

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
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**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

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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

**Testimony of
DAWN N.S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2023
12:30 PM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1144
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Senate Bill 1144 appropriates moneys to establish a homelessness coordinator position for the island of Maui within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). The Department supports this bill.

The Department notes that when it does clean-ups on Maui, the Department's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) and the Department of Transportation, who holds the statewide contract for storage and debris removal are always involved. A full time Homeless Coordinator could likely address the problem areas more frequently, but would be dependent on both DOCARE and the Department of Transportation's contractor's availability, unless funding for a Maui based contract is also included.

We also are not entirely sure where a coordinator would be physically located. Almost all of our offices have grown and therefore we have submitted capitol improvement program proposals to address the Department's overall need for space.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

PARTNERS IN CARE

Oahu's Continuum of Care

Our mission is to eliminate homelessness through open and inclusive participation and the coordination of integrated responses.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1144 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

TO: Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Partners In Care (PIC)

Hearing: Wednesday, February 15, 12:30pm Conference Room 229/videoconference

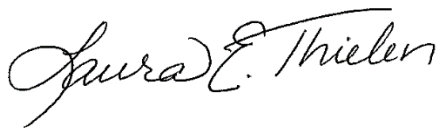
Chair Inouye and Members of the Senate Committees on Water and Land:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 1144 Relating to the Department of Land and Natural Resources**. Partners In Care (PIC), a coalition of more than 60 non-profit homelessness providers and concerned organizations, works on Oahu to end homelessness.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is a key partner when addressing homelessness in our State. When encampments are present on DLNR land, their participation in outreach makes a big difference, not only in making sure that the land is cared for, but also as an access point to services that individuals experiencing homelessness may need. We have seen the success of partnerships of DLNR and homelessness service providers on Oahu and we encourage the same type of partnership on Maui.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1144.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Thielen
Executive Director
Partners In Care