

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on
WATER AND LAND
and
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Monday, March 18, 2019
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 28/SENATE RESOLUTION 20
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
MANAGE THE WAI'ANAË KAI FOREST AND RESTORE WATER FLOW IN
WAI'ANAË STREAMS FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND
CUSTOMARY PRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WAI'ANAË KAI
WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Senate Concurrent Resolution 28/Senate Resolution 20 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to manage the Waianae Kai Forest and restore water flow in Waianae streams for native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and implementation of the Waianae Kai Wildfire Preparedness Plan. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.**

The Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife is the land manager of the Waianae Kai Forest Reserve, a 2,161 acre forest reserve located on leeward Oahu. The Forest Reserve is a part of the greater 5,960 acre Waianae Kai Watershed, a priority watershed for the Board of Water Supply, and is home to more than 52 state and federal endangered species. The Forest Reserve has been impacted by numerous fires throughout the years, the most recent being the fire of August 2018, which burned more than 5,000 acres across Waianae Kai, Makaha, and Keaau valleys. Being the adjacent neighbor to Kaala Farms, Inc., the Department supports the awarding of the grant-in-aid and the creation of the Waianae Kai Wildfire Preparedness Plan.

Key points that the Department supports in the plan are: (1) Improvements to security through construction of a security office or gate; (2) Construction of a tank, pond, or reservoir to provide water for firefighting helicopters; (3) Installation of fire hydrants and pressurized water lines at strategic locations in the upper valley; (4) Creation and maintenance of fire breaks at strategic locations; (5) Installation of a sprinkler system to irrigate vegetative fire breaks; (6) Fuel load reduction; and (7) Public education and preparedness training.

Implementing the plan will help the Department protect the native, cultural, and water resources for the benefit of the greater Waianae coast community. In addition, it will enhance support for numerous Waianae Mountains Watershed Partnership projects that are already ongoing in the Waianae Kai Watershed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.



SCR28/SR20

**URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO MANAGE THE
WAI'ANAE KAI FOREST AND RESTORE WATER FLOW IN WAI'ANAE STREAMS FOR
NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE WAI'ANAE KAI WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLAN.**

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

March 18, 2019

2:45 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment Committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees **COMMENT** on SCR28/SR20, which encourages efforts to more proactively protect our water supply and uphold the public trust in water in the Wai'anae watershed.

Water has been recognized as a public trust resource in our islands since time immemorial, and our constitution, State Water Code, and case law accordingly reaffirm the importance of protecting and carefully administering our limited water supply for the public benefit. Unfortunately, in many regions throughout Hawai'i, the public trust in water has been neglected for generations, as stream diversions and private wells allowed sugar and pineapple plantations to increasingly monopolize our water resources for their private, commercial gain; this monopolization of our water supply has had and continues to have profound and deleterious effects on our environment as well as Native Hawaiian communities and cultural lifestyles otherwise protected under the public trust. While recent developments have been encouraging, the public trust purposes of water, including Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, continue to be neglected in a majority of areas impacted by historical diversions and other water infrastructure.

OHA accordingly appreciates the intent of this resolution to ensure more proactive efforts to recognize and uphold the public trust in the Wai'anae watershed, including with regards to the public trust purpose of supporting Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices. OHA also appreciates this resolution's call to proactively protect and enhance the Wai'anae watershed's water security and climate resiliency, through native forest restoration efforts and mauka-to-makai land management practices consistent with traditional Native Hawaiian approaches to land tenure. OHA defers to the Commission on Water Resource Management and the Department of Land and Natural Resources with regards to the hydrologic characteristics and best means of enhancing the water resources of the Wai'anae watershed, as may be described in this resolution.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



KO`OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

March 18, 2019

LATE

TO: Sen. Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair & Members
Water & Land Committee

Sen. Maile Shimabukuro, Chair & Members
Hawaiian Affairs Committee

FROM: Leialoha "Rocky" Kaluhiwa, President-elect
Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

RE: SCR28/SR20 – SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF WATER FLOW

Aloha Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club strongly supports these two resolutions which would support restoration of water for traditional and customary practices and for fire protection for the people of the Wai`anae community.

Our civic club understands the hierarchy of the State Water Code, which ensures the provision of water resources for stream flow and for riparian rights to support traditional and customary practices. We strongly believe that the Wai`anae community has developed a positive and effective working relationship with the Board of Water Supply and other community leaders to ensure that these traditional rights are preserved.

We have also been deeply concerned about the wildfires that seem to strike along the Wai`anae coast every year, and this program that the community is pursuing would help to address that major public safety issue.

For these reasons, we urge your committees to lend your kokua by passing these resolutions out of your committees and through the Senate.

Mahalo for considering our mana`o.

The Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is one of the largest in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs nationwide. Ko`olaupoko HCC is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians and providing leadership and scholarships. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are "Hawaiian at heart."



LATE

Luna O Na Papa Alakai

Committee on Water and Land
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Pelekikena
A. Makana Paris

Tuesday, March 18, 2019

Hope Pekekikena
Ekahi
Randi Fernandez

Conference Room 225
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Hope Pelekikena
Elua
Matthew Gumapac

Re: SCR28/SR20 - URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO MANAGE THE WAI'ANAE KAI FOREST AND RESTORE WATER FLOW IN WAI'ANAE STREAMS FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WAI'ANAE KAI WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLAN.

Puuku
Denise Kekuna

Kakauolelo Hoopaa
Sai Furukawa

Aloha Chair/Vice-Chair Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair Maile Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and honorable members:

Kakauolelo Hooholo
Palapala
Kamuela Werner

The Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club **SUPPORTS** the passage of SCR28/SR20. This resolution supports the efforts to implement the Wai'anae Kai wildfire preparedness plan, encourages continued effective management of the Wai'anae Kai Forrest Reserve with native trees and shrubs, and calls for the restoration of the areas devastated by the August 2018 wildfires. At its 58th annual convention, the Association passed resolution 2018-35, expressing support of efforts to restore Wai'anae Kai Forest Reserve and water flow in Wai'anae watershed streams for traditional and customary Native Hawaiian Practices.

Pelekikena Hala
Koke
Yvonne 'PeeWee'
Ryan

Founded in 1964, PKHCC was organized to promote the education and social welfare of people of Hawaiian ancestry and objectives include supporting high ethical standards in business, industry and the professional fields of enterprise.

Luna Alakai
Kuni Agard
Puamana Crabbe
Kanani Pali
Marlene Sai
Jennifer Smythe
Bruce Wong

PKHCC urges the committee to **PASS** SCR28/SR20.

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 4728
Honolulu ~ Hawaii
96812

Me ke aloha,

www.pkhcc.org

A. Makana Paris
Pelekikena
president@pkhcc.org

Founded in 1964
by Liliuokalani
Kawananakoa Morris



LATE

THE ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

Senate Committee on Water and Land
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Pō‘alua, Malaki 18, 2019
Lumi ‘Aha Kūkā 225
Ke Kapikala Moku ‘āina
415 South Beretānia Street

Re: SCR28/SR20 - URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO MANAGE THE WAI‘ANAE KAI FOREST AND RESTORE WATER FLOW IN WAI‘ANAE STREAMS FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY PRACTICES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WAI‘ANAE KAI WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLAN.

Aloha Luna Ho ‘omalua Kaiali‘i Kahele, Hope Luna Ho ‘omalua Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Luna Ho ‘omalua Maile Shimabukuro, Hope Luna Ho ‘omalua Kaiali‘i Kahele and members of the Senate committees on Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs **SUPPORTS** SCR214/SR173. This resolution urges efforts to implement the Wai‘anae Kai wildfire preparedness plan, effective management of the Wai‘anae Kai Forrest Reserve with native trees and shrubs, and restoration of the areas devastated by the August 2018 wildfires. At its 58th annual convention, the Association passed resolution 2018-35, expressing support of efforts to restore Wai‘anae Kai Forest Reserve and water flow in Wai‘anae watershed streams for traditional and customary Native Hawaiian Practices.

Thus, the Association respectfully urges the committee to **PASS** SCR28/SR20.

The civic club movement was founded in 1918 by Congressional Delegate Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana‘ole with the creation of the Hawaiian Civic Club; the Association was formally organized in 1959 and has grown to a confederation of over sixty (60) Hawaiian Civic Clubs located throughout the State of Hawai‘i and the United States. The Association is the oldest Hawaiian community-based grassroots organization. The Association is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors; advocates for improved welfare of Native Hawaiians in culture,

health, economic development, education, social welfare, and nationhood; and perpetuates and preserves language, history, music, dance and other Native Hawaiian cultural traditions.

Mahalo for allowing us to share our *mana* 'o.

Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,

Hailama Farden
Pelekikena

SCR-28

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 7:41:03 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The young adults who first brought this resolution to the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs fully understood the value of water and the need for proper management of it to assure the needs of their community were met. Fully support their efforts and the actions called for by this resolution.

SCR-28

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 10:30:00 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-28

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 8:53:34 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lu Ann Faborito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SCR-28

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 1:27:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Juanita Kawamoto Brown	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Will be present to testify in support with comments

LATE

SCR-28

Submitted on: 3/18/2019 1:34:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Enos	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Will be present to offer comments in support of this resolution.

Mahalo