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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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**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

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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.

HR-155

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 8:22:09 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

HR-155

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 11:04:02 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. Though I live in Waimānalo, I support this idea and welcome it laterally across all communities.

Mahalo, Kimeona Kane 808 398 8989