



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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0935  
RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR WATER REUSE**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 5, 2019

Room Number: CR 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's  
2 Executive Budget Request.

3 **Department Testimony:** Water is a precious resource that needs to be preserved and conserved  
4 to ensure sustainability for future generations. The Department of Health (Department) is an  
5 advocate for promoting the use of recycled water in Hawaii. The implementation of the two  
6 demonstration water reuse projects noted in the measure would help to conserve our water  
7 resource.

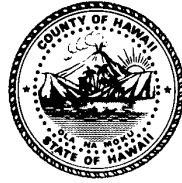
8 The Department strongly supports this measure as long as it does not impact the priorities  
9 indentified in the Governor's Executive Budget Request.

10 **Offered Amendments:** None.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Harry Kim  
Mayor

Wilfred M. Okabe  
Managing Director



William A. Kucharski  
Director

Diane A. Noda  
Deputy Director

## County of Hawai'i

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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February 4, 2019

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: SUPPORT FOR SB 935**  
**(Relating to Capital Improvement Projects for Water Reuse)**  
Hearing: February 5, 2019 (Tuesday)  
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

The County of Hawai'i (COH) supports SB 935.

Providing funds to help manage the reuse of limited water resources is supported by the COH. Included in the funds proposed by SB 935 is a provision to provide for design support for the reuse of water treated to an R1 standard from the Kealakehe wastewater treatment system. This provision is believed not only to represent sound policy, but is also in support of the water reuse goals proposed by the State. There have been significant costs borne by the COH associated with the R1 water treatment system, and having financial support for a system design encompassing the reuse of this water resource is much welcomed.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

William A. Kucharski  
Director

cc: Andrew Levin, Executive Assistant, Mayor's Office

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting SB 935 Relating to Capital Improvement Projects for Water Reuse  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 10:00 AM, Room 221

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and work in over 30 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs, waters and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnership with government, private parties and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and the many benefits they provide to people.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports HB 935.

Easily available fresh water is not a limitless resource here in the middle of the Pacific. Several locations in the state have experienced prolonged drought in recent years. Science indicates that the likely effects of climate change in Hawai'i will include:

- More frequent and more severe storms that can increase runoff and siltation; but
- Overall, less rainfall in many locations and therefore less fresh water; and
- Higher temperatures that affect watershed health and can be beneficial to pests.

Hawai'i is already exhibiting telltale signs of climate change. UH's Rainfall Atlas catalogues a century of declining rainfall and fewer trade wind days. Summer temperature records have been broken across the state and a record number of storms have taken aim at Hawai'i over the last few years.

In response to these conditions, we must plan and implement mitigative and adaptive measures to ensure the resilience of our natural and human systems. Healthy Hawaiian forests that are not overrun by invasive species act like a sponge, collecting rain and moisture, slowly delivering fresh water into streams and aquifers, absorbing greenhouse gases, and reducing runoff and siltation into near shore waters during storm events.

Additionally, we must improve our efficiencies and reuse of our fresh water resources, including the types of reuse demonstration projects proposed in HB 935.

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## HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

*Amplify the Power of Giving*

### COMMITTEE ON WAYS and MEANS

DATE: Tuesday, February 5, 2019

TIME: 10:00 am

PLACE: Conference Room 211

RE: SB 935 RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR WATER REUSE.

Aloha! The Fresh Water Initiative **strongly supports S.B. 935** which authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for two water reuse demonstration projects. The two projects, Kanaha Beach Park and Kealekehe Wastewater Treatment Facility, were chosen by the 2018 Water Reuse Task Force as projects that will not only help provide water security for the state but will also showcase the safety and feasibility of water reuse. The Water Reuse Task Force was tasked with designing strategies for scaling water reuse, and a priority goal was providing more public outreach so that both the public and practitioners are aware of the benefits of non-potable water reuse systems. We have attached a proposed revision to the description of the Kanaha project (see Exhibit 1), replacing the references to "Launiupoko."

Both the Kanaha Beach Park project and the Kealekehe Wastewater Treatment Facility will act as demonstration projects to highlight the safety of utilizing recycled water and were chosen for their public outreach potential and water saving impacts. The Kanaha Beach Park project will reuse 30-40% of the greywater from the park's showers, sinks, spigots, and hose bibs for local irrigation- showcasing to the public the safety of grey water for certain irrigation projects. The Kealekehe Demonstration Project will also help increase the public's acceptance of water reuse through providing R-1 recycled water for irrigating a nearby regional park in Kona. The Kealekehe project would design and develop dual pipes for the park so that they can irrigate with recycled water while also having safe access to potable water. By servicing a local park that has constant visitation this project is ideal for demonstrating the safety of water reuse for irrigation.

Since water reuse is still considered new and innovative in Hawaii, demonstration projects will be a key aspect in ensuring that the public feels safe as we increase its usage. We believe that demonstration projects generate visible results on the ground and are an effective mechanism for forging partnerships between the public, private, and community sectors.

The Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative (Initiative) was launched in 2013 to bring diverse parties together to develop a forward-thinking and consensus-based strategy to increase water security for the Hawaiian Islands. Organized by the independent, nonprofit Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF), the Initiative relied on a blue ribbon advisory panel of individuals (Hawai'i Fresh Water Council or Council) with deep knowledge of water and a collaborative spirit to articulate a vision for a more secure and sustainable water future based on shared values, and shared sacrifice.

We strongly support **S.B. 935** and the authorization of obligation bonds for the Kanaha and Kealekehe demonstration projects. Hawaii is committed to water security, and we believe that this funding will be critical to increasing the statewide usage of alternative water sources.

Should you have any questions about these demonstration projects, please feel welcome to contact me at [dokano@hcf-hawaii.org](mailto:dokano@hcf-hawaii.org).

Sincerely,



Dana Okano, PhD, AICP  
Program Director of Strategies, Initiatives and Networks  
Hawai'i Community Foundation

## **Exhibit 1**

### **Kanaha Beach Park's Greywater Demonstration Project**

In order to increase the public's acceptance of water reuse, funding for Kanaha Beach Park's greywater demonstration project is requested. Through this project, 30-40% of the greywater from the park's showers, sinks, spigots, and hose bibs will be reused for local irrigation. \$350,000-\$450,000 is requested for the design and construction of this project along with the development of signage, interactive stations, and other audio-visual devices to help educate the public about water reuse. This project will not only help with public outreach but will also drive down potable water costs and repurpose up to 9 million gallons of water annually with appropriate designs and maintenance.



ONE WORLD ONE WATER  
677 Ala Moana Blvd, Suite 1100  
Honolulu, Hi 96713

Testimony in Support of SB935  
Relating to the Capital Improvement Projects for Water Reuse

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 5, 2019  
10:00am  
Conference Room 211

**Subject:** Senate Bill (SB) 935 Relating Capital Improvement Projects for Water Reuse; **AMENDMENT REQUESTED**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

At One World One Water we are dedicated to reinvesting in water infrastructure and restoring natural environments, and we strongly support **SB935** that authorizes general obligation bonds for capital improvements to Hawaii's water reuse systems. This measure supports the implementation of two projects, the Launiupoko beach park and Kealekehe Wastewater Treatment Facility, but recently Maui County has requested that the Launiupoko project be changed to a project at Kanaha Beach Park. Below is the revised language for the new project at Kanaha Beach Park which we request replaces Launiupoko.

**Revised Language: Kanaha Beach Park's Greywater Demonstration Project**

In order to increase the public's acceptance of water reuse, funding for Kanaha Beach Park's greywater demonstration project is requested. Through this project, 30-40% of the greywater from the park's showers, sinks, spigots, and hose bibs will be reused for local irrigation. \$350,000-\$450,000 is requested for the design and construction of this project along with the development of signage, interactive stations, and other audio-visual devices to help educate the public about water reuse. This project will not only help with public outreach but will also drive down potable water costs and repurpose up to 9 million gallons of water annually with appropriate designs and maintenance.

Water reuse has been recognized internationally as a strategy for combatting climate change, drought, and reduced fresh water supplies. Since water reuse is still considered new and innovative in Hawaii, demonstration projects will be a key aspect in ensuring that the public feels safe as we increase its usage. We believe that demonstration projects generate visible results on the ground and are an effective mechanism for forging partnerships between the public, private, and community sectors.

This bill will help Hawaii become more resilient to climate change and will help us reach the goals of the Fresh Water Initiative, so as an organization committed to improving our water systems **we ask your support of SB935** to invest in Hawaii's future.

Please contact us at [globalwater@gmail.com](mailto:globalwater@gmail.com) should you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter.

Sincerely,  
*One World One Water*