

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 11:10:26 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hardy Spoehr	Testifying for Spoehr Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure to support the inspirational story of Kaho`olawe in a way which other entities such as the Polynesian Voyaging Society and others, some who have applied this session, have found so important for visitors and kama`aina alike. Kaho`olawe is especially important because of its unique status in our state as a wahipana with a mo`olelo which our younger generations need to know and take to heart. Mahalo,

Hardy Spoehr,



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

March 18, 2025

3:00 PM

Conference Room 224

In **SUPPORT** of **HB307 HD1**: RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS HB307 HD1**, which would create a special number plate in recognition of Kaho'olawe, thereby reminding us of the lessons the island has taught and continues to teach us about our kuleana to these islands we call home.

Fifty years ago, the "Kaho'olawe 9" landed on Kaho'olawe as it was being actively bombed as target practice by the United States Navy. Through their bravery and defiance, the "Kaho'olawe 9" exemplified aloha 'āina, and their stand not only led to the eventual relinquishment of Kaho'olawe to the state of Hawai'i, but also catalyzed what is now referred to as the "Second Hawaiian Renaissance," resulting in transformative changes to our legal, cultural, and social landscape.

The story of Kaho'olawe holds many lessons of continued and particular relevance today. Its long history of mismanagement and abuse, the sacrifices made by the "Kaho'olawe 9" to stop its desecration, and the damage it continues to suffer from all remind us of the costs we and our future generations must bear when we do not uphold our responsibilities of reciprocity and care for the 'āina that sustains and nurtures us. The successes of the "Kaho'olawe 9" and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana against the United States Navy in securing the return of Kaho'olawe also gives us inspiration and hope - that a deep and steadfast love for our islands can, in fact, triumph over the greatest of odds. The community-led actions and efforts that ended the bombing of Kaho'olawe, and that continue to clean-up and heal the land, also remind us of the importance of grassroots voices and leadership in ensuring the proper stewardship of our Hawai'i nei – a lesson that we must continue to hold close, as we navigate the ongoing Red Hill water crisis, and as we contemplate the true costs of military live fire training and other activities from Ka'ula, to Pu'uloa, to Mākua, to Pōhakuloa.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i supports this bill as a means of not only recognizing Kaho'olawe and sustaining the work of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, but as a way to also remind our communities of the critical lessons that Kaho'olawe taught



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

and continues to teach us – lessons that we must remember now perhaps more than ever before.

Therefore, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** this measure. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Transportation and Cultural and the Arts (TCA)
IN SUPPORT OF HB307 HD1
March 18, 2025, 3:00 p.m., Room 224

We are Olan Leimomi Fisher and Kevin Chang, Kua'āina Advocate and Executive Director, respectively, testifying on behalf of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). "Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo" stands for "grassroots growing through shared responsibility," and our acronym "KUA" means "backbone." **Our mission is to connect and empower communities to improve their quality of life through the collective care for their biocultural (natural and cultural) heritage, serving as a "backbone organization" that supports creative and community-driven solutions to problems stemming from environmental degradation.** Hawai'i's biocultural resources continue to be negatively impacted by political, economic, and social changes, and the increasing dangers of climate change make fostering and empowering resilient communities acutely critical.

Currently KUA supports three major networks of: (1) over 40 mālama 'āina (caring for our 'āina or "that which feeds") community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together); (2) over 60 loko i'a (fishpond aquaculture systems unique to Hawai'i) and wai 'ōpae (anchialine pool systems) sites in varying stages of restoration and development, with numerous caretakers, stakeholders, and volunteers known as the Hui Mālama Loko I'a ("caretakers of fishponds"); and (3) the Limu Hui made up of over 50 loea (traditional experts) and practitioners in all things "limu" or locally-grown "seaweed." **Our shared vision is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as 'ĀINA MOMONA – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our community resilience and well-being.**

KUA supports HB307 HD1 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona.

This bill would create a special license plate to recognize and raise funds needed to help our Hawai'i community fulfill the collective promise and obligation to heal Kaho'olawe. Funds raised would go into the Kohe Mālamalama o Kanaloa Protect Kaho'olawe Fund. A new and cherished member of our E Alu Pū network is the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO), long time champion and steward of Kaho'olawe.

A primary function of KUA includes support for the development of an 'auwai, or a system of resources, tools, bridges, relationships, and networks that cultivate and elevate our communities' efforts to greater levels of collective impact in the care of our biocultural resources. A core catalyst for the flow in this 'auwai includes increasing necessary resources and pathways for community-led efforts helping to manage and regenerate the condition of the 'āina that sustains us. **We trust that a share of the resources generated from this special license plate will go to support some of PKO's efforts which are core to connecting our broader community with understanding the importance and sacredness of Kaho'olawe.**

The communities we work with are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our biocultural resources that they have cared for and depended on for generations since time immemorial. **We believe our environment, the foundation of our very existence, is about long-term investment and a vision of ‘āina momona.** To get there requires taking the steps necessary for greater self-sufficiency, development of new and more innovative career pathways, mindsets, relationships, and resources for mālama ‘āina efforts that encourage and build upon the time-tested techniques of our ancestors in Hawai‘i. Passing this bill out of your committee will open an essential ‘auwai system toward reaching this vision.

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please **PASS** HB307 HD1.

Aloha ‘Āina Momona no nā kau ā kau.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2025 5:46:36 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support for HB307 Creation of a Kahoolawe Commemorative License Plate

Dear Honorable Members,

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 307, which seeks to establish a special commemorative license plate for the island of Kaho‘olawe.

Mahalo!



Statement of: **Burt Lum, Individual**

Testimony presented before the

Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

Tuesday, March 18, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of

HB307, HD1

RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts:

I, Burt Lum, offer my **Strong Support** for HB307, HD1, which proposes the establishment of a special commemorative license plate for the island of Kaho‘olawe. This initiative is a profound recognition of the 50th anniversary of the first landings on Kaho‘olawe by the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO), a group whose steadfast commitment embodies *Aloha ‘Āina* and the enduring spirit of collective action to restore and protect the land.

Kaho‘olawe holds a unique place in the cultural, historical, and spiritual landscape of Hawai‘i. For Native Hawaiians, the island is a sacred symbol of resilience, cultural revival, and environmental stewardship. This commemorative license plate will serve as a tribute to the efforts and sacrifices of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana while raising awareness about the island’s ongoing restoration. The proceeds from the sale of these plates will directly support the PKO, ensuring the continuation of their vital work to heal Kaho‘olawe and preserve it for generations to come.

For decades, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and countless supporters have demonstrated a deep love and respect for the land by tirelessly working to reclaim it from the damage of military use, restore its natural ecosystems, and reconnect it with its cultural significance.

The creation of a Kaho‘olawe license plate is not merely a symbolic gesture—it is a tangible step toward preserving the legacy of *Aloha ‘Āina*. It invites the broader community to join in the effort to restore Kaho‘olawe, fostering a collective sense of pride and shared responsibility.

I urge you to support this important bill and help create a legacy that reflects our shared values of stewardship, respect, and love for the land.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 6:18:25 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kuuleialohaonalani Salzer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support!

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 6:30:19 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davianna McGregor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts.

i am a longtime member and coordinator of the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana. I support the testimony of the Ohana. A license plate is a wonderful way to honor the dedication and perseverance of over 50 years of aloha for the Aina of Kahoolawe and all of our islands. I humbly ask for your support of HB 307HD1. Aloha

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 5:23:00 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaipulaumakaniolono Keala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, mahalo nui for considering this bill relating to special number plates for the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and the greater aloha ‘āina movement that has been so formative of modern Hawaiian history. This bill is in some sense commemorative but more importantly it reminds us to persist in aloha ‘āina for the future of Hawai‘i and its people.

With this license we hope to commemorate the origin of aloha ‘āina in the Hawaiian renaissance, when nine kānaka and allies landed at Kuheia on Kaho‘olawe ready and willing to brave the near certain destruction of their own bodies by the latent explosive energy remaining in the copious amounts of unexploded ordinances on the island of Kaho‘olawe. Built off of this willingness to give one's life for a vision of a future not categorically determined by the obtuse logic of militarized capitalist domination but rather on a future rooted firmly in aloha for the ‘āina and those nourished by it, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana is brimming with members who have and still continue to give their lives wholeheartedly to our original mission of aloha ‘āina, some of the most prominent of these members have been George Helm and Kimo Mitchell and most recently uncle Emmett Aluli. The gift of their lives is a burden beared by every citizen of Hawai‘i, Hawai‘i is unequivocally a better place for their sacrifice and so we owe it to their legacy that aloha ‘āina persist well into the next 50 years and forevermore.

This is the reminder to which I alluded in my introduction, though a meagre license plate, it is our hope as the PKO that the glimmer of aloha ‘āina continue to shine into people's lives so that they may be regularly reminded that these hegemonic modes of production, the incredible stress of being priced out of our homeland, the desecration of our sacred sites and the poisoning of our water, that these realities of our existence are not inevitable. It is possible to live differently. Aloha ‘āina.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2025 7:12:55 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure HB307.

PROTECT KAHO‘OLAWE ‘OHANA
1733 Wili Pa Loop, B-1
Wailuku, Hawai‘i 96793



3/17/2025

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT OF HB 307** RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES TO
RECOGNIZE THE ISLAND OF KAHO‘OLAWE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 @ 3:00 PM

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts. My name is Joshua Kaakua and I am testifying on behalf of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana in strong support of HB 307 Relating to Special Number Plates to recognize the island of Kaho‘olawe and the Aloha ‘Āina movement that it has inspired.

January 4, 2026 will mark the 50th year since nine individuals landed on the island of Kaho‘olawe to draw attention to the injustices and discrimination experienced by Native Hawaiians. Upon arrival, they were unexpectedly astounded and deeply moved by the abuse and destruction that they witnessed of a fragile, starkly beautiful, and spiritually powerful island. This gave rise to the organization of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and its fiscal non-profit charitable entity, Kohe Mālamalama o Kanaloa Protect Kaho‘olawe Fund (‘Ohana).

A civil suit, *Aluli v Brown*, filed by the ‘Ohana in 1976 led to a court-mandated Consent Decree in 1980 under which the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana was recognized as a steward working for the restoration of the island; was provided access, with volunteers, to engage in spiritual, cultural and educational activities; and began to jointly govern the island with the U.S. Navy. In 1977, two

‘Ohana members, George Helm and Kimo Mitchell, were lost at sea in the waters off of Kaho‘olawe during a protest of the bombing.

On October 22, 1990, U.S. President George H.W. Bush stopped all bombing exercises on the island. The U.S. Congress terminated all military use of the island in 1993 under Title X of the 1994 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (Title X). Title X further authorized the conveyance of Kaho‘olawe and its surrounding waters to the State of Hawai‘i and authorized \$400 million for ordnance removal. The ordnance removal program ended in 2004. The State of Hawai‘i manages the island through the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission under HRS 6K, codified in July 1993 in partnership with the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana and Kohe Mālamalama o Kanaloa Protect Kaho‘olawe Fund.

Kaho‘olawe has become a model of co-stewardship of Hawaiian ancestral lands by community groups working together with the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Kaho‘olawe is an iconic symbol of Aloha ‘Āina - the recognition and acceptance of generations of Native Hawaiians since 1976 of the kuleana (responsibility) to love, care for, and respect our precious islands and restore Hawai‘i’s sovereignty. Kaho‘olawe was the piko (catalyst) for the dynamic cultural renaissance of Hawaiian hula, language, arts, and national pride that prevails today, almost 50 years later.

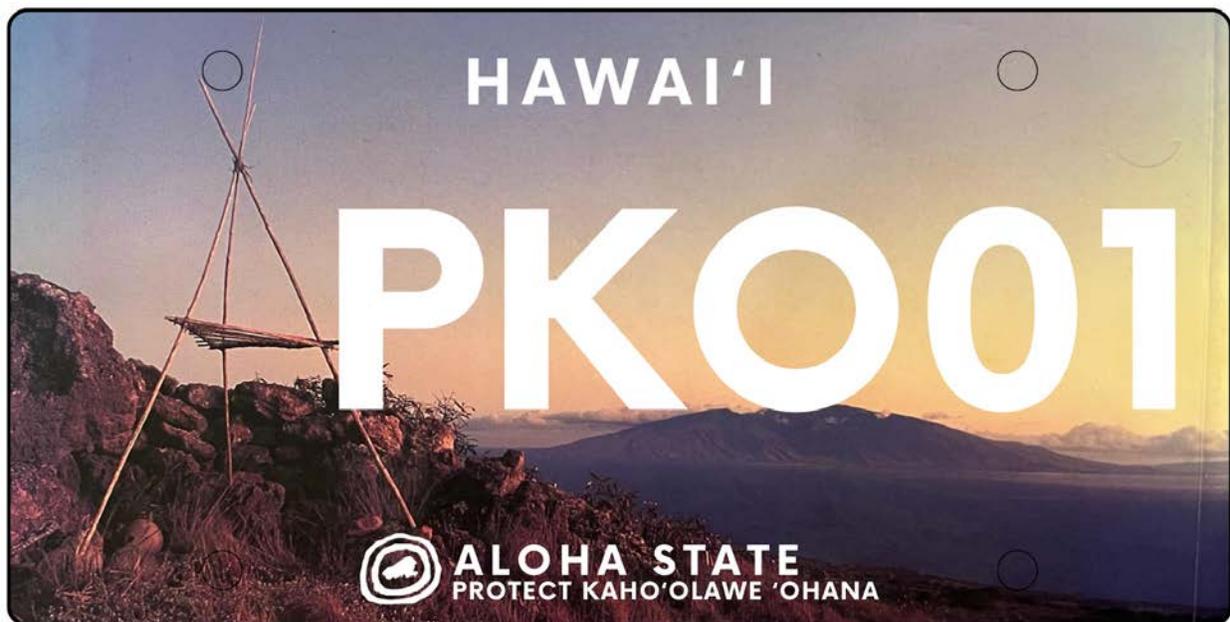
Our ‘Ohana recommends and supports special number plates for Kaho‘olawe in order to:

- encourage awareness about the injustices endured by Kaho‘olawe and Native Hawaiians and how Kaho‘olawe’s cultural and natural resources and Hawaiian cultural and spiritual practices were restored through longterm (50-years) commitment, sacrifice, dedication, and constancy by generations of Native Hawaiians and those who call Hawai‘i home;
- educate the general public about how the sacred nature of the island of Kaho‘olawe as well as other sacred places in Hawai‘i are able to be revived and protected through dedicated volunteer co-stewardship and the acknowledgement and revitalization of Native Hawaiian

ancestral knowledge and related cultural and spiritual practices, as protected under the article 12, section 7 of the Hawai'i Constitution;

- acknowledge the efforts, work, ingenuity, and lives that have been given in the pursuit of the protection of Native Hawaiian lands, people, and Hawai'i sovereignty; and
- connect the broader community with the mission of Kaho'olawe's cultural and environmental recovery and serve as a reminder of the strength of collective action.

Having a Kaho'olawe special number plate is a fitting tribute to the decades-long efforts of the Protect Kahoolawe 'Ohana and all those in the broader community who have contributed to and benefitted from this important Kaho'olawe Aloha 'Āina movement. Importantly, the proceeds from the sale of these plates will directly benefit the Protect Kahoolawe 'Ohana, further supporting the important work collectively conducted in safeguarding and preserving the island for future generations. In celebration of 50 years since the first landings, this special number plate will provide a legacy of commitment to Kaho'olawe's healing and stewardship. Here is a possible design for the plate:



We have started a petition for supporters to demonstrate their support and received over 300+ signatures of residents interested in ordering a Kaho‘olawe special license plate when they become available. Here is [GIS information about this petition](https://uhm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/a408eea8bb8748229b1b1e88b4770440):

<https://uhm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/a408eea8bb8748229b1b1e88b4770440>.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Aloha ‘Āina,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Kaakua". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joshua Kaakua
For the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana

ATTACHMENT A

Below is some information about how existing special number plates work:

How to Get Special License Plates - Cost

1. Download and Complete the [application form](#).
2. Visit any satellite city hall.
3. Surrender your current Certificate of Registration and License Plates for your vehicle.
4. The initial cost is **\$35.50**. After that, the **annual** renewal fee is **\$25**. The organization receives **\$20** with each payment.



Hawaii Specialty License Plates

The Polynesian Voyaging Society, Haleakala National Park and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park license plates are available to provide monetary support for these programs.

- + Where can I get a Specialty License Plate?
- + How do I apply for a Specialty Organization License Plate?

Organization License Plate

The Organization License Plates Program assists qualified not-for-profit organizations to raise funds for community public health, education or general welfare programs.

- + Where can I get an Organization License Plate?
- + What is the process to obtain an Organization License Plate?
- + I have an organization that would like to participate in the program.



Testimony in Support of HB 307 Kaho'olawe Commemorative License Plate

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
Chris Lee, - Chair
Lorraine Inouye- Vice Chair

From-
Kelvin Ho
PO Box 769
Lawai HI 96765
808 482 1682
kelkauai@gmail.com

March 17, 2025

Dear Honorable Members,

I am submitting testimony in steadfast support of HB 307 which will establish the path for a commemorative license plate for the island of Kaho'olawe. 2026 will mark 50 years since the first landings of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana which ultimately led to the stopping of the bombing and sparked a cultural renaissance across Pae 'Āina Hawaii.

In 1976 the Kupuna led call for stopping the desecration and horrific ecological damage led to the courageous efforts and resistance on Kaho'olawe. Alongside the awakening of the brilliance of Polynesian Voyaging demonstrated by Hokule'a, a people, language and culture were reawakened and gave it a foundation to flourish in all aspects today.

I have been a member of the PKO for over 30 years and have witnessed countless times the impact and healing the island has had on individuals and groups we have provided access to over the years. Our commitment isn't to maintain the island as a place of remembrance for the many voices and courageous actions of those that opened the path for us. To safely share it with those who are blessed to journey there. A commemorative plate will raise awareness throughout the islands for all and provide a way for Kaho'olawe to be kept in daily awareness. The revenue will provide support for the volunteer efforts and allow for safer accesses on all levels.

The plate will align with and honor the legacy of our beloved Emmett Aluli who along with others stood steadfast for decades in his efforts and commitment for the healing of a place and a people. Please join us in wholeheartedly supporting this Bill and uplifting everyone in Hawaii in recognition of this significant milestone of a sacred path of service.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in full support.

Aloha nui
Kelvin Ho

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:20:55 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Veinent	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in strong support of this bill as the protect Kaho'olawe program has been a crucial component to the history and identity of kanaka.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:21:07 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kialoa Mossman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB307 and the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana and the commemorating of 50 years of Aloha Aina through the designation of a special number plate.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:21:47 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaley Kelling	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to express my strong support of HB 307 to commemorate the commitment of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana in aloha 'āina for the past 50 years.

Mahalo nui,

Kaley Kelling

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:22:29 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matahi Kekoa Atay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB307 to honor Kahoolawe.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:22:45 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kona Keala-Quinabo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kaoo nui au i keia pila!

We must celebrate aloha aina. In the current context we live in nothing is more important than ensuring we have the aina and the natural resources for us now and into the future.

aloha aina!

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:24:48 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ty Comish	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this bill which recognizes the amazing work of PKO and the Aloha Aina movement

Tyler T Comish

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:25:46 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pililuaiekeakaiohilo Keala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou.

‘O wau nō kēia ‘o Dr. Pililuaiekeakaiohilo Keala, he mākuahine Hawai‘i, he polopeka kula nui, he ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, a he aloha ‘āina. Eia nō ku‘u wahi leo kāko‘o nui i ka pila HB 307 e ho‘ohanohano ana i ka hana nui a me ke aloha ‘āina kūpa‘a mau o ka Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana no ka pono o Hawai‘i. Me ka mahalo, Pililuaiekeakaiohilo Keala, EdD

I am Dr. Pililuaiekeakaiohilo Keala, a Native Hawaiian mother, a professor, a speaker of ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, and an aloha ‘āina. I am in strong support of HB 307 to honor the years of commitment and aloha ‘āina that the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana has provided and maintains for all of Hawai‘i.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:25:49 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kammie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am in support of this bill. I write this as I am on Kaho‘olawe, and that would not be possible without the efforts of our kūpuna aloha ‘āina. Mahalo nui to them and to you for the opportunity to share my mana‘o.

Me ke aloha,

Kammie

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:26:13 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kainoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This license plate is very important to commemorate and recognize the invaluable work put in to aloha aina by the protect kahoolawe ohana

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:26:29 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaulu Luuwai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

I am in strong support of HB307. This bill is an excellent way to commemorate the decades of commitment the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana has made to Aloha Aina and the regreening of the island after years of abuse. Please pass this bill.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:29:18 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matthew Kaho'ohanohano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in support of this bill. I am writing this testimony as I am presently on Kaho'olawe. As a beacon of aloha 'āina, featuring Kaho'olawe on a license plate is a small gesture of the recognition the island and those who have committed their lives to her restoration deserve.

Mahalo,

Matthew Kaho'ohanohano

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:33:53 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Evan Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kaho'olawe represents the ongoing and enduring presence of Kanaka Hawaiians in their homelands. The resilience and resistance of Kanaka Hawaiians in their homelands is an example to the world's 400 million Indigenous peoples. Hawai'i's islands are a symbol around the world of an enduring and beautiful culture that we are so grateful has survived colonial incursions. This bill/action will go a long way to perceptions of Hawai'i and Hawaiians.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 8:38:16 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Naone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support this bill because I stand with the decades-long efforts of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO) and all those dedicated to this cause. The creation of a Kaho‘olawe license plate will generate funds that directly support PKO’s ongoing work. In recognition of 50 years since the first landings, this plate will symbolize the continued responsibility to restore and protect Kaho‘olawe.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 11:24:32 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Momi Wheeler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha ‘āina,

In support of HB307 HD1, which seeks to establish a special commemorative license plate for the island of Kaho‘olawe. This initiative marks a significant moment in history, as it celebrates 50 years since the first landings on Kaho‘olawe by the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO), a group that has long fought for the island's restoration and cultural revitalization.

Kaho‘olwe holds immense cultural, historical, and spiritual significance to the Native Hawaiian community, and this commemorative Kaho‘olawe license plate will honor the efforts and sacrifices made by the PKO as well as bring greater awareness to the island's ongoing restoration process. The proceeds from the sale of these plates will directly benefit the PKO, further supporting the important work they do in safeguarding and preserving the island for the future generations.

HB307 offers a unique opportunity to connect the broader community with the mission of the cultural and environmental recovery of Kaho‘olawe. It also serves as a reminder of the strength of collective action and the importance of preserving our sacred lands. The creation of a Kaho‘olawe license plate is a fitting tribute to the decades-long efforts of the PKO, all those who have dedicated themselves to this cause, and a lasting legacy of commitment to the healing and stewardship of Kaho‘olawe.

Mahalo to the Senate committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts, Chair Chris Lee, and Vice Chair Lorraine Inouye, for your support of HB307 HD1, a special commemorative license plate for the island of Kaho‘olawe.

‘Āina Aloha,

Momi Wheeler

Kea‘au, HI 96749

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 12:30:08 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KATIE KAMELAMELA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the commemorative Kahoolawe license plate which will help support restoration efforts on island.

HB-307-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/17/2025 9:20:21 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/18/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M. Leilani DeMello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

KĀKO‘O PIHA au i kēia pila! I SUPPORT this bill. Mahalo to everyone who has worked diligently to fight for Kaho‘olawe, to everyone who has dedicated their lives to ensure that this island receives the attention and care it deserves. This is just a small way of contributing to those efforts.

Mahalo,

M. Leilani DeMello

‘Ōla‘a, Puna, Hawai‘i