

SB-1656

Submitted on: 1/31/2025 7:21:21 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/4/2025 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael I Rice	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I stand in SUPPORT of this bill. I would suggest that DHHL also consider incorporating a future Desalination Plant, as proposed in SB848 and HB780, into the design of the facility.

SB-1656

Submitted on: 2/2/2025 6:08:39 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/4/2025 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strong support

SB-1656

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 12:04:44 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/4/2025 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Toni Withington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

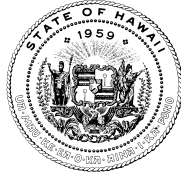
I am a 55-year-long resident of North Kohala and I strongly favor this bill to encourage pumped hydro power using the Kohala Mountain. I am a longtime member of the North Kohala Community Development Plan Utilities Group that makes recommendations on issues related to power, wwater and telecom. I am a co-author of the Kohala Water Report. We have repeatedly presented ideas for use of existing and unused water reservoirs and perched water tunnels to Hawaiian Electric as an excellent use of resources for pumped hydro power. Excellent studies have been done at prototypes of the system at Kahua Ranch. We are in an ideal situation to use both solar and wind energy to supplement pumped hyddro power to our island.

Please vote in favor of this bill.

aloha, Toni Withington Hawi, North Kohala

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawai'i*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRPERSON, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. LAMBERT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawai'i

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**TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIR
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2025 AT 1:15PM IN CR 224**

SB 1656, RELATING TO PUMPED STORAGE HYDROPOWER

February 3, 2025

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) **supports** this bill which authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to DHHL to finance the planning, designing, and construction of a water pump storage hydroelectric facility in the Kohala Mountains on Hawaii Island.

DHHL appreciates the intent of this bill to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to DHHL to finance the planning, designing, and construction of a water pump storage hydroelectric facility in the Kohala Mountains on Hawai'i Island. DHHL recognizes that lessees residing on Hawaiian Home Lands in West Hawai'i island pay some of the highest water rates/bills which are often subsidized by DHHL. DHHL simply request flexibility in the use of the funds due to the complexity of the issues regarding access and availability to potable and irrigation water for beneficiaries who reside on Hawaiian Home Lands in West Hawai'i island.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.