

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
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Tuesday, March 23, 2021
10:00 AM**

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 186/HOUSE RESOLUTION 155
URGING STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHERIFF DIVISION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND HARBORS DIVISION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DIVISION
OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THIS TIME OF NEED**

House Concurrent Resolution 186/House Resolution 155, urges state law enforcement entities, including the Department of the Attorney General, Sheriff Division of the Department of Public Safety, and the Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation to collaborate with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources in this time of need. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers comments on these measures.**

The Department's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) along with the other state law enforcement agencies (Sheriffs, AG Investigators, Harbor Police) already coordinate our activities, and when necessary, collaborate and work in a joint manner. There is an informal organization called the State Law Enforcement Coalition that meets regularly, and is the mechanism for which the State law enforcement agencies discuss issues, concerns, and plan operations.

The Department recognizes the many law enforcement related problems identified in the Resolutions, and the call for other agencies to assist DOCARE with these problems. Many of the problems described are longstanding, and have complications which make resolution difficult. While increased law enforcement assistance to DOCARE by other state law enforcement partners may temporarily resolve some of the problems, long term solutions will require more

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

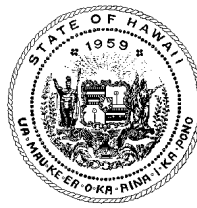
AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

than increased assistance. Long term solutions must include high levels of community understanding of rules, laws and regulations, as well as compliance.

We recognize the other state law enforcement partners, like DOCARE, have their own priorities and limitations on resources. For example, with the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of the Attorney General's enforcement of emergency rules and orders relating to quarantine and the State's safe travel program is essential to ensure public health and safety. Further, the security of COVID-19 vaccine Points of Distribution and of commercial ports continues to be a high priority for the State Sheriff Division and of the Department of Transportation's Harbor Police.

The Department will continue to address law enforcement problems and collaborate with our State law enforcement partners to the best of our ability, with the resources that are available.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these measures.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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MAX N. OTANI
DIRECTOR

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Deputy Director
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Tommy Johnson
Deputy Director
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Jordan Lowe
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 186 /
HOUSE RESOLUTION 155 –
URGING STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHERIFF DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SAFETY, AND HARBORS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
SUPPORT ITS MISSION IN THIS TIME OF NEED.

By
Max N. Otani, Director

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 23, 2021; 10:00 a.m.
Via Videoconference

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee:

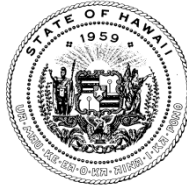
The Department of Public Safety (PSD) offers comments on House Concurrent Resolution 186 / House Resolution (HR) 155, which urge state law enforcement entities, including the Department of Attorney General, Sheriff Division of the Department of Public Safety, and Harbors Division of the Department of Transportation to collaborate with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support their mission in its time of need.

PSD supports the intent of these resolutions urging inter-agency cooperation to protect and serve the community. The Department notes that it already assists the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement in accomplishing its mission on a periodic, as-needed basis, depending on the availability of resources.

These measures highlight the need to consider the realignment of state law enforcement entities into one agency as a force multiplier.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, March 23, 2021
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.C.R. 186

URGING STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHERIFF DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND HARBORS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION IN THIS TIME OF NEED.

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

The Department of Transportation (DOT) provides **comments** on HCR 186 that urges other state law enforcement entities to collaborate with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support its mission in this time of need.

The DOT is willing to support DOCARE and recommends amending the Hawaii Revised Statutes §266-24 to allow DOT Harbors Police to work beyond the commercial harbors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 6:03:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Vitally important to work together to find as many ways as possible to sequester carbon and prepare for the climate crisis. Please support.

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 8:18:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Wayson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To all concerned,

The far west side of Oahu (ohikilolo, keaau, makua, keawaula) has become lawless starting at the cave, numerous illegal dumps, encampments, and inappropriate use of the land in general. Protection and preservation of this sacred natural resource should be priority.

Mahalo,

ASWayson

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 11:43:09 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ivan Carreiro	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I am Born and raised on the west side of Oahu. Through my life my family have been enjoying these public beaches known as "Yokes" given name is Keawaula Bay and "Pray for Sets". These are the places that I was fortunate to camp and enjoy unforgettable memories with my family as a kid and later with my own children. It saddens me to see that it has been taken away from us even though they are public beaches. I understand that there have been people not treating the beaches with respect, but that is not a reason to punish everyone else. COVID-19 was just an excuse to use for the closure. Beaches on the west side have been littered with homeless people who do not take care of the land and they are still there. I can put up a tent to camp with my children as I did when we were young but I'll be asked to leave from the police or DLNR. This doesn't make sense! I'm sure the state spends way more money to clean up Waikiki Beach everyday for the tourists who bring a value...financially. Then, why can't the State of Hawaii see that the people who live here need our beaches for *our* healing? Please open the beaches up again. It is our obligation to monitor other campers and beachgoers to clean up there trash and dispose of it correctly. As done in the past I have witnessed locals and tourists alike "peeing" and "crapping" in the bushes leaving their toiletries in the bush. I have confronted them politely (but inside I was boiling) to pick up their mess also adding just how disrespectful they were! Open the beaches, we will continue to do our part! It'll be better than having too much rules to push more of us born and raised locals...to move to another State. Really tired of us islanders being put second.

Sincerely,

Ivan Carreiro

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 7:31:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tara Rojas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this measure.

DOCARE officers are responsible for enforcing park rules at Keawa'ula and MÄ• kua Beach; however, they are severely understaffed which has led to the continued desecration and abuse of our sacred natural resources. Continued illegal dumping, open bonfires with pallets, illegal camping, and all kinds of disregard for the law at Keawa'ula (Yokes) and MÄ• kua Beach must stop, and it should not have to be the responsibility of our community members to do the work of paid state law enforcement. Lack of ability to enforce park rules has been cited as one of the reasons for the closure of the gates at Keawa'ula.

Uphold the mission = mÄ• lama i ka 'Ä• ina.

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 8:20:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bronze Fonoimoana	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

HCR-186

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 11:03:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this measure inviting all parties listed to establish a collective relationship ensuring that our communities are served accordingly. It is often the unfortunate reason we receive from responding parties(if they show up at all), that they are understaffed, lack resources, or do not have jurisdiction over the area. Collaborative enforcement is necessary and can truly be a game changer in the efforts to curb and end destructive behaviors, protecting communities and establishing stronger relationships. Thought I live in Waimānalo, I support this idea and welcome it laterally across all communities.

Mahalo, Kimeona Kane 808 398 8989