

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 Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
LABOR**

**Friday, February 9, 2018
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3048
RELATING TO CONSERVATION OFFICER AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
TRAINING**

Senate Bill 3048 proposes to appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) for the establishment of a training academy for its Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) Officers. **The Department supports this measure.**

The Department notes that DOCARE lacks a centralized training venue to conduct both new hire recruit level training and in-service training for employees. As a result, there is no common core of knowledge, and employees have varying degrees of training depending on past law enforcement employment.

DOCARE aims to develop a full cadre of officers committed to conservation and resources enforcement in particular, beyond general law enforcement. A training academy would allow DOCARE to train entry-level officers in the full range of conservation and resources law enforcement from the ground up. It would also assist in the hiring of officers who currently do not possess the experience necessary to qualify as a lateral hire, and in ongoing common core conservation and resources enforcement training for current officers. This should increase the applicant pool and move DOCARE closer to fully staffing the Division with officers commonly trained in conservation and resources enforcement.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony for:
JADE T. BUTAY
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROY CATALANI
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 9, 2018
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224

S.B. 3048
RELATING TO CONSERVATION OFFICER AND
RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

Senate Committee on Water and Land
and
Committee on Labor

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 3048 relating to the Conservation Officer and Resources Enforcement Training, which will appropriate moneys to the department of land and natural resources for the establishment of a training academy for conservation and resources enforcement officers.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

LATE

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 5:39:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Paiva	Office of Mauna Kea Management	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB 3048. DOCARE provides a very critical service to Hawaii. Presently they are limited in obtaining qualified personnel without having a law enforcement training program. Please pass this bill to provide DOCARE with the tools they need to protect Hawaii's resources.

Mahalo,

Paul "Scotty" Paiva, Chief Maunakea Ranger

ppaiva@hawaii.edu

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 3:40:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu	Support	No

Comments:

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 10:44:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:24:48 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon		Oppose	No

Comments:

There's a safety in knowing a DLNR officer passed police academy before becoming a DLNR officer. This could be dangerous if you don't have proper background check certifications and gun training. We trust officers so please make sure this suggestion is thought thoroughly. Thank you

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 12:48:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Urasaki		Support	No

Comments:

In support

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 2:35:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaac Moon		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 10:39:19 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Silva	Waialua Boat Club	Support	No

Comments:

Training of enforcement officers is much needed! Their jurisdiction covers alot and their understanding of the rules for all natural resources needs further education to make sure they know the various rules. Through training and having resource guides on policy and procedures would go a long way to accomplish this.

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 7:59:58 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Kimata		Support	No

Comments:

Distinguished Committee Members,

I am in support of SB3048. There is a clear need for education in this field. The laws governing our aina is vast, and complicated with errors being made in enforcement. I have personally witness officers misidentifying fish species and misinterpreting statues. This cannot happen in proper resource management. Thank You for your consideration.

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 1:28:36 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 1:44:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl		Comments	No

Comments:

My questions: What kind of training academy would this be? Is it for militaristic training or training in understanding the island culture and tradition? All of the above? What exactly? Training them to prepare for enforcing laws of their area of jurisdiction? Will they be trained and then used to sit outside government offices or will their training be for the various areas which the BLNR covers?

LATE

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 8:50:27 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lance Kimura		Support	No

Comments:

I think this is the right step in the right direction to create a good core of future enforcement officers of our natural resouces. I see to much bounce back between DOCARE and HPD as to who has the authority/ability to enforce the laws related to our natural resouces.

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 6:47:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darrell Tanaka	individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is the only way DOCARE will be able to hire a lot of quality candidates, instead of hiring rejects from the police department.

LATE

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 6:50:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenny Yagodich		Support	No

Comments:

Appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of a training academy for conservation and resources enforcement officers.

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 9:56:35 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William K. Chang	Citizen	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-3048

Submitted on: 2/9/2018 12:29:32 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/9/2018 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lance Uchida		Support	No

Comments:

My name is Lance Uchida, 58 year old born and raised resident of Oahu and I'd like to thank you for taking time to consider this testimony. My Dad wasn't an avid fisherman or diver but, when I was very young, he did take me to the beach whenever possible -- and I can still remember those times. Like so many others, these experiences developed into a love and appreciation of these sports and the Ocean itself. Things sure have changed. Oahu's population has exploded. I can't believe how much things have changed in just my lifetime. Central Oahu and Ewa look nothing like how it did a few decades ago. The pressures put on the resources is backbreaking. Hiking trails are packed with cars and people, fishing and diving is no longer such a lonesome endeavor (there are always people at your once "secret" spot now). I've been involved with a number of diving and fishing forums and one thing has surprised me -- that so many fishermen and divers are supportive of conservation measures to protect the resources. They are aware of the regulations and restrictions, they know what those restrictions are trying to accomplish and they get upset when they see those regulations being broken. This last point is always a topic -- enforcement. We all know the limits that the DLNR faces. Enforcement takes money. But without enforcement, the regulations mean nothing, will accomplish nothing, and will create frustration between the citizens and the government and between those citizens that comply and those that don't. Decades ago, when I was young and was starting out diving, I never saw turtles. Ever. Then legislation was enacted to protect them. Now, almost any time you go to the beach, you'll see turtles, and you'll see people excited to experience them. Conservation can work. It may take decades to see a difference, but it can work -- but the regulations need teeth. We owe it to future generations not to be selfish today, but to invest now and help them experience what Hawaii has to offer. I ask for your support of SB3048.

Thank you,

Lance Uchida