulu, HI 96822-1270

From: tia.pearson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tia Pearson
<tia.pearson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 6:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Tia Pearson
PO Box 861697 Wahiawa, HI 96786-8563

From: rvrstn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gerald Riverstone
<rvrstn@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:55 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Gerald Riverstone
Makawao, HI 96768

From: kehaulani.torigoe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stacey Torigoe
<kehaulani.torigoe@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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Sincerely,
Stacey Torigoe
15465 Haleakala Hwy Kula, HI 96790-8009

From: kekaukike@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Richard DeLeon
<kekaukike@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 12:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



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I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Richard DeLeon
140 Manino Cir Kihei, HI 96753-5212

From: yorkcarlton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carlton York
<yorkcarlton@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB192 proposed HD1 because it would eliminate the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Fund and transfer the existing \$15 million balance to the general fund. The NARS fund is crucial to protecting the future of our drinking water resources, for these monies are used to manage essential forest and watershed resources. Land management and protection programs, such as those supported by the Natural Area Reserve Fund, require steady, reliable funding to be most efficient. With dedicated funding, the Department of Land and Natural Resources can count on a certain amount of funding without having to start from scratch each year, begging for life-sustaining funds.

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Sincerely,
Carlton York
204 Eller Cove Rd Weaverville, NC 28787-9713

LATE

SB-192-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2018 1:59:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2018 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jazzmin Cabanilla	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose the proposed transfer of the "natural area reserve special fund of at least \$15,307,518 in unencumbered funds on the proposed date of July 1, 2018 to the general fund (in) the sum of \$15,307,518. Water is living, water is life and a vital component of our existence as a people, and as a culture. We live on an island, an island - not on a continent. Thus our resources are extremely important not only to us, but to our future generations. You folks need to stop the hewa and really examine where you are, what your relationship is with this place and if preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, malama 'aina and aloha 'aina as well as the future generations of ko pae 'aina o Hawai'i is not at the forefront of the work that you do - then maybe you folks should reconsider calling our 130+ islands, atolls, sand dunes, etc. home. This is not an issue just limited to culture - this is an issue that affects all of us and our future generations. We as humans can not exist more than 3 days without ka wai a kane (water). Water is living, water is life... Mahalo nui. Eo Ka Wai a Kane - as the Supreme Court ruling for Pohakuloa states; the State is bound by law to MALAMA 'AINA...

From: llcoburn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lynne Coburn
<llcoburn@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 2:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: TESTIMONY - Oppose SB192 - Protect Water Resources



Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,
Lynne Coburn
PO Box 88421 Honolulu, HI 96830-8421