

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1410  
RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Bill 1410 proposes to add a member to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) who has demonstrated knowledge of the State's boating and fishing communities. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the importance of members who have knowledge of boating and fishing communities on the Board. The Department feels that the current Board member selection process seeks out members with diverse knowledge of land and natural resource issues, including boating and fishing concerns, and these members are able to make qualified decisions on related issues.

Moreover, the proposed language is unclear as to what an "appropriate level of knowledge" in the State's fishing and boating communities means, and what type of organization would qualify as a "statewide fishing organization" for the purpose of making recommendations to the board.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**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



February 4, 2019

Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Hearing Time: 9:30 am

Place: Conference Room 325

Regarding: HB 1410 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 1410 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Good Morning Chair Yamane Vice Chair Todd and Members of the House Committee on Water, Land and Natural Resources:

HFACT is a not-for-profit, IRS 501c (5) organization, that advocates for small boat commercial, non-commercial, and recreational fishermen throughout Hawaii. HFACT board members sit on a number of federal fisheries management and endangered species advisory committees as well as state marine and coastal zone advisory committees; and, HFACT is thoroughly familiar with and participates in ocean and marine resource management in Hawaii and the Western and Central Pacific.

HFACT **STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 1410** as it intends to provide a remedy to a long standing inequity which negatively affects Hawaii's fishing communities. The absence of a board member on the Board of Land and Natural Resources representing the State's fishing and boating community negatively affects them. This community has been without a representative voice on matters that critically affect Hawaii's fisheries, fishing and boating issues and even affects the State's economy. The Board of Land and Natural Resources makes decisions without the necessary, relevant and unbiased knowledge of the ocean and fishing issues before them.

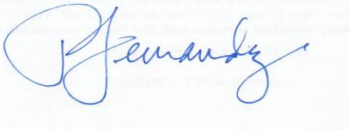
HFACT appreciates that members of the Board, on occasion, reach out to individual fishermen and boaters to gather information on matters contemplated by the Board, however, fishermen fish different fisheries and utilize different gear type. The fishing activity varies widely from shoreline, nearshore, offshore, and far offshore bluewater fishing. Gear type vary from handline, rod and reel, kaka line, long line, short line, casting, net, spear, trolling, and others. Likewise boating varies tremendously by size, type and use of the boat. Substantial knowledge and experience is required to understand the nuances of impacts of matters before the Board on fishing, boating, and marine conservation. An additional member to the board will help in these deliberations and solve this inequity.

***Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.  
75-796 Hiona Street, Holualoa HI 96725***

While the current board representation adequately addresses land and conservation issues, the addition of a member to the Board of Land and Natural Resources that has demonstrated knowledge of the State's fisheries, fishing and boating communities, traditional fishing rights and marine resource management and conservation will provide the Board with a sitting resource to inform and provide improved knowledge of such matters to the Board as a whole toward the making of well informed decisions. As such, HFACT urges the committee **to vote aye on HB 1410**.

HFACT thanks the chair, vice-chair, and committee members for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely and Aloha,



Phil Fernandez  
President

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 10:00:39 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jim Hori, DDS	Lokahi Fishing, LLC	Support	No

Comments:

I write in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 1410! The addition of a team member knowledgeable in the fisheries, boating, resource management, etc. would be a big help to the board in making better decisions for our land and natural resources.

Sincerely,

Jim Hori

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 10:04:21 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephen Lee	wAIALUA BOAT CLUB	Support	No

## Comments:

I am the president of Waialua Boat Club, whose 50 members are strongly and unanimously in support of HB 1410. Over the years we have seen that the Board of Natural Resources has lacked a board member who is knowledgeable and conversant in the issues related to our local ocean matters, fishing community and fishery. All prior board members come from developers or land based interests. It is time that a board member be appointed to the BLNR to fairly and intelligently articulate the facts and issues related to fishers, fishing and our ocean. Our fishers contribute greatly to the State's economy and seek to preserve our traditional practices. We members of Waialua Boat Club strongly urge passage of HB 1410. Thank you for your consideration of this measure.

Stephen Lee

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:21:20 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Silva	Waialua Boat Club	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd and Members of the House Committee on Water, Land and Natural Resources:

I am in strong support of HB 1410 . Without a representative voice on matters that affect our fisheries, fishing and boating issues have often found decisions being made without all the knowledge and information needed.

An additional member to the board with knowledge of the State's fisheries, fishing and boating communities, will improve the information gathering to make more informed decisions.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Jim Silva

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 11:24:59 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 4:26:48 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/2/2019 5:34:13 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa L Nakama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I Teresa L. Nakama hereby strongly support HB1410. This individual that is a qualified knowledgeable island residence from the boating and fishing community with traditional gainful experience is necessary to engage in meaningful facts and presentation when issues are on the table. I strongly support this bill. Mahalo...Teresa L. Nakama

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 1:14:46 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

February 2, 2019

Representative Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2019  
Hearing Time: 9:30 am  
Place: Conference Room 325  
Regarding: HB 1410 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB 1410 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Aloha Honorable Chair Yamane Vice Chair Todd and Members of the House Committee on Water, Land and Natural Resources:

I write in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 1410 that addresses a long outstanding concern of Hawaii's small boat and nearshore fishing communities regarding the absence of a board member representing the State's fishing and boating communities on the board of land and natural resources. The absence of a representative voice on matters that critically affect our fisheries, fishing and boating issues has often found the board of land and natural resources to be making ill-informed decisions absent the requisite knowledge and information of the issues before them.

The current board structure adequately addresses land and conservation issues, and the addition of a member to the board of land and natural resources that has a demonstrated knowledge of the State's fisheries, fishing and boating communities, traditional fishing rights and marine resource management and conservation will improve the board' insights, information and knowledge of such matters toward making well informed decisions.

Thank you Chair Yamane, Vice-chair Todd, and committee members for this opportunity to provide testimony on this critically important matter that can affect the future of our fisheries, fishing and boating communities, traditional fishing rights and marine resource conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Roy N. Morioka  
1190-A Iki Place  
Honolulu, HI 96821

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:25:38 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chairman and Distinguish Legislators,

I would like to submit testimony **STRONGLY** supporting this measure. Hawaii's precious marine resource is in need of direction and the public who utilizes this reasource is in dire need of a voice in any decision making. I see this as a positive step forward in making our ocean sustainable while preserving it for future generations. Mahalo.

Brian Kimata

Honolulu, Hawaii

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:31:01 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support HB1410 and it's initial introduced wording.

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:07:07 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joshua DeMello	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

While this bill adds a much needed perspective, what about the land issues that the fishing person is dealing with on the board?

A better solution is to ensure that board members have pre-requisites that include fishing and boating experience. The board cant be big but it can be representative of all of DLNRs responsibilities

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 4:06:45 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice-Chair Todd,

I write to you in SUPPORT of HB 1410 to include on the Board of Land and Natural Resources, a member representing Hawaii's fishing and boating communities. A qualified representative would be an invaluable asset to the knowledge base of the Board on a subject that is so important to the heritage, and values of the community. A 'informed Board' is essential to the establishment of equitable policies governing the use and management of our resources.

Mahalo for your time and service,

Scott Masunaga

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 4:10:43 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please support and pass HB1410.

The State must have someone with fishing knowledge sitting on the Land Board with so many ocean use and fishing issues that come before the Board.

You would not go to dentist to get guidance on your heart surgery, so please pass HB1410 to ensure the Land Board has a knowlegable member from the fishing and boating communtiy.



**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 6:48:21 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl M Jellings Sr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In Support

Carl P Jellings Sr

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 7:56:48 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian F. Funai	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I am in strong support of HB1410. The BLNR has long been deficient in representing one of the largest sectors of the population of the State of Hawaii that it is supposed to serve. It does very well with land issues but it does very poorly in managing ocean related issues when it comes to fisheries, marine conservation, traditional fishing rights and the general fishing and boating communities. Having someone who is knowledgeable of these issues on the Board will help move towards better representation of these communities and adequately addressing the aforementioned issues. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of HB1410.

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 12:17:23 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I hereby state my support of HB1410, as it recognizes the essential need and establishes the many benefits of having a board member with the intellectual ability and fishing expertise to readily educate and assist other board members in this fisherman's arena. It is readily apparent that it will be of tremendous value to have this unique person as a member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Therefore, I emphasize my strong support of HB1410.

Sincerely,

Ron Dellinger

282 Akiohala St.

Kailua. Hi 96734

**LATE**

**HB-1410**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 5:52:15 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Troy A. Ogasawara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Chair Yonamine, Vice Chair Todd and Committee Members:

I write in strong support of HB 1410. Adding a member with in depth commercial and non-commercial fishing and boating experience will help to provide fair representation, vital input and perspective.

Sincerely,

Troy Ogasawara