

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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STATE PARKS

Testimony of
DAWN N.S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Friday, March 14, 2025
1:00 PM

Via Videoconference, State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 86, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill 86, House Draft 2, proposes to appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent Makai Watch Coordinator position. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

The Makai Watch Coordinator works with existing and prospective Makai Watch communities throughout the state to train and inform them on rules and regulations relating to marine activities. Additionally, the Makai Watch Coordinator trains these communities on how to document and report violations as well as acting as a liaison between communities and the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE). The Makai Watch Coordinator is a very important position within DOCARE as the Makai Watch Program expands DOCARE's enforcement footprint and gives communities an opportunity to engage with the Department concerning their valued ocean resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Water and Land (WTL)
IN SUPPORT OF HB86 HD2

March 14, 2025, 1:00 p.m., Room 315 & Via Videoconference

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 HB86 HD2 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona.

This bill would appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to secure state funding for full-time permanent Makai Watch Coordinator positions. We greatly appreciate the amendments made in the HD2 version by the House Committee on Finance to cover potentially more than one full-time state-funded position for this program, which currently houses three coordinator positions funded by private and federal dollars.

The state's [Makai Watch Program](#) was formed in the early 2000s as a collaborative statewide program where community members and groups can partner with DLNR's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE), Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR), and Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) to help monitor, educate, and promote our state nearshore fishery laws and rules. The program has grown significantly since its inception, now involving collaborations with 21 different communities on five of the main Hawaiian Islands. **For over twenty years now, the Makai Watch Program has served to better enable DOCARE, DAR, and DOBOR to more effectively manage the state's nearshore fisheries, which has proven to be far too great a task for one state agency alone to effectively manage without strong community support and partnerships.**

KUA was surprised to learn that funding for the state's Makai Watch Program, including the main Coordinator position and two new island-based positions, has to-date received no dedicated state funding, supported only by various grants and federal funding. **Individual community groups also need to apply for their own grant funding to participate in this program – a big barrier to effectively gaining more community support and stability to continue participation.** Indeed, it is a wonder that this program has continued to grow considering this lack of funding – but we envision *how much more it could grow* with dedicated state funding. The main Coordinator position was funded in 2019 as part of DOCARE's budget, Program I.D. LNR405/HA, [HB2 CD1, Page 646 \(2019\)](#) (see also [SB923 SD1](#), Item 9, LNR405/HA). Unfortunately, after it was funded, the COVID-19 pandemic began and then a state hiring freeze began. Thus, the funding and position lapsed without ever being filled.

Many of the communities in our KUA networks are part of the Makai Watch Program, which serves as a great example of successful community partnerships with the state, building trust and relationships, while also better enabling awareness of and compliance with established state rules. Many others we talked to were unaware that the state provided no dedicated funding for this program, especially given its widespread recognition, support, and community participation. With the current political climate of federal funding in a constant flux, it is evermore important to ensure our state is caring for its own regardless. Establishing state funding for the main Coordinator position for our well-established Makai Watch Program is a good and reasonable place to start.

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 it requires taking the steps necessary for greater self-sufficiency, development of a pipeline of new and more innovative career pathways, mindsets, relationships, and resources for mālama 'āina efforts. Passing this bill out of your committee supports reaching our goal to once again realize the abundant and thriving ecological balance in Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in support. Please **PASS** HB86 HD2.

Aloha 'Āina Momona no Nā Kau ā Kau.



Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea

Post Office Box 188

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Federal Nonprofit Organization

501(c)(3) FEIN 27-0855937

www.pupukeawaimea.org

info@pupukeawaimea.org

March 10, 2025

To: Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Re: **STRONG SUPPORT** of **HB86 HD2**: Relating to The Department of Land and Natural Resources

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

We write in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **HB86 HD2** which will appropriate moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of at least one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent Statewide Makai Watch Coordinator position.

The Hawai'i Makai Watch Program is a collaborative, statewide initiative where communities become directly involved with the Department of Land and Natural Resources's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DLNR/DOCARE) in the management and protection of nearshore marine resources through promoting education and compliance to rules and regulations. Created in the early 2000's, the Makai Watch approach is based on the idea that people who utilize, serve, and live closest to our natural and cultural resources are in the best position to help protect them. There are currently over 20 Makai Watch communities across the state collectively contributing to ensuring nearshore marine abundance now, and for future generations.

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW), the organization that stewards the Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District, became O'ahu's first Makai Watch community in 2005. In partnership with DLNR/DOCARE, and in collaboration with the Statewide Makai Watch Coordinator, MPW has trained hundreds of volunteers who have conducted thousands of educational interventions and effectively reported hundreds of in-progress violations. This collaborative approach has resulted in an increase of awareness about the rules and regulations protecting our marine resources and a decrease in both intentional and unintentional poaching. This has a direct, positive impact on the nearshore marine environment.

Mahalo for your **SUPPORT** of **HB86 HD2** to establish a full-time, permanent Statewide Makai Watch Coordinator position.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony,
Jenny Yagodich

Jenny Yagodich

Director of Educational Programs &
Makai Watch Coordinator

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy
Supporting HB86 HD2, Relating to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.
Committee on Water and Land
March 14, 2025 at 1:00 pm
Conference Room 229 and via Videoconference

Dear Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify today. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Hawai'i and Palmyra **supports** HB86 HD2, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for the establishment of full-time equivalent permanent Makai Watch Coordinator positions.

TNC has been working in collaboration with makai communities and local partners for 25 years to protect Hawaii's natural resources. Grounded by science and local and indigenous knowledge, TNC supports prioritizing education and outreach about the management of marine resources. Since its establishment in early 2000's, the Makai Watch Program has worked to enhance management of Hawaii's makai resources, engaging local stewards to raise community awareness and monitor human use and biological conditions along our nearshore environments.

There are currently over 20 Makai Watch communities directly involved with DLNR Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) in the management and protection of marine resources, of which TNC works with eight. These positions are in need of permanent, dedicated state funding to continue increasing partnerships, empowering communities, and conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB86 HD2.

Guided by science, TNC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and have supported over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands.

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Strong support for HB86 HD2

Aloha no Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Committee Members,

My name is Damien Kenison, I am the president of Kauhakō 'Ohana Association, a 501 (c)3 community nonprofit based in Kauhakō/Ho'okena, South Kona Hawaii Island. Our efforts to perpetuate customary fishing practices depends on the health of our traditional fishing grounds. The Makai Watch Program is an important component in the Department of Aquatic Resources efforts to malama ka 'aina I ke kai.

This program empowers our community to take an active role in caring for our fisheries and passing on the lawai'a pono values to our keiki that we learned from our Tutu. Our interpretation of lawai'a is lawa, meaning enough, and I'a the word for fish. To ensure that there is enough I'a for each generation it is crucial that we manage the harvesting of our I'a sustainably, in a pono way and the Makai Watch Program is an important part of our efforts to achieve that goal.

Many Hawaiians have forgotten the value of Lawai'a Pono and have become unconcerned with the state of our fisheries and as a result, our I'a are depleted and our customary practices are threatened. Makai Watch re-awakens the repressed teachings of our kupuna to care about your 'ohana and malama your one hanau for the keiki. Makai Watch re-educates our young makua to understand that the regulations of DAR/DOCARE are based on traditional Hawaiian Kapu and honors our kupuna.

Kauhakō 'Ohana Association has re-established the Makai Watch Program at Ho'okena Beach and it has increased awareness and compliance with DAR fishing regulations and NOAA protections for our endangered marine mammals. The Makai Watch Programs throughout the State needs someone to coordinate activities and guide our actions. Makai Watch is a tool we can use to rejuvenate that part of our culture that protects our fisheries and perpetuates our Traditional Hawaiian Fishing Practices. Please pass this important measure to establish a full time Makai Watch Coordinator position for the benefit of our 'ohana and all of Hawaii Nei.

Ke Aloha Nunui,



Damien Kenison
Kauhakō 'Ohana Association
ohana@kauhako.org

Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force



March 14, 2025

Hawai'i State Legislature
Senate Committee on Water & Land

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB86 HD2, Relating to the Department of Land and Natural Resources

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

The Ocean Legislative Task Force strongly supports HB86 HD2, relating to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, which takes an important step toward strengthening the Makai Watch program and ensuring the long-term sustainability of Hawai'i's nearshore marine resources. As a coalition of over 100 individuals from diverse organizations and communities, we recognize the critical role Makai Watch plays in promoting collaborative stewardship, enhancing coastal resilience, and protecting vital marine ecosystems.

Establishing a permanent Makai Watch Coordinator position within the Department of Land and Natural Resources would provide a valuable foundation for streamlining program efforts. By ensuring that this position remains actively engaged with community stakeholders and agency partners, there will be greater access to resources and support necessary to manage nearshore marine areas effectively. This initiative will also foster stronger partnerships, reinforcing the shared responsibility of caring for Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources.

This serves as more than a community-driven initiative; it is a model of co-management that bridges traditional knowledge with modern conservation strategies. Investing in the program not only strengthens marine resource management but also builds capacity for future generations to continue this stewardship. This measure represents an opportunity to expand public engagement in resource protection while empowering local communities with the tools and collaboration needed to sustain these efforts over time.

We deeply appreciate this committee's commitment to advancing solutions that empower communities while protecting Hawai'i's ocean resources. For these reasons, we respectfully urge the passage of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

The Ocean Legislative Task Force advocates for measures that promote funding for natural resource protection and restoration, ocean resources, coral reefs, subsistence fishing, and coastal resilience, and other priorities.



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Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Senate Water and Land Committee,

The Hawai'i Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU supports HB86.**

Healthy marine ecosystems and sustainable land management are deeply interconnected. **Coastal agriculture, aquaculture, and traditional farming practices depend on resilient ecosystems that withstand environmental degradation.**

The **Makai Watch Program is essential** for protecting nearshore resources, ensuring food security, and supporting community-driven environmental stewardship—all priorities aligned with HFU's mission.

For over two decades, the program has **operated without dedicated state funding**, relying on inconsistent federal grants and nonprofit contributions. This **unstable funding model** threatens its continuity.

HB86 presents a critical opportunity to **secure the program's future** by permanently funding the Coordinator position within DLNR's annual budget. Establishing this role as a recurring budget line item **will prevent funding lapses—such as those caused by the COVID-19 hiring freeze and grant uncertainties—while enabling DLNR to expand enforcement efforts without relying on temporary funding.**

Institutionalizing this position also reaffirms the state's commitment to community-based resource management, strengthening partnerships between local stewards and DOCARE.

Funding the Makai Watch Coordinator as a **permanent** position is a cost-effective investment in resource conservation, enforcement efficiency, and Hawai'i's blue economy. We urge the Legislature to **not only pass HB86 but also ensure this position is permanently funded within DLNR's base budget**, protecting it from future financial uncertainties.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin
Advocacy Director
Hawai'i Farmers Union



LATE

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Strongly Supports: HB86 HD2

March 14th, 2025 at 1:00pm; Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the committees,

HAPA is testifying in strong support of HB86 HD2 which proposed to appropriate money to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of full-time equivalent permanent Makai Watch Coordinator positions.

The Hawai'i Makai Watch Program is a collaborative, statewide initiative where communities become directly involved with the Department of Land and Natural Resources's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DLNR/DOCARE) in the management and protection of nearshore marine resources through promoting education and compliance to rules and regulations. Created in the early 2000's, the Makai Watch approach is based on the idea that people who utilize, serve, and live closest to our natural and cultural resources are in the best position to help protect them. There are currently over 20 Makai Watch communities across the state collectively contributing to ensuring nearshore marine abundance now, and for future generations. This collaborative approach has resulted in an increase of awareness about the rules and regulations protecting our marine resources and a decrease in both intentional and unintentional poaching. This has a direct, positive impact on the nearshore marine environment.

Given the uncertainty of federal funds to support this program it is even more important that the state provide resources to support a program that has been proven effective at protecting and managing marine resources. The Makai Watch Program provides important opportunities for community based resource stewardship of nearshore marine resources and fisheries for abundance.

Please support HB86 HD 2. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anne Frederick,
Executive Director

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 1:04:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB86. Our nearshore waters need better monitoring.

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2025 12:49:18 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

This position is the key interface between stewarding communities (comprised of community volunteers) and DOCARE.

In these unprecedented times where so many conservation positions are being cut, our communities and in this case, community volunteers that support Makai Watch activities, need this (1) Makai Watch Coordinator to facilitate community efforts with DOCARE.

We have been working with State temporary-position Coordinator for a long time. Our nearshore and marine resources deserve permanence support with this position.

Please pass HB86.

Mahalo,
U'ilani Naipo
Miloli'i Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA)l

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:34:49 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Committee Members,

‘O wau nō ‘o Shauna Kēhaunani Springer, and I **strongly support** HB86 to provide much-needed and long overdue state funds for the well-established state Makai Watch Program, starting with coordinator positions. I also want to mahalo the House Finance Committee for amending the HD2 version to allow for funding for potentially more than just one position - this is much appreciated given that the program currently includes three positions (one statewide, and two island-based coordinators).

Please **PASS** HB86 HD2!

Mahalo nui,

Shauna Kēhaunani Springer

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 10:48:13 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 4:09:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqueline Leinau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of House Bill 86

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 86, which appropriates funding to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for the establishment of full-time permanent Makai Watch Coordinator positions. This bill is essential for ensuring the long-term effectiveness and stability of the Makai Watch program.

Currently, the position of Makai Watch Coordinator relies on variable funding from grants, which makes it vulnerable to fluctuations and uncertainty. By establishing these positions as civil service roles, House Bill 86 will provide the stability needed for the coordinator to perform their duties without the constant concern of funding instability.

The Makai Watch Coordinator plays a crucial role as a liaison between the community and the Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE). This role fosters stronger collaboration and ensures that the community's voice is heard in conservation efforts. The coordinator helps facilitate communication, build relationships, and support DOCARE's mission to protect and manage natural resources effectively.

The creation of permanent, civil service Makai Watch Coordinator positions will strengthen the program and enhance community engagement in natural resource protection. I strongly urge you to support House Bill 86 for the benefit of our environment and community.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Jacqueline Leinau

HB-86-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2025 9:37:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2025 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

****Testimony in Support of HB86****

Aloha e Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tiare Smith, a Native Hawaiian resident of Kahalu‘u, O‘ahu, where I have lived for 45 years, deeply connected to the land and sea that sustain our communities. I write to offer my resolute support for HB86, a bill that fortifies the Makai Watch program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). This legislation represents a prescient investment in the co-management of our nearshore marine resources—an endeavor both culturally resonant and ecologically imperative. Below, I delineate the bill’s strengths, acknowledge its potential shortcomings, and propose solutions to ensure its efficacy, grounded in safety, cost-effectiveness, and equity, values intrinsic to our stewardship as kānaka maoli.

The Merits of HB86

HB86 addresses a pressing reality: the precipitously declining health of Hawai‘i’s nearshore marine ecosystems, beleaguered by local and global stressors. By appropriating funds to establish permanent Program Specialist V positions within DLNR, this bill elevates the Makai Watch program from an ad hoc initiative to a robust, statewide framework. Since its inception in the early 2000s, Makai Watch has proven its mettle—fostering collaboration between community stewards and DLNR divisions, heightening awareness of regulations, and enhancing ecosystem monitoring.

For Native Hawaiian communities like mine in Kahalu‘u, this program is not merely administrative; it is a lifeline to our cultural heritage. It empowers us to actively steward our kai, countering the disenfranchisement wrought by decades of resource mismanagement. The establishment of full-time coordinators promises to amplify these efforts, ensuring consistent training, outreach, and enforcement support. This is a proactive measure to safeguard our marine abundance for future generations—an obligation we cannot shirk amidst rising population pressures and land-use intensification.

Potential Shortcomings and Detailed Solutions

Despite its laudable intent, HB86 is not impervious to critique. I identify two primary concerns: (1) the ambiguous appropriation amount and potential cost overruns, and (2) the inexplicable

effective date of July 1, 3000, which renders the bill functionally inert. Below, I address each con with precise, actionable solutions.

Con 1: Ambiguous Appropriation and Cost Overruns

The bill's lack of a specified funding amount ("\$ or so much thereof as may be necessary") risks fiscal opacity, potentially leading to excessive expenditures for the Program Specialist V positions. Without clear budgetary guardrails, this could strain state resources, undermining public trust.

****Solution:**** Cap the appropriation at \$250,000 annually for fiscal years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027, sufficient to fund three Program Specialist V positions at approximately \$80,000 each (including salary and benefits), based on state pay scales. To enhance cost-effectiveness, DLNR could adopt a hybrid staffing model: one statewide coordinator supplemented by two regional specialists, leveraging existing Makai Watch volunteers for grassroots implementation. This reduces personnel costs by 30% (saving \$80,000 annually) while maintaining efficacy through community integration. Safety is ensured by retaining professional oversight, and equity is advanced by prioritizing hires from coastal communities, including Native Hawaiians, at no additional cost.

Con 2: Erroneous Effective Date (July 1, 3000)

The bill's stated effective date of July 1, 3000, is antithetical to its urgent purpose, effectively nullifying its impact for centuries. This is likely a typographical error, but it demands correction to avoid legislative limbo and ensure timely action against marine degradation.

****Solution:**** Amend the effective date to July 1, 2025, aligning with the fiscal year appropriations and the immediate needs of our ecosystems. To maximize efficacy and cost savings, phase in the coordinator positions: appoint the statewide coordinator by July 2025 (costing \$80,000) and regional specialists by July 2026 (additional \$160,000), allowing DLNR to assess initial outcomes and adjust funding needs. Partnering with University of Hawai'i marine science programs could further offset costs—e.g., \$20,000 in student intern stipends annually versus \$80,000 for a full-time hire—while ensuring safety through expert oversight and promoting equity by training local youth, including Native Hawaiians, for future roles.

Conclusion

HB86 is a visionary step toward sustainable co-management of our nearshore resources, harmonizing community stewardship with state support—a model deeply rooted in Native Hawaiian values of kuleana and mālama 'āina. Its pros—enhanced collaboration, cultural empowerment, and ecosystem resilience—far outweigh its cons, which are readily mitigated through fiscal discipline and legislative correction. As a 45-year resident of Kāhala'u, I have borne witness to the vitality of our kai and the threats it faces. This bill, with the proposed refinements, offers a pragmatic, equitable path forward. I urge your support for HB86, amended as suggested, to ensure it delivers on its promise without delay.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration,

Tiare Smith

Kahalu'u, O'ahu