



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO‘OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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COMMISSION MEMBERS

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HÖKŪLANI HOLT.
CARMEN HULU LINDSEY

Michael K. Nāho‘opi‘i
Executive Director

**Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHO‘OPTI
Executive Director**

Before the House Committee on

FINANCE

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 454 HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO KAHO‘OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE**

House Bill 454 House Draft 1 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland restoration, management and maintenance on the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve. The Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** this measure and request the committee allocates funding.

Decimated of its natural environment through years of over-foraging and military bombing, an estimated 1.9 million tons of soil is lost annually on Kaho‘olawe to erosion. Severely eroded landscapes cover one-third of the island, with runoff choking Kaho‘olawe’s pristine reefs and significantly impacting the ocean ecosystem. With only 25 inches of rain falls annually at the summit, with perhaps less than 10 inches per year at the coast. Most plants on Kaho‘olawe are hardy alien species that easily outcompete the few, fragile native plant populations for water and nutrients.

Since the end of the Navy’s unexploded ordnance cleanup in 2004, the KIRC has begun a race against time to stem erosion and further degradation. The KIRC has since initiated numerous restoration projects, funded by various grant opportunities, that has made significant changes to transforming the desolate hardpan into vibrant living landscapes.

The Kaho‘olawe Native Dryland Forest Project seeks to conduct native plantings on the leeward, upland slopes of Kaho‘olawe to reestablish native forest watersheds, increase ground water recharge, reduce surface water runoff and reduce coral reef sedimentation. This project began with initial state funding in fiscal year 2018 with fieldwork starting in the summer of 2018. Since that time, the KIRC has been able to install a new solar-powered, water pump to move water from our water catchments to the new planting site, install irrigation piping, remove

invasive alien brush and bore holes for the new plants. Since our winter planting season started this past fall, we have planted close to 5,000 native plants with a goal of planting 15,000 by the end of this first season.

Funding this project will allow the KIRC the unique opportunity to make a major leap forward in its long-term goal of restoring the Island of Kaho‘olawe. The results of this project will allow us to return the natural environment of Kaho‘olawe back to its former existence prior to the centuries of abuse, misuse and neglect from modern societies.

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Re: HB 454 HD1

RELATING TO KAHOO LAWE ISLAND RESERVE.

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe Island Reserve.

For hearing on Wednesday, February 20, 2019

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill proposes to transfer \$6,000,000.00 taxpayer dollars to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide funding for construction of infrastructure for drylands forests specified programs of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission at the rate of \$3,000,000.00 for each of two fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Please do not place this burden on the taxpayers of the State of Hawaii.

Let OHA pay all costs associated with the rehabilitation of Kaho'olawe -- an island which this legislature and OHA both believe will be handed over in the near future to the Hawaiian tribe which OHA has been working so hard to create for at least 19 years.

As the language of HB455 points out (another bill you have under consideration right now), "Pursuant to section 6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the management and control of the Kaho'olawe island reserve will be transferred to a sovereign Native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the state and federal governments. This event is anticipated to occur within the timeframe of the 2026 strategic plan."

In Act 195 (2011) this legislature set in motion a process now underway to create a Hawaiian tribe. The U.S. Department of Interior recently proclaimed a regulation whereby that tribe can get federal recognition -- the final rule 43CFR50 proclaimed by the U.S. Department of Interior by publication in the Federal Register on October 14, 2016. Both Act 195 and the Department of Interior regulation insist that the Hawaiian tribe must be exclusively for Native Hawaiians, and that anyone lacking a drop of the magic blood must be ruthlessly excluded.

According to OHA trustee Lei Ahu Isa, OHA has used approximately \$33 Million of state government money over the years to lobby for federal recognition of a Hawaiian tribe either through the Akaka bill or through advertising and racial registration programs both in Hawaii and on the mainland. OHA provided the entire funding for an election of delegates and a monthlong meeting in 2006 which produced a proposed constitution for the tribe. OHA has repeatedly pledged that when a Hawaiian tribe has achieved federal recognition, OHA will transfer all its assets to the tribe.

If the tribe is successful in creating itself and getting federal recognition, section 6K-9 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes guarantees that the island of Kaho'olawe will immediately be ripped away from the State of Hawaii and handed over to the Hawaiian tribe, to which people with no native blood are forbidden to belong.

This legislature simply must not confiscate tax dollars from 80% of Hawaii's people for a project which they will be racially excluded from.

It would be foolish and immoral for the State of Hawaii to spend taxpayer dollars collected from 100% of Hawaii's people of all races to pay for upgrades to an island which is expected to be removed from the State of Hawaii and handed over to a sovereign "nation" [tribe] restricted by law to one racial group whose people are perhaps 20% of Hawaii's people, most of whom will probably not even join the tribe. Once the tribe has been created there will be negotiations between the State of Hawaii vs. the tribe to decide how much additional land and money the State will give to the tribe. The State should not give away resources before the negotiations even begin.

OHA's most recent annual report (2018) shows that OHA has total assets of more than \$662 million. And it continues getting more payments of state government money (ceded land revenues plus legislative appropriations) every year, including a bill in this year's legislature demanding \$35 million per year from ceded land revenues.

Enough already! OHA can easily afford funding for Kaho'olawe. Let OHA pay whatever money it wishes to pay to KIRC to rehabilitate Kaho'olawe -- an island which this legislature and OHA both believe will be handed over in the near future to the Hawaiian tribe which OHA is working so hard to create.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2019 4:41:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joseph Kohn MD | We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 9:25:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michelle Lee Bradley | Island Pacific Academy | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha

As a citizen of the State of Hawai'i since my birth and now as an educator in Hawai'i of our youth I support this bill and KIRC. The importance of the work that is being done on Kaho'olawe reaches far and wide: from the cultural significance of the island, the restorative aspects of empowering the people of Hawai'i to bring the island's ecosystem back, the coupling of the sustainable practices that use modern and ancient Hawaiian practices, and putting all of this into the hands of our youth- the work that KIRC does can not be overstated. I urge you to support this bill to help continue the work of Kaho'olawe and bring the young stewards of our islands together with the 'aina that we hold so dear.

Mahalo

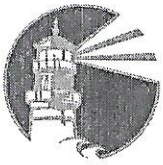
Michelle Bradley

Island Pacific Academy Vice Principal

909 Haumea Street

Kapolei, HI 96707

808 674 3572



Ocean Tourism Coalition

The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rep. Stacelynn K.M. Eli | Rep. Nadine K. Nakamura |
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| Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi | |

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 20, 2019
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITON IN SUPPORT OF HB454HD1 RELATING TO KAHOO LAWE ISLAND RESERVE

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of FIN Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC), speaking in **SUPPORT OF HB 454 RELATING TO KAHOO LAWE ISLAND RESERVE.**

The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. All of them operate from State Boating Facilities managed by DLNR/DOBOR. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated.

While this proposed legislation does not directly impact our industry we believe that the restoring, managing, preserving and maintaining the dry land forest of Kaho'olawe is important to everyone who calls Hawaii home.

It is our opinion that KIRK and these efforts should be supported by the General tax revenue.

~~Please pass HB454~~ It is the right thing to do to help restore Kaho'olawe.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President,

Ocean Tourism Coalition

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 11:48:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Melodie Aduja | O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 1:35:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kevin Gavagan | Hawaii Resident / native Hawaiian | Support | No |

Comments:

May we support this bill as it supports the preservation and ongoing maintenance of Kanaloa, a classroom to our keiki, a cultural learning puuhonua to all of us. It is our sacred kuleana to care for and protect this land. May we appropriate monies that uphold the principals of Aloha Aina that we should all get behind.

Mahalo please palce a vote for the Aina

Kevin Gavagan

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 8:41:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michael McCoy | KIRC | Support | No |

Comments:

As an outsider to Hawaii from Alabama, I've been completely taken with the loveliest stream of islands that lies anchored in any ocean. Kaho'olawe may seem the least lovely of these to the lay person, a person I mostly am. I haven't set foot on the island, but standing on the shores of Big Beach in South Maui, I found myself drawn to it even before I knew in fuller depth its story. A sad one, yes, but hopefully a redemptive one with the work that KIRC has done and is doing.

To be sure, I'd probably prefer to never set foot on the island and have nobody else but native Hawaiians. These islands have sacrificed so much for, not only the country, but the world to show with its multi-cultural makeup that the people of this world can and should live, not only peacefully, but in great harmony. A reason for that, perhaps, is the mana that pervades these sacred islands. With that gain, though, has come the loss of much of the great Hawaiian culture that also once swept through these islands. Much has been lost, but KIRC has shown that not all irrevocably, and we owe it (and much more) to do all we can to restore what we can of what was lost.

Please approve this bill so that KIRC can continue in earnest the work it has set out to do, so that we can do the little bit we can to restore the former greatness of a great culture that sacrificed much, willingly or not, to show the earth that there is a better world out there for all of us.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 10:02:11 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rob Weltman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 10:26:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Savannah Allshouse | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho'olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island. Having personally had the opportunity to volunteer on Kaho'olawe with KIRC staff and volunteers, I have seen the impact and value of this important work, as well as the need for funds to continue KIRC's efforts.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 12:26:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kimo Cashman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 12:57:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Roy Alameida | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, My name is Roy Alameida residing in Kea'au on Hawai'i Island. I support HB454 HD1 to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. I encourage you, members of the Committ, to provide the much needed funding for this measure in order to support the continious care of the Island.The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island. I have been on Kaho'olawe several times to kokua with the continuing clean-up of the island and to honor our na kūpuna. Please support HB454. HD1.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 7:16:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| kalani fukumoto | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I fully support this bill to further the restoration work on Kahoolawe island.

It is amazing to see this island comeback the way it is after all the abuse she has suffered.

The dedicated KIRC staff and all the many volunteers have done a tremendous job!

Please appropriate the much needed funds.

Kalani Fukumoto

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2019 11:12:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Elaine Wender | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:



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www.israelsilvahi.com

February 18, 2019

HAWAI'I HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke; Rep. Ty Cullen; Rep. Stacelynn Eli; Rep. Cedric Gates; Rep. Troy Hashimoto; Rep. Daniel Holt; Rep. Lisa Kitagawa; Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi; Rep. Scot Matayoshi; Rep. Nadine Nakamura; Rep. Scott Nishimoto; Rep. Chris Todd; Rep. Tina Wildberger; Rep. Kyle Yamashita; Rep. Bob McDermott

Subject: Support HB454 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee,

I mahalo each of you for your time and consideration. I write in support of HB454 HD1, which seeks to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kaho'olawe — a pu'uhonua and wahi pana that has suffered decades of exploitation.

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission operating under the DLNR holds kuleana to mālama Kaho'olawe while it is held in trust for a Native Hawaiian sovereign entity. KIRC has worked towards healing its land, water, and air, and reversing the ecological damage inflicted by the U.S.

KIRC has much work ahead in order to achieve its vision of Kaho'olawe restored with healthy and thriving ecosystems, and a place where Hawaiian cultural practice flourishes.

I respectfully request that you appropriate the much needed funding for this measure.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Silva'.

Josh Silva
+1 (808) 829-2619
josh@israelsilvahi.com

Cc: Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Attachments/Enclosures: HB454 HD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KAHOO LAWE ISLAND RESERVE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe island reserve, including:

(1) Replanting one hundred acres of native dryland forest annually, to be distributed among the following regions of Kahoolawe island reserve:

- (A) Luamakika;
- (B) Puu O Moaula Nui;
- (C) Puu O Moaula Iki;
- (D) Honokanaia; and
- (E) Kealakahiki channel;

(2) Employment of work crews to clear and remove invasive weeds and boreholes, amend soil in hardpan areas, plant native dryland species, and install irrigation; provided that employment of work crews includes management oversight personnel to supervise work crews, coordinate logistical requirements in support of field crews, and coordinate the planting project;

(3) Necessary irrigation materials and supplies, including:

- (A) Solar powered pumps;
- (B) A solar desalination system and a corresponding photovoltaic system with pumping capabilities and storage capacity;
- (C) Power tools to bore planning holes and remove invasive weeds;
- (D) All-terrain vehicles to transport personnel and equipment;
- (E) Fuel for vehicles;

(F) Native plants, and

(G) Geotextile materials; and

(4) Support services for field crews, volunteers, and Kahoolawe island reserve commission staff, including transportation by Kahoolawe island reserve commission vessel and contract helicopter, housing and meals, and repair and maintenance of field equipment.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe island reserve pursuant to this Act.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

DLNR; Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission; Native Dryland Forest Planting; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe Island Reserve. (HB454 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2019 9:48:11 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| johann winkler | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2019 10:05:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bob Law | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members,

On my volunteer work party week, I have personally have seen the positive affect that KIRC has made in reversing the ecological damage to Kahoolawe. I support this measure and truly believe that the additional staff and financial support will help not only Hawaii residents, but also volunteers all over America, understand the importance of healing and preserving Kahoolawe as an important part of Hawaii's cultural history.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2019 3:34:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Martin | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 2:03:13 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paul Hopwood | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear committee,chair

and to whom it does concern

Having had the privilege and honour to experience on more than one occasion to the on going voluntary efforts on Kahoolawe ,I firmly believe that through the efforts of KIRC and PKO Kahoolawe can be one of the greatest assets for generations now and long into the future

It is a living breathing classroom that has the power to perpetuate a historical and vital connection with the past present and future from the early Polynesian voyagers to the Hawaiian Kupuna who still visit her shores,and through volunteerism ,unity or Ohana ,story telling ,chant ,education ,people can learn to to respect the environment and one another ,this is a responsibility the world needs more than ever today .

Please keep Kahoolawe funded ...it is an island that can spread its wings of aloha and respect far and wide

Mahalo for listening

sincerely Paul Hopwood

can learn to be one with the environment

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 10:42:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jenny Pawai | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 11:34:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kepano Kekuewa | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I had the privilege of visiting Kaho‘olawe recently and witnessed first hand the impact of the restoration efforts on the island. I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission and encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 7:24:48 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kamuela Werner | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha:

I strongly SUPPORT HB454 HD1.

Me ke aloha,

Kamuela Werner,

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 7:35:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kali Linder | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

I had the privilege of visiting Kaho`olawe last summer as a part of a learning immersion for teachers. During our stay I was impressed by the knowledge and volume of work done by the KIRC staff. As a Native Hawaiian, I was also struck by how they have incorporated cultural practices and knowledge into their field work and conservation practices. The visit forever changed my life. I grew up understanding the cultural importance of Kaho`olawe and the struggle to stop the military bombing but until I experienced being on island, participated in planting, erosion prevention, litter clean-up and cultural practices, the preciousness of the island became tangible and I will forever support measures to continue the clean up and restoration. As an educator, I encourage the committee to support continued restoration efforts to insure that future generations of Hawai'i will be able to visit, work and feel the mana which is Kaho`olawe. Mahalo nui.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 7:43:15 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Laiana Kanoa-Wong | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Aloha 'Ä€ina,

LÄ• iana Kanoa-Wong

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:22:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cassandra L. Smith | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

- Cassandra L. Hoku Smith

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:26:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Terri Gavagan | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in favor of HB454 HD1. This bill, if approved, will allow the KIRC to continue on of its most important mission--to restore Kaho'olawe.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:43:37 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carol Marie Lee | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:15:37 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fawn Liebengood | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:31:37 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michael Rao | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

As a non-native resident of the islands I still feel it is very important for the state to continue remediation of one of the worst man made ecologic disasters of the century. We have a responsibility to the aina. The island represents a crucial location where we can restore a native dryland forest and it act as a biorepository of native species without the threat of development as is so prevelant in dryland areas of other islands. This is particularly important given the climate related changes in the NW Hawaiian islands as birds and other animals that relay on remote islands will increasingly turn to more stable landmass to repopulate.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:42:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maggie Pulver | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

The restoration of the Native Dryland Forest ecosystem on Kaho'olawe is an essential piece in revitalizing and preserving the island and it's future as a cultural and environmental treasure. Today, approximately 30% of the island is barren due to soil erosion that has resulted from extensive environmental degradation. This environmental destruction was brought on by the presence of ungulates when the island was used as a site for ranching, as well as the repeated bombing and burning that occurred when the military was using the island as a live fire training site. Restoring the native dryland forests will help to significantly reduce the rate of erosion, as well as bring top soil back to the island's surface.

Restoration of the Native Dryland Forest will also help to reduce the amount of excessive sedimentation that travels into the ocean, negatively affecting the near shore coral reef ecosystems. Excessive sedimentation serves as a non-point source pollutant for coral reef communities, and has a significant negative impact on the marine habitat, blanketing and often suffocating the organisms that live there. Reducing the amount of sedimentation that enters the near shore will help to positively impact the maintenance and improvement of the near shore coral reef ecosystems.

Providing funding for this effort will have lasting positive effects that run mauka to makai. Please consider supporting this bill to continue to revitalization and restoration of Kaho'olawe.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 10:17:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lopaka White | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 10:23:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sarah Kapalihiwa Bilyeu | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,

Kapali Bilyeu

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 12:17:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Frankie Gerraty | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

The livability of the Earth is at stake—perhaps not for extremophile microbes, but for humans and the multi-species companions that we depend on. We are living on a human-damaged planet, and the magnitude of damage continues to build with each day that we stand by. The KIRC team is one of the few groups of people that are facing, head on, the most pressing question of our times: *what do you do when your world starts to fall apart?*

Several years ago, I was invited to join the restoration team on Kaho’olawe as a volunteer. During my time there, I learned some of Kaho’olawe's painful history. Bombs rained on the island for decades, covering the surface and surrounding waters in a crust of shrapnel and military ordnance several feet deep. What was once a destination for pilgrimage and worship by Hawaiian people has become a blasted landscape, irreversibly damaged by human activity. Today, thousands of acres of sunburnt, barren hardpan spreads across the crimson valleys of the desert island. The topsoil has eroded away through many years of bombing and neglect.

Kaho'olawe's explosive past haunts the island, and unexploded ordnance still renders several large areas impassable for humans. However, despite claims of ecological ruin, KIRC's dedicated team has devoted their lives towards slowing erosion, planting seeds, and restoring the livability of Kaho’olawe for the humans, birds, grasses and trees that once inhabited the island. Their labor, made manifest in the slow but steady revegetation of the island, taught me that there are possibilities for lively futures in landscapes that have been severely damaged. The KIRC team is taking on an incredibly important task; they are working symbiotically with many species to construct a productive future for their precious island. As a young biologist concerned with the future livability of the planet, Kaho'olawe's restoration work has inspired me more than any other experience in my life to help assemble new, sustainable ecologies for our collective future.

I cannot stress the importance that my experience on Kaho'olawe has had on my life, and will continue to have on other young people. As a non-indigenous person, I would also like to express my disappointment in non-indigenous opposers to this bill who do not reference or take into account Hawaiian colonial history in their testimony. I strongly encourage the funding of dryland restoration on Kaho'olawe.

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 4:37:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paula Alceseba | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a student at UHMC and I am writing to you in support of HB454. I think it is critically important that we provide funding to support the Native Dryland Forest Restoration on Kaho'olawe. We must do everything we can to restore Kaho'olawe island after the atrocities that were done by U.S. government and military.

I believe the USA has a moral obligation to restore and conserve Kaho'olawe and providing funding for this program is the next step to make sure this will happen. I am a member of the next generation and I would like to visit Kaho'olawe one day. When I visit, I do not want to see the scars of the past, I want to see a bountiful forest and new growth... a new Kaho'olawe.

You have the power to make this happen. Please do the right thing and support HB454.

Mahalo loa

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 5:52:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michele McLean | County of Maui / KIRC | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members,

Please accept this testimony

in strong support of HB454 HD1 to provide additional funding to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission for native dryland forest restoration. The Legislature has been a great partner to the KIRC in recent years, and this additional -- and targeted -- bridge funding is needed to continue the KIRC's restoration efforts while the KIRC works to implement its financial sustainability plan. We could not have come this far without your support, and hope to earn continued support this session.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele McLean, AICP

Acting Planning Director, County of Maui

Chairperson, Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 6:41:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Paumalu Cassidy | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I whole heartedly support this bill and any bill that is for the stewardship of our islands. These types of efforts are vastly underfunded and long over due. Mahalo

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 6:44:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Roxane Stewart | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 7:54:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tambara Garrick | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:29:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Omar Sultan | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 8:50:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jennifer Milholen | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 9:51:32 PM
Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jodi Arisumi | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I am in support of HB454 to continue funding to KIRC. The restoration efforts KIRC leads is essential for the future return of this island to the community. It's difficult to put into words the impact the experience of being on island, seeing first hand the hard work many people have contributed over the years and yet how far there is still to go. I encourage you all to support this bill. Thank you for your time.

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 6:58:09 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alana Yuranin | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha,

As a resident of Maui Nui and a two-time visitor to Kaho'olawe with the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, I support this bill.

Mahalo,

Alana Yurkanin

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 7:14:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Leilani Pulmano | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I am currently on Kaho'olawe now, and understand the importance of providing funding to KIRC.

Mahalo,

Leilani

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 7:52:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grazel Caceres | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

LATE

Testimony of
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, February 20, 2019
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308

**House Bill 454 HD 1 - Support
Relating to Kahoolawe Island Reserve**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and members of the Committee,

House Bill 454 HD 1 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe Island Reserve. The Hawaii State Aha Moku (AMAC) strongly supports this measure.

Since the restoration of the Aha Moku Process by the Legislature in 2012, via Act 288, §171.4-5, the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) has successfully brought the voices of the communities and 'ohana of ahupua'a districts forward to work with Hawai'i government in addressing and sustaining the natural and cultural resources of our Pae'Aina.

Moku O Kanaloa, (the traditional name for Kahoolawe) has a strong cultural history that includes the islands of Maui, Lanai, and Molokai. The families with the generational knowledge of the endemic plants that once flourished on Kanaloa still exist. In ancient times Kanaloa was rich in its ecosystem and was a central point of fisheries that supported Maui, Lanai and Molokai. The Kahoolawe Dryland Forest Project seeks to conduct plantings of plants that are indigenous to Kahoolawe on the leeward, upland slopes to reestablish native forest watersheds, increase ground water recharge, diminish surface water runoff and lessen coral reef sedimentation.

The native Hawaiian families who have direct connections to Kahoolawe retain the generational knowledge of the island, including the place names of the sixteen ahupua'a on Kahoolawe. And while they live on Maui, they support the efforts of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in their exertions to restore the once vibrant ecosystem of this sacred and special place.

Funding this measure will safeguard Kahoolawe's long-term goal of the restoration of the island. We urge this committee to pass HB 454 HD 1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Les Kuloloio, Po'o, Moku O Kanaloa (Kahoolawe)
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
Phone: 808-281-7652
Email: pokaiuli2@gmail.com

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:59:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Katherine Zablan | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:36:25 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

LATE

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hawkins Biggins | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. We encourage you to provide the much needed funding for this measure. The KIRC has taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

I was able to volunteer with KIRC on Kaho'olawe and found the experience life changing.

Mahalo,

Hawkins Biggins

LATE

HB-454-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 12:56:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lawrence Warnock | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Reforestation can bring more moisture to Maui Nui as the trees capture moisture in the air. The accumulation of clouds can bring more rain to the area including Maui. This will benefit us with water to the drier regions of our island.