

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
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Thursday, April 21, 2022
1:30 PM

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 203
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
DEVELOP PROGRAMS TO RECAPTURE, RETAIN, AND SHARE THE CULTURAL
AND ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE OF LIMU KALA.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 203 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to develop programs to recapture, retain, and share the cultural and environmental knowledge of limu kala. **The Department supports this measure and offers comments.**

The Department recognizes the decline of desirable limu species throughout the State. Currently, the Department is supporting non-government organizations in the propagation of limu species for community-driven restoration projects. The Department has made a recent investment in this effort by upgrading limu production tanks at the Anuenue Fisheries Research Center (AFRC) on Sand Island. The Department currently produces ogo, palahalaha, and lepe-o-Hina at AFRC and makes them available for community limu restoration efforts.

As for limu kala, during the past ten years the Department has supported the University of Hawaii's Botany Department's research related to propagating limu kala. Although this has been a challenging endeavor, the Department plans to continue this support by providing seawater, tanks, electricity, and technical guidance as the Department has done in the past.

The Department often participates in limu outreach events with non-government partners. As these efforts continue, the Department will ensure to highlight the importance of limu kala in an effort to recapture, retain, and share the cultural, and environmental knowledge of limu kala for the people of Hawaii. The Department recognizes that in Hawaii's modern context there is an underappreciation of limu. This resolution is an excellent opportunity to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of limu in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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
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BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

SCR-203

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 10:19:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Sakoda	DLNR	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

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



Testimony Before The
House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
IN SUPPORT OF SCR 203
April 21, 2022, 1:30PM, Room 325

We are Malia Heimuli and Kevin Chang the Limu Hui Coordinator and Executive Director, respectively, of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

KUA employs a community-driven approach that currently supports a statewide network of 36 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a growing group of over 60 Limu practitioners and supporters called the Limu Hui.

KUA supports SCR 203 as an incremental step on a pathway towards 'āina momona.

One of the founding kupuna of our first network E Alu Pū, Uncle Henry Chang Wo Jr., a recognized loea limu (limu expert) grew up in 'Ewa Beach and personally witnessed the decline of limu there. He worked to create a Limu Management Area (LMA) in 'Ewa, a place legally designated for traditional limu gathering. Uncle Henry taught us that one of the main causes of the loss of limu is the loss of groundwater that once flowed abundantly along the shoreline. As the flow of groundwater decreased, limu abundance decreased. One of Uncle Henry's famous sayings was "No limu, no fish". Unfortunately, Uncle Henry passed away in 2015. He left a legacy which includes the Limu Hui, the 'Ewa LMA and the struggle to bring limu back to 'Ewa the way it once was. KUA works to perpetuate his legacy. This resolution is part of that legacy we wish he were here to testify on and help continue.

KUA supports SCR 203 because recognition of the significant socio-cultural dimensions of Limu Kala helps to elevate the importance of the resources, people and culture of Hawai'i broadly. It also uplifts the work and passion of generations of kūpuna like Uncle Henry and many others to perpetuate the deeper socio-cultural ties that bind us to these islands. We also feel this recognition will provide many opportunities to increase awareness and to educate Hawai'i's residents of the environmental and Hawaiian cultural significance of Limu Kala and all limu.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona, E Ola Limu!



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SCR-203

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 1:16:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support!



April 19, 2022

Re: **STRONG SUPPORT** for **SCR203**: Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop programs to recapture, retain, and share the cultural and environmental knowledge of limu kala.

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea
Post Office Box 188
Hale'iwa, HI 96712

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW) is a Hawai'i non-profit organization founded on the North Shore of O'ahu in 2005 that cares for, educates about, and protects the Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District (MLCD).

Board of Directors

Denise Antolini
Anne Chung
Sydney Covell
Bob Leinau
Jacqueline Leinau

A very large part of the work we do is educating youth and adults alike about Hawai'i's fragile marine ecosystems. Limu (seaweed) is a critical part of those ecosystems, and we are very pleased to see actions that help bring attention to and awareness of the importance of limu both environmentally and culturally. As the basis of the food chain, all marine life relies on healthy and abundant limu. Limu kala, especially, is a favorite of kala fish (Bluespine and Orangespine Unicornfishes).

Advisory Council

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Maxx E. Phillips
Bill Quinlan
Palakiko Yagodich

SCR203 is important to help move the conversation about limu forward and to engage the Legislature, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the public in efforts recapture, retain, and share the cultural and environmental knowledge of limu, specifically, limu kala. In addition, these resolutions will lay the foundation for the designation of limu kala as Hawai'i's State Limu next session.

Staff

Jenny Yagodich, Director of Educational Programs & Makai Watch Coordinator

Mahalo nui for your consideration of SCR203,

Jenny Yagodich

Jenny Yagodich
Director of Educational Programs &
Makai Watch Coordinator
Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea

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