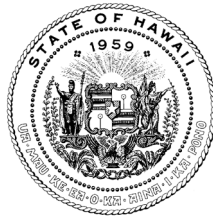


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, March 30, 2022
1:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 176/SENATE RESOLUTION 169
SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES'
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION'S EFFORTS TO EXECUTE ITS
IMPROVEMENT MASTERPLAN FOR THE HONOKOHAU SMALL BOAT HARBOR.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 176/Senate Resolution 169 supports the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) in its efforts to execute its master plan for the Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor. **The Department supports these measures.**

DOBOR formed the Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor Working group (Working Group), comprised of harbor users, recreational users, commercial users, the Governor's Hawai'i Island Liaison, area Legislators, and representatives of DOBOR. The Working Group's first meeting was held in August 2018, and the Working Group has since been discussing a wide variety of topics ranging from harbor development opportunities to harbor management.

DOBOR has been pursuing a pilot program for a public-private partnership management model at one state small boat harbor, and Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor would be an ideal candidate for such a pilot.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these measures.

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

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 8:39:57 AM

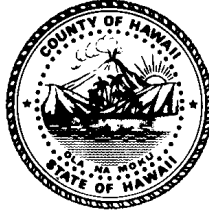
Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Todd Tashima	Testifying for DLNR	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am available for questions to DLNR. Please allow me Zoom access.

Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba
Council Member, District 8, N. Kona



Office: (808) 323-4280
Email: holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

March 28, 2022

Committee On Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Re: **Support** for SCR176 & SR169 - SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES' DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION'S EFFORTS TO EXECUTE ITS IMPROVEMENT MASTERPLAN FOR THE HONOKOHAU SMALL BOAT HARBOR.
Videoconference Hearing: March 30, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the above referenced Committee,

On behalf of myself and constituents of Council District 8 in North Kona, I express our support for the above referenced resolutions, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

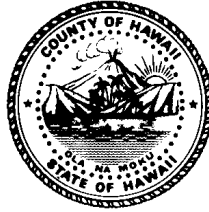
We support these resolutions that would support the ongoing efforts by the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation to execute its priorities for Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor as outlined in its improvement masterplan; and in collaboration with the informal Honokōhau Small Boat Harbor Working Group, they are requested to submit a report outlining recommendations regarding steps necessary to execute the improvement masterplan, including proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to convening of the State Legislature's Regular Session of 2023.

Thank you, as we express our support for SCR176 and SR169.

Sincerely,

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA, Council Member
District 8, North Kona

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267
FAX: (808) 323-4786
EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

March 28, 2022

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
ON SCR176, SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES'
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION'S EFFORTS TO EXECUTE ITS
IMPROVEMENT MASTERPLAN FOR THE HONOKOHAU SMALL BOAT HARBOR

Committee on Water and Land
Wednesday, March 30, 2022 1:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Inouye and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of SCR176. The Honokohau Small Boat Harbor, under the stewardship of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, has become a significant gathering place for the West Hawai'i community, where local fishermen launch their boats to fish the world-famous Kona Coast and small, local businesses conduct their commercial operations including fishing charters, manta ray dives, glass bottom boat cruises, and snorkel cruises, in addition to many other ventures.

The Honokohau Small Boat Harbor sustains two hundred local businesses, making it the largest single contributor to West Hawai'i's gross domestic product (GDP), generating \$2 million directly to the State annually and over \$100 million to Hawai'i's GDP.

The Honokohau Small Boat Harbor Working Group is an important resource to boat operators, harbor users, and the ocean-going public at large, and has greatly assisted the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation to craft its improvement masterplan for the heavily-used resource, with a focus on providing a strong sense of place, supporting the local ocean economy, perpetuating the cultural heritage of the State, protecting the health and vitality of the nearshore ecosystem, preparing for the impacts of climate change.

For the reasons stated above I urge the Committee on Water and Land to SUPPORT this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Rebecca Villegas
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/28/2022 12:01:04 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawika Leicher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

I fully support the MUCH needed improvements to Honokohau Harbor. Please allow us to beautify our working community and help us create a Harbor we can be proud of for the future generations.

Mahalo

Kawika Leicher

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/28/2022 12:10:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Jones Jr	Testifying for Blue Ocean Mariculture	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We at Blue Ocean Mariculture fully support SCR176, the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation's efforts to execute its improvement masterplan for the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor. We rely on the Small Boat Harbor to service our business as the States only open-ocean aquaculture farm. We currently employ 50 hard-working Hawaiian residents and generate significant revenue for the State through GET. We care deeply about food security and producing high-quality protein for the Hawaiian people. All of the fish we produce is sold within the USA, and over 60% of our fish are sold within Hawaii. We need the infrastructure within the Small Boat Harbor to be improved, and as a resident of Kailua Kona, we must continue to invest in the future of Hawaii Island, for our locals and tourists alike. The Masterplan proposal is a strategic, well-crafted plan to get us where we need to go. I urge you to also support this very important initiative. Mahalo.

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/28/2022 2:41:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rick Gaffney	Testifying for Hawai'i Fishing & Boating Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For those of us who have spent decades trying to plan for improvements in our Honokohau Small Boat Harbor, this resolution supporting the work of the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor Working Group, is a breath of fresh air.

This harbor, essential to the economic, cultural and recreational well being of the people of West Hawaii was built in 1970, but never completed. We are planning: 1) to finish the harbor; 2) for essential upgrades and critical improvements; 3) to consider what this SBH needs to look like and support in 2050.

This work is being accomplished by volunteers with decades of near daily experience in and around the facility, at no cost to the State. The Senate's recognition of the essential nature of our work and efforts on behalf of the Division and the DLNR are appreciated, and we would hope will help to support our continued efforts on behalf of this essential resource.

Please pass this SCR176 as it makes an important statement regarding the value of citizen involvement in government decision making and the management of government facilities.

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 8:13:48 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gary sheehan	Testifying for Wee Guys Fishing Tournament	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this in support of SCR 176 regarding improvements and funding for Honokohau Harbor. The Wee Guys Fishing Tournament has been happening in Kona since it's start in 1980. We have 130 teams and over 400 participants each year. All of our teams have trailer boats, so Honokohau Harbor is very important to each and every team/participant. The Harbor has long been overlooked and improvements have been piece-mealed at best. To finally have a "Plan" for the future and the improvements needed to move forward is pretty exciting. On behalf of approximately 400 local fishermen/women and all their families, please continue with funding OUR Harbor for OUR future.

Mahalo-

Gary Sheehan

Wee Guys Fishing Tournament- Kona

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 12:18:12 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doug Fry	Testifying for Atlantis submarines Kona	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honokohau deserves thought and planning to preserve its cultural and economic vitality. Purposeful infrastructure beforehand will be key.

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 9:20:57 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
STEPHEN ARNETT	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support the bill introduced by Senator Kanuha to upgrade the facilities at Honokohau Harbor in Kailua-Kona. Our harbor has been lacking in upgrades and repairs that other state harbors have received.

Please support this bill and pass it.

Mahalo!

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:15:23 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DBOR is formulating a plan that could result in significant improvements to Honokohau Harbor - a critical component of West Hawaii's infrastructure.

SCR-176

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 8:13:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/30/2022 1:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
k. chun	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The "informal" Honokohau Small Boat Harbor Working Group - uses the harbor resource(s), has formulated an "improvements masterplan," and still fails to recognize that it sits within the environs of the Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park.

It is the National Park that conveys the sense of place, and the cultural and historical landscape of Kaloko-honokohau. It is the Park that monitors the unique aquatic ecosystems; the nearshore ecosystem and impacts of climate change; the nearshore ecosystem and pollution (from the harbor); the flora and fauna and the wetlands; and carries out scientific research.

No thanks, to the group that can formulate 'improvements' and "revenue generating strategies" without a mention of the primary environment and resource.