

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

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

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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
WATER & LAND

Friday, April 13, 2018  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of  
**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95, SENATE DRAFT 1  
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,  
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO  
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND  
TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 95, Senate Draft 1 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), along with other governmental entities, to work with The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili. **The Department supports this measure.**

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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN  
Lt. Governor



SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**

**APRIL 13, 2018  
10:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95 SD1  
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY OAHU, AND  
URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND  
PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN  
MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

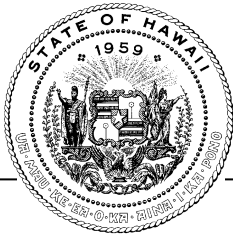
Chairperson Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 95 SD1 that requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, the City and County of Honolulu, and other entities to work with The Trust for Public Lands and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire the agricultural, cultural, and historic lands within Maunawili Valley. The Department of Agriculture supports the intent and offers comments.

The primary purpose(s) of the proposed acquisition of the identified properties appear to be – environmental (protect the marsh), cultural, historic, and/or re-establish agricultural production capacity. Prior to moving forward with the land purchase, it would be advisable to determine upfront whether commercial kalo production and/or other crops would be a good fit with the cultural, historic, recreational, and archaeological attributes sought to be acquired, protected, and preserved.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.





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STATE OF HAWAII**

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**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**  
Friday, April 13, 2018  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of  
**SCR 95, SD 1**  
**SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,  
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO  
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND  
TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

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

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SCR 95, SD 1, which seeks to acquire, preserve and restore agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley. We support this resolution provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. SCR 95, SD 1 would encourage the protection and conservation of the many agricultural and historic resources in Maunawili Valley. This resolution further urges that the relevant federal, State and county agencies work together to purchase Maunawili Valley from HRT Realty, LLC which has expressed an interest in selling its lands. Comprised of over 1,000 acres, this presents a welcome opportunity to work with the owner and various public agencies and private organizations to acquire the land, which includes the Royal Hawaiian Golf Course.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support on this measure.

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 7:35:48 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
laurie v. carlson	slow food hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

I support this resolution on behalf of Slow Food in Hawaii, an organization committed to traditional foodways, sustainability and abundant local food resources.

Maunawili Valley contains some of the most important agricultural soil in our state. It was a primary source of significant kalo and rice crops in times past. It embraces more than 50 springs and three streams, feeding the Kawainui wetlands system. Hanalei soil, the best soil for kalo production, exists in abundance in the valley.

This valley could be a crucial contribution to our state goal of doubling local food production. It needs to be secured for the public good.

**Hui Maunawili-Kawainui**  
**Testimony Supporting SCR 95, SD 1**

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

**House Committee on Water & Land**  
Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM, Room 325

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui which is **strongly in favor** of passage of SCR 95, SD 1, which supports the purchase, preservation, and restoration of more than 900 acres of privately-owned land in Maunawili.

The Hui is a group of descendants and residents of Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition of Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations. Our purpose is to protect prime agricultural and culturally significant lands in Maunawili. We have joined together to restore the health of Maunawili so that the valley can resume its vital and traditional role in the ahupua‘a of Kailua as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources. We support strengthening the Native Hawaiian presence and traditional practices in the ahupua‘a of Kailua, particularly in growing kalo and other healthy foods to feed future generations of our community. Maunawili is a storied place in Hawaiian culture, a place of abundance, where lo‘i kalo provided food not solely for Kailua, but for the entire Ko‘olaupoko area and beyond. Our vision is to restore Maunawili to that place of abundance, growth, and healing for all in Hawai‘i.

The Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has been working with the Trust for Public Land in its efforts to purchase the 900-plus acres in Maunawili currently owned by HRT Realty, Inc., to ensure that those lands will be held as a public trust resource for the benefit of all. These lands are exceptionally rich in resources including:

- a critical watershed containing Maunawili’s many streams and springs, which are the primary stream system for Kawainui watershed and the ahupua‘a of Kailua;
- the majority of the Proposed Important Agricultural Lands in the ahupua‘a, containing rich Hanalei Series soil, the most productive kalo growing soil in Hawai‘i;
- the potential to significantly improve the State’s future food security and sustainability because of the above soil and water features, and access to markets, all of which qualify much of this land for the critical designation as Important Agricultural Lands;
- numerous significant ancient and historic sites, including the Queen’s Retreat;
- historic roads and trails that rightly belong in the public domain; and
- endangered species including Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian hoary bat, O‘ahu ‘Elepaio, the Newell’s shearwater, Hawaiian stilt, Hawaiian gallinule, Hawaiian coot and Hawaiian duck and the threatened Newell’s shearwater.

The Hui Maunawili-Kawainui particularly wishes to call the Committee's attention to the long history of public interest in acquiring and protecting these Maunawili lands. As SCR 95, SD1 states, the 1994 Kawai Nui Marsh Master Plan recommended that the State acquire the Wetland/Semi-Wetland and upland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are a vital part of the economic, ecological, and cultural resources of Kawainui Marsh, and are separated from Kawainui only by the highway. It has been almost twenty-five years since that recommendation, but no progress has been made on public acquisition of the lands until now.

We are very encouraged that HRT Realty, Inc., the property holder for the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, is willing to work towards the purchase of its Maunawili lands. The purpose of the Weinberg Foundation is to address the needs of children, the poor, and the disadvantaged. We believe that the mission of the Weinberg Foundation aligns with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui's vision to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the ahupua'a of Kailua and the traditions associated with them, which are vital to the well-being of Hawai'i and its people.

We look forward to our continued collaboration with the Trust for Public Land in seeking funding for this acquisition and we ask this Committee to pass SCR 95, SD 1 in support of our collective efforts. Mahalo for the opportunity to present this testimony.



Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie  
On behalf of the Hui Maunawili-Kailua

**Hui Maunawili-Kawainui Founding Board**

- Beth Anderson - Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
- Paul Brennan – Kailua Historical Society
- Chuck Burrows - Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
- Laurie Carlson – Maunawili Resident
- Kīhei de Silva - Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima, Hika'alani, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club
- Māpuana de Silva - Hālau Mōhala 'Ilima, Hika'alani, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club
- Lehuakona Isaacs - 'Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi
- Mei Ling Isaacs - 'Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi
- Herb Lee - Pacific American Foundation, Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
- Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie – Hika'alani
- Alan Murakami – Maunawili resident
- Barbara Pope - Maunawili resident
- Deborah Pope – Kailua resident with multi-generational ties to Maunawili
- Oz Stender - Maunawili resident
- Mark Paikuli Stride - Luluku Farmers Association, Aloha 'Āina Health and Learning Center
- Dean Wilhelm - Ho'okua'āina at Kapalai Farms



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Pietsch Properties LLC

#### **Gregg H. Takara**

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Conservationist

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Michael Spalding Realty

#### **Sharron Stanbro**

Retired Educator, Farmer

#### **Carol Wilcox**

Author

#### **Race Randle**

Howard Hughes Corp.

## The Trust for Public Land's Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

House Committee on Water and Land

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

The Trust for Public Land appreciates this opportunity to express its strongest support for the resolution demonstrating legislative support for the purchase, preservation, and restoration of over 900 privately-owned acres in Maunawili. Hui Maunawili-Kawainui, a coalition of Kailua community organizations and leaders, asked The Trust for Public Land for assistance toward achieving a potential conservation purchase, and we are humbled to assist the community and the State in this important, community-driven, and collaborative effort.

The Trust for Public Land is a national non-profit organization that creates parks and conserves land for people, ensuring healthy livable communities for generations to come. In Hawai'i, health is the foundation of our work. We focus on meaningfully connecting people to the land and each other, and support the empowerment of underserved and Native Hawaiian communities. We have helped to conserve over 43,500 acres, to purchase and conserve 34 significant places across the islands for government agencies and local nonprofits.

The Maunawili lands should be protected for several reasons. The biocultural resources of the Maunawili lands are irreplaceable. In ancient times, the land, which is largely wetlands, was extensively farmed in kalo and other crops, and the kalo from the area was famed for its sweetness and specifically requested by the ali'i. It therefore makes sense that the Maunawili properties include the vast majority of Hanalei soil in the Kailua ahupua'a; the most rich and productive soil in all of Hawai'i. Recently, nearby Maunawili kalo farmers have demonstrated that this land can not only still produce kalo and other healthy food crops, but also be a place of learning for many school children and their families. Removing invasive species and returning these lands to agricultural production will have the added benefit of improving the health of Kawainui Marsh into which the waters from the Maunawili lands flow, and creating native wetland bird habitat.

The lands also have immense historical value of importance to all of Hawai'i. It was on these lands where Queen Lili'uokalani would retreat, where she would bathe in "Queen's Bath", and where she wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe" after seeing a couple in a farewell embrace. This area called "Queen's Retreat" still remains, as do the numerous cultural sites from ancient times, including the extensive lo'i kalo terrace walls, heiau, petroglyphs, birthing stones, and burials.

In addition, the Maunawili lands include historic trails that provide potential cultural and recreational opportunities. A conservation purchase of the lands could also solve



the neighborhood parking and other problems associated with Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail. Relocating the trailhead, and relieving the trail access burden on the residential community is a priority as this land protection effort progresses.

The Trust for Public Land is currently negotiating a conservation purchase with the private owner, and is grateful for their willingness to work towards a solution for these lands that would be a win all around - for the community, the environment, the landowner, and Hawaiian culture. The State, through the Department of Land and Natural Resources, would own the majority, if not all of the lands, and steward the lands in true partnership with the Kailua community, including farmers and Hawaiian cultural practitioners. A resolution from the Hawai'i State Legislature supporting the private-public effort to purchase, preserve, and restore these Maunawili lands would encourage all parties involved, and provide a showing of State support when The Trust for Public Land, DLNR, and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui seek non-State funding for the purchase.

Mahalo piha for the opportunity to provide testimony in support,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura H. E. Kaakua".

Laura H. E. Kaakua  
Native Lands Project Manager  
The Trust for Public Land  
Phone: (808)524-8562  
Email: [laura.kaakua@tpl.org](mailto:laura.kaakua@tpl.org)  
[www.tpl.org/hawaii](http://www.tpl.org/hawaii)



## Testimony of Hika‘alani in Support of SCR 95, SD 1

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

### Hearing

#### House Committee on Water & Land

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM, Room 325

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of Hika‘alani in **strong support** of SCR 95, SD 1, supporting the purchase, preservation, and restoration of more than 900-acres of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a of Kailua.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to present Hika‘alani’s testimony on SCR 95, SD.

Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie  
Secretary/Treasurer of Hika‘alani

Charlene Ka‘olu Luning  
Program Manager

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

Hika‘alani website: [hikaalani.website/index.html](http://hikaalani.website/index.html)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, April 13, 2018  
10:30 AM  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325  
STATE CAPITOL

TESTIMONY OF  
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D., Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and  
Ke One O Kakūhihewa (O'ahu Council – Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs)

IN **SUPPORT OF**  
SCR 95 SD1: SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING  
VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT  
ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Chair Ryan Yamane, Vice chair, Chris Todd, and committee members:

As a member of the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and Ecosystem chair for the Ke One O Kākūhihewa (O'ahu Council - Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs), I strongly support SCR95.

In 2017, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs passed Resolution **2017-30: Urging Strong Support for the Preservation and Restoration of Maunawili Valley Lands**. It also urged the State of Hawai'i and City and County of Honolulu to work with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire the important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands (Attached).

We believe there is an urgent need to protect and conserve Maunawili wetlands, proposed Important Agricultural Lands, freshwater resources, ancient and historic sites, and historic trails within the vital context of agricultural sustainability. There is also a need to provide managed and restricted access to State trails in proximity to Maunawili Historic Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas and the Queen's Retreat.

We support the work of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui for their efforts in bringing this issue to the attention of the community.

Please pass this measure and ensure the protection of Maunawili, the wetlands, and cultural sites, for generations to come.

Sincerely,



# ***ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS***

## ***A RESOLUTION***

No. 2017 – 30

### **URGING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MAUNAWILI VALLEY LANDS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui is a group of descendants and residents of

Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition of Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations, including the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club, who have joined together to protect prime agricultural and culturally significant lands in Maunawili; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, in the malama of ‘Ikuwā and the rising of Māhealani, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017, urging strong support for the preservation and restoration of Maunawili Valley lands; and

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

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

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



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of ‘Ikuwā and the rising of Māhealani on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017, at the 58th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Seattle, Washington.

*Annelle C. Amaral*  
Annelle C. Amaral, President

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 8:47:12 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
mele beter	Hui Maunawili Kawainui	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1

Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

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

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

My 'Ohana has been in Kailua for many generations. We are residents of Maunawili and have tried to continue to be stewards of this beautiful place! As a kanaka Maoli (Hawaiian) and as a steward of this wahi pana, these sacred lands of Maunawili, Kailua, I realize the incredible uniqueness and importance that Maunawili holds for our community.

These lands hold some of the most precious history, stories of our ancestors of our Ali'i, a historical breadbasket of resources that once fed thousands. Today there are ancient Lo'i (taro farms) that have been revived and are once again feeding, educating, and healing our community.

As a Hawaiian practitioner of la'au lapa'au and lomilomi (medicinal plant healing, and body work) I have spent years planting and harvesting native plants and medicinal plants for our community right here in Maunawili. When you spend that time on the land you begin to understand how truly unique and blessed we are still have this opportunity, to still steward these lands! Our soil is so rich and natural resources still abundant.

Why is it important to me that the lands of Maunawili be protected?

We have all seen how quickly the development of kailua has tragically devastated kailua town. Commercial real estate throughout kailua has continued to increased so rapidly, monopolizing and squeezing out the local market. Local businesses and families can't afford to compete with foreign businesses and people moving into our community. It is truly devastating to see the impact of these rapid changes on both the people and the land. So many local business have closed their doors, and families that have been here for generations are forced to leave. Not only has this development put our people at risk, but it has also put natural resources and natural habitats in danger. What I believe we need to look at are the following points:

- To protect numerous cultural sites important to Hawai'i's history, including "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.
- To be able to bring the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo.
- The lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase Hawai'i's local food production.
- To help the communities of Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa preserve Windward O'ahu's rural/local/country character



- The lands include a network of streams that feed Kawainui marsh, so the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. Together with Kawainui marsh, the lands constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua'a.
- To support the Ko'olau community's belief that the health and vitality of the land, its ecosystems, and the cultural traditions associated with them are essential to the well-being of the community.
- To allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.
- To protect and improve the natural habitat for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha.
- To solve the public access issues associated with use of Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail, and relieve the burden on the Maunawili neighborhood.

My families vision of this land is to see more Taro farms being revived and created, and more historical and cultural sites be restored and cared for. We see this place has the potential to be a leading example for our island of 'Oahu. We still are surrounded by so much country beauty, and ancient sites but what does the future of this place hold? If it's put into the right hands, we see a focus on cultural education, agricultural growth, a place where Hawaiian practitioners can practice and thrive. I would love to see a healing center for training la'au, Lomilomi, ho'oponopono practitioners and that cannon return provide these services for our community. Konahuanui is the highest point of the Ko'olau mountain range. She gracefully sits like a tutu (grandmother) above Maunawili, looking over all of her children. I stare at this mauna ever day of my life. I know that this place is protected for significant reason. I pray as we all move forward we will all sit and truly meditate on the future health of this sacred place! And the impact our decision will have for generations to come.

"Ku Kia's Mauna"

"This means to stand with the mountain within you. To stand with the mountain unshakable" -Pua Case

We all have our mountains to face, I stand in support to protect our Maunawili by supporting her forests and Lo'i through supporting SCR95 SD1.

Mahalo,

Mele & Ka'eo Beter

[\(808\)673-9953](tel:(808)673-9953)

Email: [meleokalani@gmail.com](mailto:meleokalani@gmail.com)

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 9:49:25 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan	Hui Maunawili Kawainui	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

House Committee on Water & Land

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM, Room 325

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

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd and Committee Members,

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

I live in Maunawili, Kailua and value the incomparable agricultural and water resources that have historically made this valley a breadbasket for O'ahu in history. We need to restore it for future generations while enhancing our island's food security, by doubling local food cultivation, as the Governor has declared as a goal for 2030

In addition, it contains, and we need to preserve, numerous cultural sites important to Hawai'i's history, including the "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.

Advancing these twin goals would promote important state goals by:

- Being able to bring the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo. The lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase Hawai'i's local food production.
- Helping the communities of Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa preserve Windward O'ahu's rural/local/country character. The lands include a network of streams that feed Kawainui

marsh, so the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. Together with Kawainui marsh, the lands constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua'a.

- Supporting the Ko'olau community's belief that the health and vitality of the land, its ecosystems, and the cultural traditions associated with them are essential to the well-being of the community.
- Allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.
- Protecting and improving the natural habitat for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha.
- Resolving the public access issues associated with use of Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail, and relieve the burden on the Maunawili neighborhood.

One current 'aina restoration effort at Ho'okua'aina is already demonstrating what is possible on a smaller scale, using lands not quite as fertile as the hundreds of acres of currently vacant Weinberg Foundation land that lines the valley described above. *See*, [www.hookuaaina.org](http://www.hookuaaina.org) for more info.

Let us build on that example and allow more dreams of young farmers come true as we pursue our sustainable future with the addition of these lands to the Department of Agriculture and Department of Land and Natural Resources inventory of lands set aside for the common good.

Please support SCR 95, SD 1.

Mahalo,

Alan T. Murakami

Maunawili resident

Member, Hui Maunawili Kawainui

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1  
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

House Committee on Water & Land  
Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM, Room 325

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It is because of our long-term commitment to aloha ‘āina, to our unwavering love for our land, that we therefore offer our emphatic support for SCR95 SD1.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,



Kīhei de Silva

2nd Vice President, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club

[desilvak009@gmail.com](mailto:desilvak009@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the 1994 Kawainui Master Plan recommended the State acquire the privately-owned Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are hydrologically part of Kawainui Marsh

and separated only by the highway and that acquisition would “protect the wetlands from future undesired developments” and inappropriate alteration of the landscape and waterways; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs supports the efforts

of the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to protect and conserve the Maunawili lands and urges HRT Ltd. to work with the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui toward the purchase of the HRT Maunawili lands to bring to fruition a larger, truly community-based vision of restoring Maunawili to its vital and traditional role in the ahupua‘a as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

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

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

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



**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1  
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

House Committee on Water & Land  
Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM, Room 325

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

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

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

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

I am writing, with the full support of my students and their families, in equally full support of the SCR95 SD1 resolution to endorse the efforts of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to purchase, preserve, and restore the 900-plus acres of HRT-owned lands in Maunawili Valley. These lands are invaluable to us for reasons that I will do my best to explain below.

First: as keepers of the mele and mo'olelo (the chants, songs, and stories) of Kailua – and of the hula that accompany them – we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the very lands that lie at the heart of our ancestral literature. We point, for example, to “Makalei ka Laau Pii Ona a ka Ia,” a long, complex, and chant-filled story of a boy from Maunawili who is

instrumental in restoring fish and taro abundance to his ahupua‘a. The parallels between this centuries-old story and the current conditions in upper Maunawili are striking; what better way to instruct our youth in pono (harmony, balance, righteous behavior and action) than to teach this mo‘olelo and its accompanying poetry on the restored lands to which it constantly refers.

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

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

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

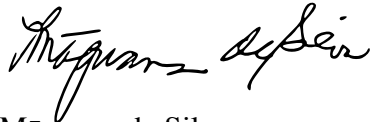
In conclusion, allow me to offer an old but new vision of a restored Maunawili as it connects to an equally restored Kawainui and a thriving ahupua‘a. It was published in the Hawaiian language newspaper *Kuokoa* on January 13, 1922, and is said to have been composed many centuries earlier by the people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

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

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

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

Mahalo nui for your attention and consideration,



Māpuana de Silva  
Founder, Director, and Lead Teacher  
Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima  
[kumumapuana@gmail.com](mailto:kumumapuana@gmail.com)

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 10:30:17 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

To the Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair; the Honorable Chris Todd, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Water & Land:

Good morning. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **SCR95 SD1** relating to acquiring important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili Valley.

The OCC on Legislative Priorities is in favor of **SCR95 SD1** and strongly supports its adoption.

**SCR95 SD1** is in accord with the Democratic Platform as it urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and other relevant state entities, as well as the City and County of Honolulu and the Hawai'i congressional delegation, to work with The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire these important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili Valley.

The DPH Platform states that "[t]he Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment are essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i.

We believe in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement.

The conservation, preservation, and restoration of Hawaii's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the

conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations.

We support the protection of our 'aina against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our freshwater resources.

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources. (Platform of the DPH, P.8, Lines 407-414, 417-425 (2016)).

Given that **SCR95 SD1** urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and other relevant state entities, as well as the City and County of Honolulu and the Hawai'i congressional delegation, to work with The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire these important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili Valley, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support its adoption.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.  
Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja  
Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee  
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/tel.: (808) 258-8889

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 9:08:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Todd, and Committee Members

I would like to offer testimony in support of the purchase, preservation and restoration of the privately-owned land in the heart of Maunawili to ensure that the vitality of this special valley will be passed down for the benefit of future generations. I was blessed to grow up in Maunawili in the late 1950s and 1960s, and although I now live makai (near Kailua Beach Park), I carry in my heart a deep and abiding love for Maunawili. Geologically, the valley occupies what was once the center of the Ko'olau caldera. In pre-contact time, it was one of the richest, most productive regions of the entire island of O'ahu. As such, I have always seen it as a "cradle" at the heart of the island that deserves special respect and protection. With its abundant waters and rich soil, it is a natural resource that needs to be nourished to ensure the long-term vitality and ecological integrity of the greater Kailua ahupua'a. There is now a unique opportunity to step forward to protect the valley while the essential qualities that make it so special are still intact. Please act now to take advantage of this special opportunity by supporting SCR95 SDI and SR55 SDI.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Mahalo,  
David Kemble  
219 Kakahiaka St.  
Kailua, HI 96734  
(former resident of 1042 Maunawili Loop)

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 12:42:40 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR95 SD1**

**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo'i**

House Committee on Water and Land

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

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

I thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in strong support of **SCR95 SD1**.

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

I began studying traditional hula in 1989 at the age of nine when my mother signed me up for Hāla lau Māhala 'Ilima based in Ka'aha, Kailua, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu. I learn

hula, chants, and songs that honor our gods, our royalty, our sacred places, and our histories. The words I continue to give voice to and the motions I continue to give life to are the same words and motions that my hula ancestors practiced for generations and that I continue to perpetuate into the future. We are taught in our hā• lau that researching the many-layered meanings of our mele and hula and then presenting them on the land for the purpose of honoring the place and remembering the people and events connected to that place are all part of what is required when you accept the kuleana (responsibility) to practice traditional hula. I take this kuleana very seriously. The purchase, preservation, and restoration of these parcels of land in Maunawili will allow hula practitioners of Kailua like myself to fulfill this kuleana because it provides for the restoration and revitalization of cultural and natural resources related to our wahi pana (sacred sites). This important work will in turn provide better opportunities for us to live our culture in relation to these wahi pana from the back of Maunawili where Lili'uokalani was once hosted by our community over a century ago, to the many heiau and ancient agricultural complexes that still exist throughout the valley, to the mouth of the valley where a network of streams feed into Kawainui fishpond that once fed the communities of Kailua, Waimā• nalo, and Kā• ne'ohe.

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

Finally, I am a Native Hawaiian of Kailua who has been raised by these lands of Maunawili for my entire life and continues to make my home in the protective embrace of the Ko'olau mountains. The oral histories of my ancestors from four and five centuries past further corroborated by written accounts in primary source materials describe Kailua, and specifically the rich agricultural lands of Maunawili, as a nexus of cultural excellence in our islands as well as a bountiful, calabash-like land division able to support a large population. The bounty of natural and cultural resources cared for and cultivated by the people of Kailua not only fed their community but also attracted Hawaiian royalty throughout the centuries, from the high-ranking chief Kā• kuhihewa, who made Kailua one of his permanent residences and seats of political power for the entire island of O'ahu in the fifteenth century to Queen Lili'uokalani, who was regularly hosted by the natives of Kailua at magnificent feasts and celebrations in the nineteenth



century. A strong, enduring relationship between our people, their places, and their cultural practices created a strong, thriving community in Kailua who had the knowledge and skills to produce and maintain the resources needed to grow and support their families over the generations. It is my strong belief that the purchase, preservation, and restoration of these 900+ acres in Maunawili will allow for the re-establishment of a piko (center) of stewardship and learning in Kailua where our community can once again gather to study, teach, and promote land-based Hawaiian cultural knowledge and practices for the purposes of feeding and growing healthy, balanced, and abundant lands and people for generations to come.

For all these reasons, I strongly urge you to support **SCR95 SD1**.

Mahalo nui,

Maya Saffery

948 Lunahai Pl.

Kailua, HI 96734

mayakawailana@gmail.com

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1**  
**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo‘i**  
House Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30 AM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We look forward to continuing to work with The Trust for Public Land to seek funding for this purchase. We urge this Committee to pass SCR 95 SD1. Mahalo for your consideration.

Deborah Pope  
426 'Ili'aina Street  
Kailua 96734

Barbara Pope  
1022 Maunawili Loop  
Kailua 96734

Fabrizio Medosi  
1022 Maunawili Loop  
Kailua 96734

Todd Coffey  
1821 Iwi Way  
Honolulu 96816

John Foster  
1499 Akeke Place  
Kailua 96734

William Foster  
968 Maunawili Road  
Kailua 96734

Greer Price  
968 Maunawili Road  
Kailua 96734

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 2:19:53 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony supporting SCR95 SD1, Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Danielle Espiritu. I am 30 years old, grew up in Kāneʻohe, Koʻolaupoko, Oʻahu, and would like to support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, Oʻahu, and to urge various Federal, State, and County entities to acquire and protect important and historic sites, trails and waters in Maunawili Valley.

I currently work with Hoʻokuaʻāina in Kapalai as an education specialist. The concepts of "lāhiki" (balance, harmony) and "e ola pono" drive not only the work we do on the farm, but also the way I view and live my life. "Pono," while often interpreted as "righteousness" or doing what is right, is also completely tied to the idea of balance and harmonious relationship between people, akua and 'Āina, our land and natural environment. We knew that in order to live sustainably and to have a healthy, thriving society, all of these components needed to be in line.

When I look at the reality of today, I see an imbalance. We import the majority of the food and resources we consume, and instead, convert lands that could be used to producing healthy food for our families into developments that are often inaccessible to actual community members. We pave over our soils, drastically reducing the amount of water going to replenish our aquifers, and we have become careless in the waste we produce.

In all honesty, I don't think we need more development. We need places of connection and of healing, and we need to provide families and communities the opportunity to access land. I know a number of young families who would jump at the chance to restore 'Āina and to produce healthy food for their children and themselves, but simply cannot because they do not have land and cannot afford to purchase it. There is an increasing consciousness in this generation and a dissatisfaction in relying solely on foods that have been imported, potentially modified and filled with chemicals.

We want to know where our food comes from and to know that the food we feed our children is healthy. We want the connection to land, place and one another that comes from growing the food you eat with a community of individuals committed to the same ideals, and we want access to 'Āina and the ability to choose what is best for our families rather than being forced to settle simply because we cannot afford to make a land purchase.

Ultimately, I think many in our generation have vision for a thriving Hawai'i, and I mahalo you for your consideration of this testimony as a means of making this vision a reality.

Ke aloha nā ,

Danielle Espiritu

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1**

**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

**House Committee on Water and Land**

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

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

Aloha mai kākou,

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Charlene (Borges) Luning

(808) 554-5868

1015 Aoloa Pl #241, Kailua HI 96734

[charluning@gmail.com](mailto:charluning@gmail.com)

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1**  
**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo‘i**  
House Committee on Water and Land  
Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mahalo for your attention.



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

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2018 10:43:44 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

This area is a prime agricultural growing zone and it would be wasteful and foolish to throw that away through suburban development. Hawaii needs to increase its food production to better provide for our people. If we are to reach our sustainability goals, provide jobs and opportunities for those interested in agriculture, and manage our land resources effectively, we need to protect the land from the ever pervasive forces of development. There is growing interest in sustainability and agriculture amongst young people such as myself. Please provide us with opportunities and a healthy 'aina for generations to come.

Mahalo



**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 12:13:15 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1

Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

House Committee on Water and Land

Friday, April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 325

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

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

Thank you in advance for listening to our thoughts on this conservation plan. On the island of Oahu, we are living on a small yet bustling island where every parcel of land is precious. We need to use our land carefully. Honolulu stretches across most of the south, and suburbs cut into a large portion of what is left. Kailua and Kaneohe have become quite robust towns. It is not like the North Shore where the rural feel is more common. We struggle to keep our open spaces: agricultural lands, watershed, parks, and conservation lands against the interests of development.

Our green spaces have value that is harder to see at first glance. Since real estate is so expensive, it is tempting to develop each parcel into housing, but without the green spaces distributed intelligently within easy distance of every house, our housing becomes worth much less. Residents pay a premium to live on the windward side because of the breathtaking scenery in the remaining wild spaces. Our undeveloped lands give us the way of life that we value. It brings in tourism dollars as well, which are less tangible than those of housing development, but a good value to keep in mind. Without the green spaces, our endangered animals lose habitat as well. It's hard to keep our eyes on the quality of life and the indirect income generated from our

beautiful open spaces, but we need have reached a point where there are highly limited wild spaces in the Kailua area. We need places for our keiki to learn to love the land.

If Maunawili is zoned into agricultural parcels, no one can predict if it will be a successful nursery, a thriving farm, or a lawn for a mansion. Norfolk was a similar situation. This is the neighborhood directly on the other side of Olamana mountain, where home owners who promised to perform agriculture on their acres of land instead converted farms into mansions with arable acres turned into lawn instead of the food we were promised. This situation is likely to repeat in Maunawili. I think the only way we can reliably use the land in the best interest of the surrounding areas is to turn it into government land for community use like Ulupo Heiau, or for watershed like the lands that are adjacent. Retaining the land in Maunawili is very important for the quality of life for all of Oahu, but especially those in Kailua and Honolulu. Please know that our family is in favor of the purchase.

Thank you!

Wendy Roberts

Jeremy Roberts

Sora Roberts

Elysia Roberts

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 7:39:07 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vanita Rae Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 Relating to** Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i Senate Committee on Water and Land Friday April 13, 2018, 10:30AM, Conference Room 425

Supporting the purchase, preservation and restoration of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, O'ahu, and urging various federal, state, and county entities to acquire and protect important ancient and historic sites and trails and waters in Maunawili Valley.

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

1. strongly and whole heartily support the purchase and preservation and restoration of the Maunawili forest and lo'i. We the people want to purchase 900+ acres, including the Queen's Retreat, in order to protect the few beacons of life left on O'ahu for future generations. The valley is historically known as **KAHUAONALI** "the playground of Queens" and continues to reflect the playful spirit of the 1890s when and where Queen Liliuoklani wrote the haunting melody, "Aloha Oe". Will her song outlast her land?

I'm Vanita Rae Smith and have lived at 908 Maunawili Road (adjoining the Kawainui Marsh) since 1985. I walked the Olomana slopes (with my un-leashed dogs) and spread ashes of loved ones before the completion of the golf course, whose charter promised (1) to keep the marsh land mowed and maintained (which hasn't been done in years) and (2) NOT to develop other land holdings in the valley. The neighborhood lost the battle to stop the Japanese from building the golf course, but now we are faced with other challenges. We must protect and defend the National Wetlands at all costs and the Hawaiians final frontier.

1. a farm girl from the Ozark Mountains in Missouri, I loved the cattle grazing below my rim property in 1985. A wonderful cowboy took care of them. I watched him herd them home under the Pali Hwy during the storms when the water could get three feet deep (and it still does). He told me the story when a flash flood quickly drowned a small herd of sheep a couple of years before I moved here. I still cherish all the wildlife in my back yard.

1. girls passionately love the land as do the Hawaiians. We share that common bond. I love agriculture and culture (as an Army's Entertainment Director for 42 years) and Maunawili has both. We must save the rich top soil in Kawainui (back home we call it "bottomland" because low-lying land near a river is rich and subject to floods). Why protect and invest millions of dollars to save the North side of the Marsh and not save the South side? Is that not like stopping the HRT (Honolulu Rail Transit) half way?

I give my support to the efforts to acquire and safeguard these valuable agricultural lands and the National Wetlands for future generations.

Sincerely, Vanita Rae Smith 908 Maunawili Road Kailua, HI 96734 (808) 225-6927  
vanitaraesmith@hawaii.rr.com

April 12, 2018

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

My name is Kiani Halushka. I am 21 years old, an undergraduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and have been a Kailua resident for my entire life. I am here on behalf of myself, my family, and the community of the Kailua ahupua'a in favor of the resolution to support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, O'ahu, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001. I am here to urge various Federal, State, and County entities to acquire and protect important ancient and historic sites and trails and waters in Maunawili Valley.

Hawai'i is so special and unique due to the rich cultural history, and lush, natural landscapes. By voting in favor of the resolution, we can uplift the people of community and give them strength to be proud of their 'āina. Ki and popolo still grow within the lushness of Maunawili Valley, as do many endemic, indigenous and introduced plants. For a time, Maunawili was the focal area for sugarcane production. Maunawili provided sustenance for our people for ages. Kalo continued to be cultivated as the population within the community increased and the agricultural prowess of Maunawili Valley became recognized.

By voting in favor of the resolution, we will be able to bring the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo. We can help the communities of Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa preserve Windward O'ahu's rural/local/country character. We can help to support the Ko'olau community's belief that the health and vitality of the land, its ecosystems, and the cultural traditions associated with them are essential to the well-being of the community. We can help to protect and improve the natural habitat for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha. And we can allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.

Kailua is an area that is known for its beautiful landscape and nature features. It was once a great source of life for our ancestors where they farmed and managed the land. And to this day, we still use and thrive on this land to feed our people and bring our community together with the traditional work and practices of our kupuna. It is our kuleana to care for the land, in this reciprocal relationship that we have with it. If we care for the land, in return the land will take care of us.

Mahalo,  
Kiani Halushka

**LATE**

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 6:30:41 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**Testimony in support of SCR95 SD1**

**SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE**

**AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

**Friday, 04-13-18 10:30AM in conference room 325**

Aloha Senators,

As a Native Hawaiian woman born and raised in Hawaii and having spent my entire college life focused on Hawaii, its language, culture and ancient and historic sites, I strongly support this bill.

I am appreciative of the efforts that have been made to preserve Hawaii’s natural resources and have been actively participating in cultural and community volunteer activities and projects that help to preserve and protect Hawaii’s natural resources and their inhabitants for decades.

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

- Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a (land division) of Kailua is celebrated in story and chant for its association with akua (gods), ali‘i (chiefs), cultural heroes, and important historical figures, including Queen Lili‘uokalani.
- Maunawili Valley contains wetlands, streams, and freshwater springs that provide most of the water that flows to the Kawainui Marsh ecosystem, and more than fifty springs and smaller streams, including Maunawili Stream, the most significant stream in the Kailua ahupua‘a,
- Ancient and historic sites throughout Maunawili Valley include heiau (temple or sacred site), sacred stones, petroglyphs, Hawaiian burials, alanui (path or trail), house sites, grinding stones, irrigated and dryland agricultural terraces, large ‘auwai (irrigation ditches) related to extensive lo‘i (taro patches), and nineteenth and early twentieth century structures related to agriculture and food production.
- Kawainui Marsh is a designated Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, and the 1994 Kawai Nui Marsh Master Plan recommended that the State acquire the privately-owned wetland and semi-wetland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are hydrologically part of the economic, ecological, and cultural resources of Kawainui Marsh, separated only by the highway, and that acquisition would "protect the wetlands from future undesired developments" and inappropriate alteration of the landscape and waterways
- There is a need to protect and conserve the Maunawili wetlands and semi-wetlands; Maunawili's Hanalei soil, which is the most fertile soil in Hawai‘i; fresh water resources; ancient and historic sites; and historic trails within the vital context of agricultural sustainability.

- There is also a need to provide managed and restricted access to the State's Maunawili and Olomana Trails in proximity to Maunawili's historic wetland and semi-wetland areas and the Queen's Retreat.
- The Governor has declared a state goal to double local food production by 2020, which is in line with Maunawili's legacy as historically fertile ground for the production of food crops

I totally support the community of Maunawili in their quest to preserve their valuable cultural sites and agricultural lands for present and future generations.

Development of these lands have the potential of killing culturally significant sites as well as destroying important agricultural and watershed areas. Moreover, the preservation of natural habitats for native and endangered species of plants and wildlife in these areas will be immensely threatened.

It is my humble plea that the State support conserving this area for Hawaii's present and future generations.

Mahalo for your support & consideration.

Sincerely,

Lurline Manalo



**LATE**

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2018 8:32:25 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**Aloha,**

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

I am a long time resident of Maunawili Estates? I live 4 houses from the entrance to Maunawili Falls Trail and have seen it start to turn into an overused, exploited, and abused area with no infrastructure to support the crowds.

Why is it important to you that the lands be protected? Please speak to what you personally care about. Here are possible points to include in your own words (please choose a few and expand):

The Maunawili valley is very historic and fertile land that needs to be protected from housing developments and to continue to educate the next generations by farming sustainable, traditional crops.

Mahalo,

William Crook

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**LATE**

**SCR-95-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/13/2018 6:12:26 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

We continue to STRONGLY SUPPORT this resolution. Mahalo.