

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:37:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lyman Abbott	Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HB571 for the three positions on Kaho`olawe. We have been short staffed for many years now and extra hands on deck would be extremely helpful. So to assist with our day to day operations both here on Maui and on Kaho`olawe please support HB571. Thank you Lyman Abbott, Restoration Department-Natural Resources Specialist III, KIRC.



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
KŌMIKINA MĀLAMA KAHO'OLAWE

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Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPĪ
Executive Director

Before the House Committee on

WATER AND LAND

Thursday, February 2, 2023
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 430

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 571
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

House Bill 571 appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and to fund three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) positions for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

The KIRC is the single government agency responsible to provide and maintain on-island infrastructure and services on Kaho'olawe. Our on-island responsibilities include operating and maintaining an OSHA standard, field workcamp to support staff and a volunteer workforce while restoring the devastated landscape of Kahoolawe.

The general funds provided in Act 248/SLH2022 was a significant one-time contribution to the operations and support needed to continue the KIRC's innovative and effective Kaho'olawe Island restoration and management efforts. The KIRC seeks, through this measure, to make this appropriation permanent to ensure that the KIRC can continue the long-term operations and maintenance of the Honokanai'a Base Camp, on-island facilities and infrastructure, and the KIRC ocean going vessel, 'Ōhua. Without our base of operations, the well-maintained equipment and facilities on Kaho'olawe, and our means of getting to and from Kahoolawe, safe public access as well as the continuing management and restoration efforts on Kaho'olawe would be impossible. This funding is crucial to the long-term stability and continuation of the KIRC's on-island restoration and rehabilitation efforts.

The additional KIRC positions are critically vital as the KIRC has observed a long-term increase in unpredictability and severity of weather and ocean conditions in the waters surrounding Maui and Kaho'olawe, most likely due to climate change and global warming, which has resulted in an increased need for additional manpower to safely and effectively operate the KIRC ocean vessel.

Additionally, our Kaho`olawe field teams also needs additional field support as we increased our focus to coastline stabilization and coastal wetland restoration efforts.

The KIRC has lived on a shoestring budget for the past decade, making do with whatever resources and funds we have been able to get, but at the same time been able to do amazing work, restoring one of the most devastated and remote places in Hawaii. The task ahead of the KIRC is one of the greatest challenges for this and the next generation, but to many here in Hawaii, a challenge that is worth the effort.

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Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
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Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
For hearing Thursday, February 2, 2023

Re: HB 571 RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION.
Appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission.
Appropriates funds for three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) permanent positions.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Three points will be discussed in this testimony:

1. The most important point is that prior legislation and existing statute law make it clear that Kaho'olawe is not to be regarded as the permanent property of the State of Hawaii, and that its transfer to a different government is expected to happen within the next few years. Therefore the legislature must either stop wasting State government money on Kaho'olawe; or else pass legislation rescinding the automatic transfer of the island to a different government, so that money spent to rehabilitate that island actually is for the long-term benefit of the State.
2. All expenses for rehabilitating and maintaining Kaho'olawe should be paid by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from its share of ceded land revenues, not from the State's general fund.

3. It seems there are no statements of long-term or even short-term goals and objectives regarding the intended uses of Kaho'olawe. For example, we might like to create a sustainable water supply so that vegetation can grow without constant human intervention, but why should we do that? Do we want significant numbers of people to have that island as their primary place of residence where they can grow their own food? We should not merely appropriate money and then wait for people to figure out how to use it -- we should have a statement of purposes first, and then figure out how much money is needed to achieve those purposes and how to hold the recipients accountable for achieving those purposes. Don't spend money without saying why; and don't hire bureaucrats with no way to measure whether they achieve goals which nobody has stated.

1. Kaho'olawe is not to be regarded as the permanent property of the State of Hawaii; its transfer to a different government is expected to happen within the next few years.

HB455 of year 2019 made clear that Kaho'olawe is not to be regarded as the permanent property of the State of Hawaii, and that its transfer to a different government is expected to happen within the next few years. According to that bill: "Pursuant to section 6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the management and control of the Kahoolawe island reserve will be transferred to a sovereign native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the State and the federal government. This event is anticipated to occur within the timeframe of the 2026 strategic plan."

It's unclear whether the expected "Native Hawaiian entity" will be a sovereign independent nation recognized internationally, or whether it will be similar to an Indian tribe as envisioned by the numerous versions of the "Akaka bill" in Congress from 2000 to 2012. Either way, Kaho'olawe WILL be transferred out of the State of Hawaii and into the Hawaiian nation -- a transfer expected within the next four years.

How serious is the threat that a federally recognized Hawaiian tribe will soon be created?

Although the Akaka bill has not been re-introduced in Congress since the end of 2012, Senator Brian Schatz zealously devoted his entire maiden speech to pushing in favor of it on June 11, 2013, even though no such bill

had been introduced at that time 6 months into the new Congress and even though it has never been introduced from then until now. Full text of his speech, and analysis of it, is at

<https://www.angelfire.com/big09/AkakaSchatzMaiden061113.html>

Senator Schatz has served on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee continuously for more than 11 years, and as its Chairman during from 2021 to now. He is also Chairman of an appropriations subcommittee, the same position from which Senator Inouye repeatedly attached the Akaka bill by reference (merely naming its bill number and declaring it to be "hereby enacted") deep inside must-pass military or national debt appropriations bills.

Near the start of the 117th Congress, on January 21, 2021 KITV News reported "The new administration is opening the door for federal recognition for Native Hawaiians, allowing greater self-determination and control similar to other Native American tribes. ... "We have a historic opportunity to be able to walk through that portal," Esther Kia'aina said. Before winning a seat on the Honolulu City Council, Esther Kia'aina worked in D.C. for decades. She says the tide turned after the U.S. government issued a formal apology for the 1893 overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom. President Biden recently appointed Deb Haaland as the first Native American Interior Secretary, if Native Hawaiians want recognition, Kia'aina says no[w] is the time to stand up. ... As the debate continued in 2021-22 there was also a new Native Hawaiian voice at the Capitol who is listening. "I do feel that it's important to hear from our Native Hawaiian community so they can have input on whatever future that holds as far as governance but as a Native Hawaiian and one who represents Hawaii in Congress I look forward to bringing that Native Hawaiian perspective," Hawaii U.S. Congressman Kai Kahele said.

The President could issue an executive order to recognize a Hawaiian tribe, but such an order would be fragile since it could be reversed by any future President. Congressional action through something like the Akaka bill would be permanent and remains a strong possibility. But there is another way to create a Hawaiian tribe and get federal recognition for it. A regulation unilaterally proclaimed by the U.S. Department of Interior at the end of the Obama administration remains in place and could be activated at any time, like a sleeper agent in a spy movie.

43 CFR 50 "Procedures for Reestablishing a Formal Government-to-Government Relationship With the Native Hawaiian Community" was published by the Department of Interior in the Federal Register on October 14, 2016, pp. 71278-71323, thereby making it law. This rule became

effective November 14, 2016, 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. In a format that is easy to read, 43 CFR 50 is at <http://tinyurl.com/jyvdbwg>

To see the rule as it was actually formatted in the Federal Register, go to <http://tinyurl.com/znjgwkr>

How serious is the threat that an internationally recognized sovereign independent Nation of Hawaii will be created? [which would automatically receive a transfer of Kaho'olawe according to HRS 6K-9]

One lecturer in Hawaiian Studies at a community college has been, for more than two decades, filing federal lawsuits and corresponding with foreign government consulates in the U.S. demanding that the U.S. disgorge and withdraw its belligerent military occupation of Hawaii. Another activist who styles himself as Foreign Minister of the still-living Kingdom of Hawaii has for many years been making at least one trip annually to both the United Nations in New York and the United Nations in Geneva Switzerland to lobby diplomats of foreign governments, some of which are enemies of the U.S., to invoke old treaties between their nations and the Hawaiian kingdom, and to introduce legislation in the General Assembly to reinstate Hawaii on the U.N. list of non-self-governing territories in need of decolonization. Consider also the ongoing effort to remove the name and statue of President McKinley from the high school, on grounds that McKinley performed a despicable act in persuading Congress to agree to the "illegal" Treaty of Annexation in 1898 -- the primary purpose of that effort is to show the world [falsely but convincingly] that Hawaii rejects being part of America and wants help to escape. In 2021 and again in 2022 a committee of this legislature held a hearing on a resolution demanding that the Board of Education remove McKinley's name and statue, and the committee seemed shocked by the strong resistance to that proposal.

One piece of evidence showing the seriousness of intent to create a sovereign Hawaiian nation is the fact that in 2015 the State of Hawaii Office of Hawaiian Affairs engaged in a well-funded process to create a Constitution for that nation. That effort proceeded in tandem with the Department of Interior multi-year series of hearings and preliminary drafts of 43 CFR 50. All versions of that emerging regulation called for ethnic Hawaiians to hold an election to select delegates to a Constitutional Convention, who would then write a Constitution, get it ratified by a vote of ethnic Hawaiians, and submit it to the Secretary of Interior for approval. OHA spent millions of dollars to update its list of ethnic Hawaiians, and

subcontracted to a specially created "private" but wholly owned subsidiary "Na'i Aupuni" to hold an election of delegates. However, a lawsuit by Judicial Watch and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii succeeded in getting the U.S. Supreme Court to issue an injunction by 5-4 vote blocking the election results from being used, on account of the Rice v. Cayetano Supreme Court decision of year 2000 which ruled that a state government agency [OHA's subsidiary Na'i Aupuni] cannot hold a racially exclusionary election. Because of the Supreme Court injunction a decision was made to seat at the constitutional convention all 151 people who were still interested in participating (out of the 209 who had originally filed papers to run as candidates), but to cut the length of the convention from 8 weeks to 4 weeks in order to get the work done within the original budget. The Na'i Aupuni convention met throughout the entire month of February and voted to approve its Constitution on February 26, 2016. The Constitution was published on the Na'i Aupuni website; but of course Na'i Aupuni no longer exists and neither does its website. However, the Constitution remains available here:

<http://big09.angelfire.com/NatHwnConstitAdopt022616.pdf>

The Native Hawaiian Nation is racially exclusionary, restricted to people who have at least one drop of Hawaiian native blood. All lands and waters of the archipelago of the Hawaiian Islands shall belong to the Native Hawaiian Nation. In other words: This nation is of, by, and for the race exclusively; and the race owns all the lands and waters of Hawaii. The constitution reasserts the concept from the ancient Hawaiian religion, that ethnic Hawaiians have a genealogical relationship with the gods and the land, which is the basis of their race-based rights to control the government and how the lands are used. Here's the relevant exact language from the constitution as approved by the Na'i Aupuni convention on February 26, 2016:

Right up front in your face, the preamble says "we join together to affirm a government of, by, and for Native Hawaiian people" [i.e., of the race, by the race, and for the race], and "affirm our ancestral [i.e., race-based] rights and Kuleana to all lands, waters, and resources of our islands and surrounding seas." [i.e., we're gonna take over the whole place, just like Kamehameha did, who was known as "Ka Na'i Aupuni" -- the conqueror.] "We reaffirm the

National Sovereignty of the Nation. We reserve all rights to Sovereignty and Self-determination, including the pursuit of independence. Our highest aspirations are set upon the promise of our unity and this Constitution." By the way, "Na'i Aupuni" means "Conquest" and was one nickname for Kamehameha Ka Na'i Aupuni "The Conqueror." In case there's any doubt

about racial exclusivity, Article 2 -- Citizenship -- says "A citizen of the Native Hawaiian Nation is any descendant of the aboriginal and indigenous people who, prior to 1778, occupied and exercised sovereignty in the Hawaiian Islands and is enrolled in the nation." Article 7, Section 4 reaffirms the religious belief that ethnic Hawaiians have a genealogical relationship with the islands, saying "The Nation has a right, duty, and kuleana, both individually and collectively, to sustain the 'Aina (land, kai, wai, air) as an ancestor, source of mana, and source of life and well-being for present and future generations. And Article 8 says "The Government shall not ... Make any law with intent to suppress traditional Native Hawaiian religion or beliefs." Notice also that although the Constitution seems designed to pursue federal recognition as an Indian tribe, it also says "We reserve all rights to Sovereignty and Self-determination, including the pursuit of independence."

This bill now in the Hawaii legislature is a simple bill appropriating money to establish a bureaucracy for restoring Kaho'olawe Island. In this section of my testimony I am saying you should not do that because under HRS 6K-9 it is envisioned that Kaho'olawe will no longer belong to the State of Hawaii, and there is a strategic plan, referred to in HB455 of year 2019, which anticipated that the transfer will happen by 2026. If the ethnic Hawaiian power-elite in Hawaii decides to move forward to implement the federal regulation 43 CFR 50, and to put forward the Na'i Aupuni racist Constitution which allows for independent nationhood, there is absolutely no way you in the legislature can stop it. But you do have it in your power to stop throwing money down the rathole of a soon-to-be outside-of-Hawaii Kaho'olawe.

You legislators can overcome this objection merely by getting rid of the automatic transfer of Kaho'olawe to the anticipated Hawaiian nation. PLEASE RESCIND HRS 6K-9. You have it in your power to do that.

2. All expenses for rehabilitating and maintaining Kaho'olawe should be paid by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from its share of ceded land revenues, not from the State's general fund.

The text of this bill specifically identifies ethnic Hawaiians as the primary beneficiaries. The first sentence makes that clear when it says "Through Act 340, Session Laws of Hawaii 1993, the legislature found that the island of Kaho'olawe was of significant cultural and historic importance to the native people of Hawaii." and the second sentence refers to "the existence of

archaeological and other cultural and historic sites, and the presence of native and endangered flora and fauna ..." "The State" and "the people of Hawaii" are briefly mentioned, but only in a condescending way implying they are of lesser status.

Accordingly, all expenses for rehabilitating and maintaining Kaho'olawe should be paid by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from its share of ceded land revenues, not from the State's general fund.

According to OHA's latest annual report, on June 30, 2022 OHA had assets of \$823 Million. Another bill already approved by a committee last year called for \$638 Million in arrears plus \$79 Million per year in future for OHA from ceded land revenues, exclusively for "betterment of Native Hawaiians" who comprise 20% of Hawaii's people; with no set-aside of 4 times those amounts exclusively for the other 80% of Hawaii's people who lack a drop of Hawaiian blood.

What the heck do you folks think OHA should be doing with all that money? This bill says "There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of [\$400,000 before bill gets amended] or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission." And in addition "There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of [\$72,500] or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to fund ..." three full-time equivalent (3.00 FTE) permanent positions.

That's a mere \$400,500 which is a tiny drop in the bucket for OHA. But it would establish a good precedent: OHA should be responsible for projects and costs that are primarily for the benefit of ethnic Hawaiians. That's why Section 5(f) of the Statehood Act of 1959 identifies "the betterment of native Hawaiians" as one of the 5 purposes for which revenues from the ceded lands can be used. Of course we know that \$400,500 is merely seed money -- something to get the ball rolling -- the beginning of expenditures that will mushroom to hundreds of millions of dollars in a few years. Make OHA pay!

3. What are the long-term or even short-term goals and objectives regarding the intended uses of Kaho'olawe? We should not merely appropriate money and then wait for people to figure out how to use it -- we should have a statement of purposes first, and then figure out how much money is needed to achieve those purposes and how to hold the recipients

accountable for achieving those purposes. Don't spend money without saying why; and don't hire bureaucrats with no way to measure whether they achieve goals which nobody has stated.

In 1992 I first came to live permanently in Kane'ohe, and for several years (1992 to 1995) I was enrolled in courses in Hawaiian language, history, and culture. That was the same time period when the bombing of the "target island" was stopped, ownership of the island was transferred to Hawaii, and Congress appropriated \$400 Million for cleanup of unexploded ordnance. I attended community meetings celebrating these events. Both in my classes and in community meetings I was invited several times to go along on a one-day visit to Kaho'olawe. I politely declined. But it was clear from those community events, from televised news reports, and from the invitations to tag along, that there was no clear plan or purpose for how to use the island. Indeed, some might consider it sacrilegious, or at least disrespectful, to talk about "using" Kaho'olawe. An 'olelo no'eau says: "He ali'i ka 'aina; he kauwa ke kanaka." Land is a chief, people are its humble servants. Our job is not to use the land but to serve it.

But in practice casually visiting Kaho'olawe was seen partly as a sort of tourist daytrip for fun and adventure. A bit daring because of all the unexploded bombs and need to stay on a narrowly defined path. It was also regarded by some activists as a pilgrimage to a sacred place, born from the womb of a god and giving birth to other creatures -- Ke kohe [lawe] malamalama o Kanaloa was its legendary name, identifying it as the shining [portable] vagina of the sea god Kanaloa. So the activists performed protocol: chants, prayers, setting up a lele for offerings of fish or vegetables. Very nice, and very impressive to daytrippers.

Is that it? Is that the reason why the State of Hawaii should spend lots of money to rehabilitate Kaho'olawe? Simply to admire it and perhaps to worship it? Is the ancient religion the native Hawaiians now adopted as the official religion of the State of Hawaii? Or maybe it will become the island where the capitol of the Hawaiian nation will be erected. Or maybe we can turn it into a vegetable garden and send the produce by barge a short distance to Maui. Or maybe it would be a great place for OHA to build a casino! Figure out what you want to do with it before you spend tax dollars on it.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:27:31 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davianna McGregor	Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

On behalf of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods.

I hope that these funds can be appropriated ongoing as part of the

I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB571.

Mahalo and Aloha

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 12:05:23 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cassandra L. Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Water and Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB571. I'm in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide financial support for hiring additional three full-time staff members for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). This will allow the organization to continue their long-term restoration efforts of Kaho`olawe, which ultimately serves all the people of Hawai'i. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique logistical challenges of safely restoring, protecting, and managing the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i for generations to come. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also providing the opportunity to support and foster the next generation of land, ocean, and cultural resource managers through an immersive volunteer program. The dynamic safe and meaningful, hands-on experience that KIRC facilitates within the Reserve will greatly benefit from additional funding and staff support. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB571.

Thank you for your time,

Cassandra L. Smith

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 12:36:07 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Margaret Pulver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB571.

Thank you,

Margaret Pulver

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 12:47:53 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janeece Beauchamp	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I would like to submit my support for Kaho'olawe in efforts to restore and revitalize the island.

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:14:15 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grant Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB571.

Thank you,

Grant Thompson

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:35:44 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christina Wine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB571.

Mahalo,

Christina

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:37:02 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lopaka White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting the restoration efforts on Kaho`olawe.

Kukulu ke ea a Kanaloa!

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:37:12 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Sabharwal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB571.

Mahalo for your time,

Caroline Sabharwal

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 1:50:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB571.

Thank you,

Dean

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 3:10:07 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anela Evans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Water and Land,

Aloha kākou. Thank you all for considering this measure in today's hearing. I would like to urge all of you to fully support HB571 that appropriates funding for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their important work on Kaho‘olawe. I had the privilege of working at the KIRC for two years. The work that is being done and the people that carry out the work are the most hard-working and passionate people that I have ever had the opportunity to work with. The restoration that is taking place is of paramount importance to the preservation of both the natural and cultural resources of Kaho‘olawe and Hawai‘i. The progress thus far in restoring the island of Kaho‘olawe could not have been possible without the work of the KIRC staff, their dedicated work, and their facilitation of volunteers.

Thank you all again for your time and consideration. Please support the funding of HB571 and the continuation of the work of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Ke aloha no,

Anela Evans

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 4:48:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Bruch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB571.

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 6:58:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lara Reynolds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations current and those to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods, which I have experienced firsthand as a volunteer with KIRC. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB571.

Mahalo,

Lara Reynolds

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:00:09 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kapulei Flores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of HB571 in order for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their ‘āina restoration efforts, educational programs, accesses, as well as add new full time employment positions. Mahalo

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:35:26 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Janikowski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The acts done by the US Military years ago cannot be undone, and us as the state of Hawaii had nothing to do with those acts personally, but its only right to take care of the land that was mistreated so long ago. Please continue to help the plants and wildlife through reseach and conservation efforts. The land deserves our help.

-Jacob Janikowski

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 10:49:37 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlene Mersburgh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass HB571. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB571.

Thank you,

Charlene Mersburgh

HB-571

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 11:15:27 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Mersburgh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In supporting of funding that will be used for the restoration and beautification of Kaho'olawe.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:27:25 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gizelle Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Gizelle Rodrigues, a high school student on the island of Maui. I stand in support of HB571 to allocate funds to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission in order to continue their 'āina restoration efforts, educational programs and accesses, and add new full-time employment positions.

As a Hawaiian, Kaho'olawe is a huge part of our culture and our history. With the addition of being a high school student and part of the younger generation I would like to continue seeing Kaho'olawe being restored and seeing others learn from this island.

Thank you for listening.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:20:32 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Gavagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I am testifying in support of SB100. This funding is crucial for the KIRC to continue its mission to provide safe, meaningful access to Kaho'olawe as well as to allow Native Hawaiians to continue to continue their cultural practices. My family's experiences on Kaho'olawe continue to inspire them in their everyday lives and careers. My husband continues to take volunteers from the hotel he works at to Kaho'olawe yearly to help in restoring the island as part of their kuleana to the Honua'ula Moku where the hotel stands. My daughter's experiences on Kaho'olawe contributed to her career choice. She graduated last month from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo with a B.S. in Marine Science, a Marine Option Program Certificate and a minor in Hawaiian Studies. Kaho'olawe continues to inspire people from all walks of life to not only restore Kaho'olawe but also to malama aina within their own communities. In order for this to continue, this funding is imperative.

Mahalo,

Terri Gavagan

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:47:48 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl Burghardt.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill to provide funds for Kaho`olawe now and for as long as is needed. In reading this bill, it is evident the extensive research and understanding of the efforts throughout the years by many dedicated people that went into the writing of this bill. Kaho`olawe is an important part of our islands and history. The example that we send by recognizing and appropriating \$\$ through this bill for this project to continue is a step in healing for all. It is also a possible model for how the Hawai`i State govt. can look at other areas on our island that have been harmed/damaged by the US govt./military especially as leases expire.

The mo`olelo of Kaho`olawe is an important one and this project and the people behind it have worked extensively and dedicated their lives to ensuring that we never forget. For me, this bill is one of the very important ones on this year's docket.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 8:33:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Au	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The island Kahoolawe needs continued restoration and care following the abuse it faced by the US Military. I support this bill, which appropriates funds for the Kaho‘olawe island reserve commission and provides funds for three full-time equivalent permanent positions.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:09:08 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tara Rojas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! I support HB571 to allocate funds to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission in order to continue their ‘Āina restoration efforts, educational programs amd acceses, and add new full-time employment positions.

Tara Rojas

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:10 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua Kaakua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Water & Land.

I SUPPORT HB 571 and encourage our policy makers and community leaders to advocate strongly for the critical work of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) As a Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana member and current Chair of the KIRC, I am intimately familiar with the needs, accomplishments, and challenges of the organization in carrying out this kuleana on behalf of the State. Thank you for your consideration in SUPPORT of HB 571.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:12:21 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 6:17:27 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ariana Hurdle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Ariana Kahiau Hurdle. I stand in support of HB571 to provide consistent funding to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commision so that they may continue their efforts in restoration, education, and employment. As someone who had the experience of going to Kaho'olawe as a haumana in high school I can firmly say that I had an experience of a lifetime, and I could only hope that other haumana or other native Hawaiians in general would have the opportunity to go there too one day! Without the efforts of those who have worked on that island for all these years, I would have never had the experience I did, and without proper funding, others may not get to experience it ever.

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:37:53 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keomailani Hanapi Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB571

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:49:40 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teri L Skillman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives Linda Ichiyama, Chair and Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair along with Members Rep. Cory M. Chun, Rep. Dee Morikawa, Rep. Sonny Ganaden, Rep. Gregg Takayama, Rep. Mark J. Hashem, and Rep. Kanani Souza,

As a private citizen and permanent resident of Hawai'i, I am writing in SUPPORT of HB571 that will funds appropriate funds for three full-time permanent positions for the KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION.

Mahalo nui for the oportunity to express my position of support,

Teri Skillman

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:48:39 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shauna Springer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o wau! I support!

HB-571

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 9:01:21 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diliaur Tellei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Diliaur Tellei and I strongly support this bill. Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission must be granted the funds to continue to steward the island. Thank you for your time.