

HUI MAKA'ĀINANA O MAKANA



The Hui Maka'āinana o Makana is a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating and teaching the skills, knowledge, and practices of our kūpuna (ancestors) through the interpretation, restoration, care, and protection of natural and cultural resources in within the Hā'ena State Park.

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Members of the COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Tuesday, April 6, 2021
TIME: 9:30AM
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

From: Chipper Wichman, Secretary
Hui Maka'āinana o Makana

RE: Testimony in Support of HB1276 HD1/SD1

I am writing today as a founding Director and current Secretary of the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana a nonprofit established in 1999 to support the care and management of Hā'ena State Park (HSP). **The Hui is in strong support of HB 1276 HD1/SD1.**

Over the past 20 years we have worked closely with the Division of State Parks to restore the ancient loi kalo system that exists in HSP and were deeply involved in the 10-year long process of developing the Master Plan for Hā'ena State Park which was adopted by the Board of Land and Natural Resources in 2018.

Since the massive flooding in 2018, we have all learned the importance of “adaptive management” which is based on the ability to pivot and change as circumstances dictate. Hā'ena State Park is a case study on why DLNR needs the ability to change their fee structure and adjust between the peak summer season and the slower fall and spring shoulder seasons. We thus strongly support the concept in HB1276 HD1/SD1 which gives the Department the flexibility to set a fee range that can be adjusted seasonally or in response to changing economic conditions and not have to constantly returning to the Board.

Mahalo for your support of our State Parks and giving them the tools the need to manage the State Parks system effectively.

Aloha,

Chipper Wichman, Secretary
Hui Maka'āinana o Makana